

City of Philadelphia



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

(Resolution No. 251038)

RESOLUTION

Recognizing and celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the revitalization of the Bok Building into a hub for artists, makers, and small businesses.

WHEREAS, The Bok Technical High School, built in 1938 and once a cornerstone of vocational education in South Philadelphia, was redeveloped beginning in 2015 after its closure, transforming the historic building into a thriving hub for artists, entrepreneurs, and small businesses; and

WHEREAS, Over the past ten years, the Bok Building has become home to hundreds of creative professionals, including artists, designers, nonprofits, makers, educators, and food entrepreneurs, who together have contributed to Philadelphia's cultural vitality and local economy; and

WHEREAS, Bok exemplifies the power of adaptive reuse, preserving historic architecture while reimagining it to meet the needs of a new generation of Philadelphians; and

WHEREAS, The building has become not only a workplace but also a gathering space and resource center, extending to the surrounding South Philadelphia community and beyond, fostering collaboration, creativity, and innovation across disciplines; and

WHEREAS, The Bok Building is home to a vibrant mix of artists and small businesses, including Klip Collective, a nationally recognized video and projection art studio; Aubrie Costello, a fiber and installation artist known for their evocative fabric "silk graffiti" works; Stover Ceramics, a local maker of functional and decorative pottery; Forever Valentine Tattoo, a creative tattoo studio; and Beehive at Bok, an innovative community play space for children and families, along with countless other artists, makers, and entrepreneurs who contribute daily to the building's creative energy and impact; and

WHEREAS, These artists, entrepreneurs, and community-based organizations represent the breadth of Philadelphia's creative economy, demonstrating how adaptive reuse of historic spaces can sustain culture, foster innovation, and

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WHEREAS, The success of the Bok Building demonstrates the importance of investing in and permanently creating affordable, accessible space for artists and small businesses to thrive in Philadelphia; and

WHEREAS, 2025 marks the 10th anniversary of the revitalization of the Bok Building, a milestone worth celebrating and honoring for its impact on Philadelphia's creative economy, cultural life, and neighborhoods; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Council of the City of Philadelphia recognizes and celebrates the 10th Anniversary of the Revitalization of the Bok Building and honors the artists, small business owners, and community members who have contributed to its success and to the cultural and economic fabric of Philadelphia.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That an Engrossed copy of this Resolution shall be presented to representatives of the Bok Building, as evidence of the sincere respect and admiration of this legislative body.

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

Kenyatta Johnson
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Elizabeth McCollum
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmember Landau

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Landau, Gauthier, Thomas, Jones, Lozada,
Brooks, Harrity, O'Rourke, Driscoll, O'Neill and Squilla