

# DENVER CITY COUNCIL



## Proclamation No. 24-1508

### Recognizing the Annual AAYLS Summit as 'The Day of the Black Girl' in Perpetuity

**WHEREAS**, the African American Young Ladies Summit program was created as a response to data that demonstrates Black girls in Denver disproportionately experience systemic inequities which impact their collective experience and well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, the African American Young Ladies Summit program provides Denver's Black girls with a holistic village experience that values, empowers, and equips them with the tools they need for a lifelong journey of personal success and achievement; and

**WHEREAS**, the African American Young Ladies Summit program helps Black girls cultivate strong character through culturally responsive, trauma-informed, and restorative practices in safe environments with peers and adults who love, respect, and protect them; and

**WHEREAS**, Black girls' participation in the African American Young Ladies Summit program promotes physical and mental health, improves academic performance and graduation rates, and reduces unsafe behaviors; and

**WHEREAS**, Black girls from the Denver Metro Area deserve sacred spaces to lead, learn, and grow through programs like the African American Young Ladies Summit program; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Denver has been the location of the African American Young Ladies Summit program's annual event called the AAYLS Summit since its conception in 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, the annual AAYLS Summit serves up to 500 of Denver Metro's Black girls each year; and

**WHEREAS**, the African American Young Ladies Summit program and annual AAYLS Summit is led and championed by Dr. McCune, who is committed to bringing attention to the national challenges and promises of Black girls in the Denver Metro Area and beyond; and

**WHEREAS**, this City Council appreciates Dr. McCune's advocacy for equitable experiences for Black girls and her intentional efforts to uplift Denver Metro's Black girls with the African American Young Ladies Summit program and the annual AAYLS Summit.

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

**Section 1.** The City Council of Denver recognizes the annual AAYLS Summit as The Day of the Black Girl in perpetuity in honor of the African American Young Ladies Summit program's 8th annual AAYLS Summit.

**Section 2.** The City Council of Denver recognizes the importance of community leaders and their efforts to combat inequitable systems to create a more just and equitable city for future generations.

**Section 3.** That the Clerk 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 Dr. Plashan McCune, Ed.D, Executive Director of the African American Young Ladies Summit program and Chair of the annual AAYLS Summit.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL October 28, 2024

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PRESIDENT

