

RESOLUTION

NO. _____

IN HONOR OF LYNDON H. BURCH

WHEREAS, Monday, January 16, 2023 marked the passing of Lyndon H. Burch, an amazing community leader and friend to so many in Columbus, GA.

WHEREAS, Lyndon's calling was focused on helping to find solutions and empower at risk underprivileged youth to overcome obstacles and become successful. His experience in working with children sparked his creativity and innovation spawning his founding of The American Youth Arts Society, Inc. in 2015 as well as The American Youth Film Festival; and,

WHEREAS, after realizing few film festivals were dedicated solely to students, he created "The American Youth Film Festival" to showcase American youth cinematic content creators; and,

WHEREAS, in 2019, The American Youth Film Festival continued its mission and expanded into The American Youth Arts Society, Inc. that is dedicated to introducing film, photography, runway modeling, music, and fashion to at-risk youth in disadvantaged and underserved communities throughout America; and,

WHEREAS, after teen gun violence injured a student filmmaker who had been involved with the film festivals, Lyndon and the society launched the *Shoot Film Not Guns* Youth Initiative in 2020. The purpose of the initiative was to use film work as a catalyst for peace and to change the hearts and minds of youth; and,

WHEREAS, the effort provided a platform for anti-bullying student activists, gun safety advocates, and student filmmakers to inspire other youth to find solutions for the violence in America. *Shoot Film Not Guns* became his focus and mission because it required youth utilize a broad spectrum of skills to develop their strong anti-bullying and non-violent solutions; and,

WHEREAS, his dream and goal of the initiative has been to "reduce bullying and violence in America's middle and high schools using student ambassadors, teachers, and administrators."; and,

WHEREAS, Lyndon's commitment to building peace and fighting youth violence attracted him to the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Outdoor Learning Trail sponsored by Turn Around Columbus. He soon was managing and organizing the Annual Service Project of cleaning the areas along the Trail on Dr. King's birthday. His leadership and ingenuity increased the number of student participants, expanded cleaning areas along the trail, and provided student and community exposure to Columbus' African American History. These actions led to him being selected as a board member of Turn Around Columbus, where he served with distinction, especially in bringing the skills of the Shoot Film Not Guns young filmmakers to Turn Around Columbus.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA HEREBY
RESOLVES:**

The members of Council do hereby express our sincerest condolences to the family of Lyndon H. Burch. May his life continue to be an example for us all.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the 14th day of March 2023 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of ___ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen	voting _____
Councilor Barnes	voting _____
Councilor Cogle	voting _____
Councilor Crabb	voting _____
Councilor Davis	voting _____
Councilor Garrett	voting _____
Councilor House	voting _____
Councilor Huff	voting _____
Councilor Thomas	voting _____
Councilor Tucker	voting _____

Sandra T. Davis
Clerk of Council

B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III
Mayor