

City of Boston
IN
CITY COUNCIL

BOSTON CITY COUNCILLORS CHARLES C. YANCEY AND CHUCK TURNER

SIERRA LEONE CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

- WHEREAS: The Sierra Leone Cultural Organization's Annual Pan-African Cultural Day Festival celebrates the cultural diversity of Boston area residents with African heritage; and
- WHEREAS: The Festival's purposes are to encourage and to promote artistic and musical skills in artists of African heritage, as well as to provide a performance venue in front of audiences of multiple cultures; and
- WHEREAS: The Sierra Leone Cultural Organization works with at-risk, low-income, disadvantaged youth and their families in Boston to prevent substance abuse and juvenile delinquency; and
- WHEREAS: The Sierra Leone Cultural Organization offers programs and activities to cultivate artistic skills, personal development, and social responsibility; and
- WHEREAS: The mission of the Sierra Leone Cultural Organization, which was founded in 1983, is to promote Sierra Leonean cultures, and to promote history of the Amistad Revolt; and
- WHEREAS: The Amistad Revolt is the 1839 slave rebellion near Cuba in which slaves aboard the Amistad killed the ship's captain and took control. Amistad and its 53 African passengers, mostly adult males from Sierra Leone, were later captured in New York and detained in Connecticut, while a lengthy, 14-month trial ensued. The Supreme Court in March 1841, at the urging of Former President John Quincy Adams, ordered the 35 surviving Africans to be freed and returned to their homeland, Sierra Leone; and
- WHEREAS: The Amistad Revolt is just one example of more than 300 African uprisings documented in the 19th Century, particularly in slave states; Be It Therefore
- RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council, in meeting assembled, congratulates the Sierra Leone Cultural Organization for promoting cultural diversity in the City of Boston, for promoting the significant history of the Amistad Revolt, and for encouraging the positive development of Boston youth, and Be It Further
- RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council, in meeting assembled, congratulates the Sierra Leone Cultural Organization in recognition of the 9th Anniversary of the Pan-African Cultural Day Festival in the City of Boston.



By: [Signature]
President of the City Council

Attest: [Signature]
Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: [Signature]
Date: October 20, 2010