
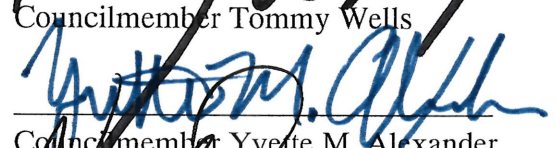
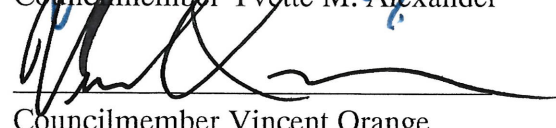
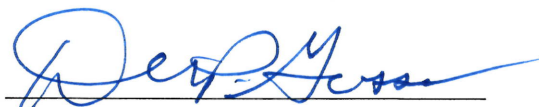

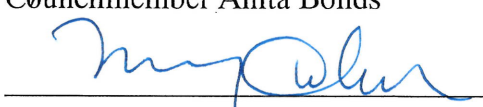


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2 Councilmember Tommy Wells
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4 Councilmember Yvette M. Alexander
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6 Councilmember Vincent Orange


Councilmember David Grosso

Councilmember Anita Bonds

Councilmember Mary M. Cheh

12 A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

15 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

20 To recognize Step Afrika!'s twenty year history of excellence in performance and arts education.

22 WHEREAS, Step Afrika! was founded in December 1994 by C. Brian Williams as a
23 cultural exchange program with the Soweto Dance Theatre in Johannesburg, South Africa;

25 WHEREAS, Step Afrika! expanded to become the first national and international
26 professional touring company in the world dedicated to the tradition of stepping and its unique
27 connection to American history;

29 WHEREAS, over the past 20 years, Step Afrika! has grown to become one of the top 10
30 African-American Dance Companies in the United States and the largest African-American arts
31 organization in Washington, DC;

33 WHEREAS, Step Afrika! promotes an appreciation for stepping and the dance tradition's
34 use as educational, motivational and healthy tool for young people in the District of Columbia
35 and all over the United States;

37 WHEREAS, Step Afrika! runs five arts education programs emphasizing the ties between
38 stepping, teamwork, discipline, and commitment;

40 WHEREAS, the work of Step Afrika! has been honored with awards such as the Mayor's
41 Arts Award for Outstanding Contribution to Education in 2005, in recognition of the Company's

1 expanding role in arts education, bringing stepping to more than 20,000 young students each
2 year, and the Mayor’s Arts Award for Excellence in an Artistic Discipline in 2013; and
3

4 WHEREAS, Step Afrika! completes an annual 50-city tour of colleges and theaters from
5 Maine to Mississippi reaching tens of thousands of Americans each year and has also performed
6 on many stages in South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Caribbean.
7

8 RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
9 resolution may be cited as the “Step Afrika! 20th Anniversary Recognition Resolution of 2014.”
10

11 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia acknowledges and honors Step Afrika!
12 for its outstanding 20 year contribution to the vitality of arts, culture, and arts education in the
13 District, and declares December 4, 2014 as “Step Afrika! Day” in the District of Columbia.
14

15 Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in
16 the District of Columbia Register.