

City of Philadelphia



Council of the City of Philadelphia Office of the Chief Clerk Room 402, City Hall Philadelphia

(Resolution No. 250935)

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the extraordinary contributions and lifetime achievements of Dr. Molefi Kete Asante, founder of Afrocentricity, and the founder of the Molefi Kete Asante (MKA) Institute for Afrocentric Studies in the Germantown Neighborhood.

WHEREAS, Dr. Molefi Kete Asante is internationally recognized as the founder and leading theorist of Afrocentricity, a framework that centers the agency and historical experiences of African people; and

WHEREAS, His work redirects discourse away from Eurocentric frameworks, advocating for African agency in all contexts of critique and analysis, while promoting a mature, non-imperial relationship with other cultures; and

WHEREAS, He established the nation's first Ph.D. program in African American Studies at Temple University in 1988 and is the leading producer of African American Ph.Ds., having directed over 140 dissertations, resulting in more than 220 published books by his students; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Asante served for 53 years as Founding Editor of the *Journal of Black Studies*, and is one of the most prolific African American scholars, having authored over 100 books and 500 articles, placing him among the ten most widely cited African scholars; and

WHEREAS, His groundbreaking scholarship has earned wide acclaim, including the NCA Distinguished Scholar Award, the Fanon Award for Lifetime Scholarship, and the Carter G. Woodson and Cheikh Anta Diop Lifetime Achievement Awards, alongside over 100 other honors and honorary doctorates; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Asante founded The Cheikh Anta Diop Conference and, in 2011, established The Molefi Kete Asante Institute for Afrocentric Studies in the Germantown neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, The MKA Institute promotes global and local change through research, education, and advocacy for the African world community; and

City of Philadelphia

RESOLUTION NO. 250935 continued

WHEREAS, His commitment to public education includes spearheading the creation of the mandatory African American history course for the Philadelphia School District; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, Dr. Molefi Kete Asante be profoundly honored for his intellectual brilliance, the founding of Afrocentricity and the field of Africology, his monumental literary and scholarly contributions, and his enduring legacy as a distinguished educator, visionary, and foundational leader in the African world.

FURTHER RESOLVED, An Engrossed copy of this Resolution be presented Dr. Molefi Kete Asante in recognition of his admirable work.

City of Philadelphia

RESOLUTION NO. 250935 continued

CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the twenty-third day of October, 2025.

Kenyatta Johnson
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Elizabeth McCollum
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmember Bass

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Bass, Ahmad, Brooks, Driscoll, Gauthier,
Gilmore Richardson, Harrity, Jones, Landau, Lozada, O'Neill,
O'Rourke, Phillips, Squilla, Thomas and Young