



Office of Councilmember
Maxwell Anderson, District 3

CONSENT CALENDAR
January 28, 2014

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Councilmember Max Anderson

SUBJECT: First Annual Black History Month Celebration: Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Funds to General Fund and Grant of Such Funds

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution approving the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$500 per Councilmember including \$250 from Councilmember Anderson to the First Annual Black History Month Celebration hosted by The Berkeley Juneteenth Association, Inc., with funds relinquished to the City's general fund for this purpose from the discretionary Council Office Budgets of Councilmember Anderson and any other Councilmembers who would like to contribute.

BACKGROUND

The Berkeley Juneteenth Association, Inc. was established almost 28 years ago for the purpose of celebrating Juneteenth in Berkeley "To promote greater societal growth and community cohesiveness in the City of Berkeley and surrounding environs through educating and involving people of color in historical, family, economic business, and cultural activities." 2013 has witnessed a culmination of division, mistrust, and social wounds to name a few of the maladies that have stricken the work place, schools and neighborhoods in Berkeley between the ethnic classes. To that end we are seeking to expand our mission by hosting the First Annual Black History Month Celebration on Saturday, February 8, 2014 at the Berkeley Community Theatre, in addition to the annual Juneteenth Festival in June that we have produced since 1986. Our vision is to bring people of all races together for a day of dialog and festivities for a shared experience of "*healing.*"

The theme will be: "Harambee: Community Pulling Together" will be a daylong celebration with historical exhibits, vendors, food, entertainment and a town hall panel format of notable community leaders discussing issues pertinent to the Black community in Berkeley and the greater Berkeley community at large.

Black History Month celebrations began on a national basis in 1926 by writer and educator Dr. Carter G. Woodson who launched Negro History Week in 1926. Woodson proclaimed that Negro History Week should always occur in the second week of February —between the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. Since 1976, every American president has proclaimed February as Black History Month. Today, other countries such as Canada and the United Kingdom also devote an entire month to celebrating black history.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No General Fund impact; \$250 is available from Councilmember Anderson's Council Office Budget discretionary account.

CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Max Anderson (510) 981-7130

Attachments:

1. Resolution
2. Postcard
3. Press Release.

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

AUTHORIZING THE EXPEDITION OF SURPLUS FUNDS FROM THE OFFICE EXPENSE ACCOUNTS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS FOR A GRANT TO PROVIDE PUBLIC SERVICES FOR A MUNICIPAL PUBLIC PURPOSE

WHEREAS, Councilmember Max Anderson has surplus funds in his office expenditure account (budget code 010-0232-410-35-10); and

WHEREAS, Berkeley Juneteenth Association, Inc, a California non-profit tax exempt corporation seeks funds in the amount up to \$500 to provide the following public services to pay for the operations of this celebration; and

WHEREAS, the provision of such services would fulfill the following municipal public purpose that the event provides education, entertainment, celebration, advocacy and grassroots community organizing for Berkeley families; and

WHEREAS, this First Annual Black History Month Celebration will take place Saturday, February 8, 2014 at the Berkeley Community Theatre.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that funds relinquished by the Mayor and Councilmembers from their Council Office Budget up to \$500 per office shall be granted to Berkeley Juneteenth Association, Inc. for the First Annual Black History Month Celebration.

BLACK HISTORY CELEBRATION

**BERKELEY
COMMUNITY
THEATRE**

1930 ALLSTON WAY

FEB 8TH 2014

**FREE
ADMISSION**

1:00 PM-6:00PM

FEATURING

ZULU

SPEAR

AFRO FUNK

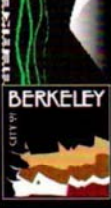
EXPERIENCE

AKAYAA ATULE

FOR INFO CALL
510-677-9425
510-655-8008

SPECIAL GUEST TBA 1/17

**HISTORICAL PRESENTATIONS, DANCING
SPOKEN WORD, FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT
GREAT FOOD & VENDORS, FACE PAINTING**



January 14, 2014

CONTACT:

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Having successfully produced twenty-seven Juneteenth Festivals, Berkeley Juneteenth Association, Inc. (BJAI) will expand its reach by hosting the **First Annual Black History Month Celebration in Berkeley on Saturday, February 8, 2014 from 1:00-6:00pm at the Berkeley Community Theater**. Admission is free and open to the public.

The theme is HARAMBEE! A COMMUNITY COMING TOGETHER: AFRICAN, THEN AMERICAN. The music of artists Kev Choice, Zulu Spear, Afrofunk Experience, and Akayaa Atule will be woven into the edu-tainment musical which will include poetry, drums, song, dance, video, and narrative. Berkeley filmmaker Doug Harris will present an excerpt from his current documentary film entitled FAIR LEGISLATION: The Byron Rumford Story, about Northern California's first Black Assemblyman from Berkeley. The film presentation will take a close look at Berkeley's Black history from a socio-economic and political perspective. Some of the documentary's cast include: Elihu Harris (former assemblyman and Oakland mayor), Belva Davis (news reporter and political journalist), Jerri Lange (television host and author), and William Rumford Jr. (Byron Rumford's son), all of who grew up in Berkeley. Berkeley civic icons will also be honored with civil rights awards.

Programming at the First Annual Black History Month event is a collaboration with the following organizations: Berkeley NAACP; Berkeley High School -African American Studies Department; Peace & Justice Commission; Parents of Children of African Descent(PCAD), and Berkeley Unified School District. Event sponsors are the City of Berkeley and Cooperative Center Federal Credit Union.

BJAI was established in 1986 for the purpose of celebrating Juneteenth in Berkeley and "to promote greater societal growth and community cohesiveness in the City of Berkeley and surrounding environs through educating and involving people of color in historical, family, economic business, and cultural activities." With the addition of Black History Month, BJA will now host two yearly events in February and in June. This year's 28th annual Berkeley Juneteenth Festival will be held on Sunday June 15, 2014.

For more information about the Black History Month Celebration or the Berkeley Juneteenth Festival call 510-655-8008 or email berkeleyjuneteenth@sbcglobal.net



**COMMUNITY
CALENDAR LISTING**

January 14, 2014

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Berkeley’s FIRST ANNUAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

Berkeley’s First Annual Black History Month Celebration will be held on Saturday, February 8, 2014 from 1PM to 6 PM, with the theme: “Harambee! A Community Coming Together-African, Then American” The event will be held at the Berkeley Community Theater located at 1930 Allston Way. Take BART to downtown Berkeley, walk west toward Allston Way and Martin Luther King Jr. Way. Enjoy the music of Kev Choice, Zulu Spear, Afrofunk Experience, Akayaa Atule, and a docufilm by Doug Harris about the history of Black Berkeley politics. Admission is free. Call 510.655.8008 or email berkeleyjuneteenth@sbcglobal.net.