Councilmember Zachary Parker

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To recognize honoree Justin Stewart during the 2026 celebration of DC Black Pride.

WHEREAS, Justin Stewart is a multimedia journalist, producer, and social media influencer recognized for his vibrant storytelling, commanding media presence, and commitment to amplifying diverse voices in journalism;

WHEREAS, a Washington, DC, native, Justin Stewart launched his media career after earning a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in 2010;

WHEREAS, Justin Stewart has built an impressive career across broadcast, digital, and entertainment media, contributing to respected outlets including NBC4 Washington, NBC Network, WJLA-ABC 7, WTTG-FOX 5, and Metro Weekly;

WHEREAS, Justin Stewart currently produces and edits engaging content for NBC Washington's morning show, "News4 Today," which includes coordination of high-profile interviews and development of compelling news coverage;

WHEREAS, Justin Stewart's work and commentary have been featured by national media outlets including USA Today, The Associated Press, LGBTQ Nation, Rolling Out, and The Wendy Williams Show;

WHEREAS, beyond the newsroom, Justin Stewart is widely recognized for using his platform to bridge the gap between traditional journalism and LGBTQIA+ advocacy, with a strong focus on visibility for the Black queer community throughout the DMV region;

WHEREAS, openly embracing his identity as a "Black queer fem man," Justin Stewart is passionate about creating space for underserved communities and ensuring authentic representation across media platforms;

WHEREAS, through his digital presence and behind-the-scenes storytelling, Justin Stewart works to make the media industry feel more accessible and inclusive for aspiring journalists and creatives of color;

WHEREAS, in addition to journalism, Justin Stewart is an experienced live host and moderator who has led numerous high-profile events celebrating the arts, culture, nonprofits, and community organizations;

WHEREAS, Justin Stewart's hosting credits include the DC Mayor's Arts Awards, Miss Earth USA, and the Literary Arts Awards;

WHEREAS, recognized for both his professionalism and cultural impact, Justin Stewart was nominated for Truth Prism Journalist of the Year at the 2026 Prism3D Awards;

WHEREAS, whether behind the scenes producing news or center stage hosting major events, Justin Stewart continues to bring energy, authenticity, and purpose-driven storytelling to every platform he touches;

WHEREAS, DC Black Pride is an annual event to increase awareness of and showcase pride in the diversity of the LGBTQIA+ populations in the African American community, and to support organizations that focus on health disparities, education, youth, and families;

WHEREAS, as the very first Black Pride festival in the world, DC Black Pride fostered the beginning of the Center for Black Equity and the "Black Pride Movement";

WHEREAS, since the birth of DC Black Pride, more than 50 other Black Pride celebrations now take place throughout the world and on 4 continents, with many using DC Black Pride as a model;

WHEREAS, May 22, 2026, through May 25, 2026, marks the 35th annual DC Black Pride celebration;

WHEREAS, the theme for this year's celebration is "New Black Renaissance," which centers Black LGBTQIA+ "artists, leaders, healers, and organizers while confronting what still makes Black Pride necessary, including HIV, inequity, homophobia, and transphobia;"

WHEREAS, for more than 30 years, DC Black Pride has been an opportunity for the Black LGBTQIA+ community to gather and celebrate being both African American and members of LGBTQIA+ communities;

WHEREAS, DC Black Pride is the oldest and one of the largest Black Pride events in the world, drawing thousands of residents and visitors from around the globe; and

WHEREAS, DC Black Pride brings more than 500,000 people to the nation's capital from across the United States, Canada, the Caribbean, South Africa, Great Britain, France, Germany, and the Netherlands and will carry that tradition this year and into the future to celebrate their shared community, raise awareness and funding for HIV/AIDS prevention, and stand against homophobia inspired by violence and bigotry.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution be cited as the "Justin Stewart Recognition Resolution of 2026".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and celebrates Justin Stewart during the 2026 celebration of DC Black Pride.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.