

RESOLUTION NO. 200717

Recognizing and honoring Charlie Parker for his tremendous contributions to music, culture and the City of Kansas City, Missouri.

WHEREAS, Charlie Parker was born August 29, 1920, to Addie and Charles Parker and grew up in the greater Kansas City area and he came of age musically during late night jam sessions in the clubs on 12th and 18th Streets; and

WHEREAS, Kansas City is a member city of the Creative City Network and the only UNESCO City of Music in the United States; and

WHEREAS, while in Kansas City, Charlie Parker was a star soloist and he toured nationally with modern bands led by Earl "Fatha" Hines and Billy Eckstine and he pioneered Bebop; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Charlie Parker encouraged, mentored and inspired younger musicians, dancers, writers, visual artists, painters, poets, film-makers, sculptors including the monumental Bird Lives statue by Robert Graham in Kansas City; and

WHEREAS, in 1974 Charlie Parker won the Grammy award for "Best Jazz Performance By A Soloist"; in 1984, Charlie Parker received a Grammy Lifetime Achievement; in 1988, he received the first of four Grammy Hall of Fame Awards; and Charlie Parker's "Ko-Ko" was selected by the Library of Congress for inclusion in the National Recording Registry; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, the United Postal Service honored Charlie Parker with a postage stamp in his name and image; and

WHEREAS, Charlie Parker's life and genius continues to inspire new generations of musicians, artists and writers including a new musical tribute *Bird at 100* by Bobby Watson, Gary Bartz and Vincent Herring; and

WHEREAS, Charlie Parker was a loving father, husband, brother and son who delighted in getting the family together for Sunday dinners, and Charlie Parker is being celebrated on the centennial of his birth; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF KANSAS CITY:

That the Mayor and Council hereby recognize and honor Charlie Parker for his tremendous contributions to music, culture and the City of Kansas City, Missouri.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be spread upon the Minutes of the Council in testimony thereof and that a copy hereof be presented to the estate of Charlie Parker.

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Authenticated as Passed

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Quinton Lucas, Mayor

  
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Marilyn Sanders, City Clerk  
AUG 27 2020

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Date Passed