



**Proclamation No. 25-2045
Honoring the Fifth Anniversary of The Black Santa Project**

WHEREAS, The Black Santa Project was founded in 2021 by The Honorable Auon'tai Anderson, who previously served as the Vice President of the Denver School Board. Auon'tai answered a call from Brother Jeff of the Brother Jeff Cultural Center, to embody the spirit of Black Santa by bringing representation, joy, and hope to Denver families during the holiday season; and

WHEREAS, what began as a single act of service and cultural affirmation, has grown into a movement that uplifts the community, celebrates Black joy, and ensures that every child sees themselves reflected in the magic of the holiday season; and

WHEREAS, over the past five years, The Black Santa Project has provided over 40,000 toys to children across Colorado and adopted families in need. They created annual community-centered events such as the Black Santa 1000 School Supplies Drive, Dashin' Through the Hood 5K, Holiday Pictures with Black Santa, and the Black Santa R&B Slumber Jam, each reflecting a deep commitment to love, service, and representation; and

WHEREAS, through strong partnerships with schools, local businesses, and civic organizations, The Black Santa Project continues to unite the Denver community under the shared belief that "The Village Made It Happen," exemplifying the power of collective action to spread joy and advance equity; and

WHEREAS, the leadership of Auon'tai Anderson has inspired a new generation of volunteers and community advocates, transforming a local holiday outreach into a statewide symbol of compassion, hope, and cultural pride; and

WHEREAS, The Black Santa Project stands as a beacon of what is possible when representation meets service — a reminder that when we lift up one another, we build a stronger, more inclusive Denver for all.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE DENVER CITY COUNCIL:

Section 1. That the Denver City Council hereby recognizes and honors The Black Santa Project on the occasion of its fifth anniversary, commending its outstanding service and lasting impact on children, families, and communities throughout our city and state

Section 2. That the Clerk and Recorder of the City and County of Denver shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to Auon'tai Anderson.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL December 8, 2025

Signed by:

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PRESIDENT

