

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 2022

RECOGNIZING Key Beck as a 2022 City of Cincinnati Pride Month honoree and **EXPRESSING** the appreciation of the Mayor and the Council of the City of Cincinnati for their continuous leadership and work to advance LGBTQIA+ justice in Cincinnati and across the region, as well as for their dedication to promoting justice, equality for all persons, and the protection of our sacred democracy.

WHEREAS, Key Beck matriculated at the University of Cincinnati in 2000, receiving a bachelor's degree in French with emphases in Business French and Psychology, and began "Safe Zone" trainings designed to educate people on the lived experiences of LGBTQIA+ people and to promote inclusion by institutions and more positive interactions between students; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, Key Beck was recognized by the French Ministry of Education as "Le Première Lecteur" for their role as a language learning assistant working in the French school system; in 2008, Key enlisted in AmeriCorps Project ACE as a Cultural Program Specialist, working with youth in the summers and after school concerning issues of culture, employment, and identity formation; also, in 2010, Key received an award from the Cincinnati Human Relations Commission for their outstanding contributions to the Summer Youth employment program and youth outreach efforts; and

WHEREAS, Key Beck began LGBTQIA+ training in 2007 with GLSEN, Ohio Diversity Council, the University of Cincinnati, and the Cincinnati Public Library, working to ensure that their physical spaces are inclusive and welcoming for all, especially the LGBTQIA+ community; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, Key Beck received a master's degree in Anthropology from the University of Cincinnati, where their work focused on Blackness, identity, and Black culture in Japan; and

WHEREAS, while pursuing graduate study at the University of Cincinnati, Key Beck was a member of the school's LGBTQ group, the Graduate Student Governance Association, the Black Graduate and Professional Student Association, and the National Association of Graduate and Professional Students, ensuring that equality and equity were on the forefront of university decision-making and helping to create pathways to student leadership for students of color and LGBTQIA+ students; and

WHEREAS, Key Beck was recognized by the University of Cincinnati as the 2013 Graduate Student of the Year; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, Key Beck received the Lambda Legal "Moving the Margins" certification, providing them with the credentials needed to provide cultural competency training,

which they began with the organization “Safe and Supported” at Lighthouse Youth & Family Services, tasked with ending homelessness among LGBTQIA+ persons; and

WHEREAS, Key Beck has hosted LGBTQIA+ cultural humility training for organizations including the Cincinnati Shakespeare Company, the Interhospitality Network, and local churches; and

WHEREAS, since 2016, Key Beck has served the Greater Cincinnati Homeless Coalition as a speaker and organizer, supporting its mission to address immediate impact of homelessness while advocating for policy to protect the most vulnerable; and

WHEREAS, Key Beck created the persona of “Dusty Change purse,” a radical Queer multimedia artist and performer which they use to create social justice musical art, Queer critiques, social practice art, and to author think pieces concerning LGBTQIA+ communities and Queer resistance and radical liberation; and

WHEREAS, Key Beck served as youth mentor and facilitator for Future Leaders of OTR, GLSEN Youth Group, and community LGBTQIA+ youth; and

WHEREAS, Key Beck has assisted with the production of “Black Dance is Beautiful,” a cultural arts festival highlighting Black dance and Black dance history; and

WHEREAS, Key Beck coordinated the “Creative App” project, an intensive summer program dedicated to helping people from marginalized communities develop the skills needed for creating and developing mobile apps; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, Key Beck was named as one of “20 Local LGBTQ Leaders Who Are Shaping Cincinnati” by *Cincinnati Magazine*, and received the LGBTQ+ Leadership Award from the Ohio Diversity Council; and

WHEREAS, this year Key Beck has hosted presentations and conversations on LGBTQIA+ accessibility, healthy LGBTQIA+ relationships, and sexual assault and enthusiastic consent within the LGBTQIA+ community at GLSEN and Northern Kentucky University; and

WHEREAS, Key Beck has authored and contributed to several papers and books, such as the forthcoming “Finding Out: An Introduction to LGBTQ Studies” and the academic article “Misrepresenting Reproductive Justice: A Black Feminist Critique of ‘Protecting Black Life’”; and

WHEREAS, Key Beck currently serves as the Interim Senior Manager of Clinical Prevention Programs for Equitas Health, where they work to connect HIV+ people with the care they need, and provide outreach to those at a higher risk of becoming HIV+, specifically focusing on the Black, LGBTQIA+, LatinX, and other marginalized communities; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That the Mayor and this Council hereby recognize Key Beck as a 2022 Cincinnati Pride Month honoree for their decades of continuous leadership and work to advance LGBTQIA+ justice in Cincinnati and across the region, as well as for their dedication to promoting justice, equality for all persons, and the protection of our sacred democracy.

Section 2. That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council and that a copy be provided to Key Beck through the office of Councilmember Reggie Harris.

Passed: _____, 2022

Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk

Submitted by Councilmember Reggie Harris