

City of Boston
IN
CITY COUNCIL

OFFICIAL RESOLUTION

Recognizing Black Architecture Month 2009

Offered By Councilors Sam Yoon, Chuck Turner, & Charles Yancey

WHEREAS: Black Architecture Month spotlights creativity & knowledge in art, culture and technology by highlighting the critical importance of architectural professionals involved in urban design, planning and urban community development, while emphasizing African-American culture and promoting increased visibility of African-American & urban minority community based Architectural Professionals; and

WHEREAS: Black Architecture Month celebrates both the history of surveyor/planner Benjamin Banneker's contributions to American history in the design of 18th century Washington DC, and today's need for progressive architectural advocacy directed toward the revitalization, economic development, and cultural / political empowerment of the African-American community in order to address critical needs and demands of the urban environment; and

WHEREAS: Black American architects and design professionals who helped build the United States faced enormous social, educational/institutional and economic barriers; in 1930, only about 60 Blacks were listed as registered architects, and many of their buildings have since been lost or radically changed; and

WHEREAS: The 1990's landmarked the time for a needed push addressing diversity in the field, with many of today's architectural students and young working/emerging design professionals facing similar barriers as their predecessors, resulting in African-American registered architects representing 1.5% of the total population; Therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council declares October 2009 as Black Architecture Month in the City of Boston in honor of the historical pioneering contributions of surveyor/planner and political advocate Benjamin Banneker (November 9, 1731 – October 9, 1806) and other African-American architects to history. This resolution shall be duly signed by the President of the City Council and be made part of the Official City Record, attested to, and a copy thereof transmitted to the Clerk of the City of Boston.



By: *Thomas J. Rosen*

President of the City Council

Attest: *Alex Givens*

City Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: *Sam Yoon*

Date: *August 25, 2009*