

RESOLUTION NO. 180030

Recognizing and applauding the City of Kansas City's new designation as the only city in the United States to receive the UNESCO "City of Music" designation; and giving the City Manager various directives that accompany such designation.

WHEREAS, UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) periodically designates cities around the world as culturally significant to join the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN); and

WHEREAS, these designations fall under categories including "Music"; and

WHEREAS, a group led by Anita Dixon, John James of the Wendall Phillips Neighborhood Association, and Dr. Jacob Wagner of the UMKC Center for Neighborhoods, submitted a successful application to UNESCO to recognize Kansas City, Missouri as a "City of Music;" and

WHEREAS, this application included the demonstration of the 18th & Vine area as historically influential in the creation and distribution of jazz as a musical art form throughout the world, and especially to Europe; and

WHEREAS, Kansas City is the only city in the United States to receive the City of Music designation; and

WHEREAS, the successful application included the desire to create a signature event to celebrate the art form in Kansas City, as well as create a traveling exhibit telling the story of the role of Kansas City and the 18th & Vine area in the global growth of Jazz as a musical art form; and

WHEREAS, it is important for Kansas City to participate in the International Day of Jazz; and

WHEREAS, the UCCN designation requires participation with the UCCN Network's major and annual meetings; and

WHEREAS, the UCCN designation requires participation in its goals pertaining to Sustainable Development of Cities; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF KANSAS CITY:

Section 1. That the City Council recognizes and applauds the City of Kansas City's new designation as the only city in the United States to receive the UNESCO "City of Music" designation.

Section 2. That the City Manager is directed to provide assistance, when practicable, to the UNESCO Creative Cities Committee in the development of those

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items necessary to fulfill the requirements of the accepted UNESCO submission including participation in necessary meetings. Such assistance may include staff support from the City Manager's Office of Cultural and Creative Services and other staff as designated by the City Manager.

Section 3. That the City Manager is directed to examine available monetary or other resources deemed appropriate and proper to execute the requirements of the UNESCO designation.

Section 4. That the City Manager is directed to work with the UNESCO Creative Cities Committee with a goal of preserving and protecting those assets most important to the UNESCO City of Music designation for Kansas City including the Mutual Musicians Foundation building, 1823 Highland, the 18th & Vine district and the African American founders of the "Negro Musicians Association," including, but not limited to, Ben Webster, Mary Lou Williams, Charlie Parker and William "Count" Basie.

Section 5. That the City Manager is directed to seek means in which the City may, on an ongoing basis, use the associated marks and brands associated with the UNESCO City of Music designation until such time as the designation lapses,

Section 6. That the City Manager is directed to review the City's Climate Protection Plan, Safe City Initiative, Digital Equity Strategic Plan, and Fair Housing Plan and offer suggested changes to maintain consistency with the UCCN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Section 7. That the City Manager is directed to seek ways to maximize the tourism value of this designation by working with the UNESCO Creative Cities Committee to create partnerships with affiliated agencies such as Visit KC and others as deemed appropriate.