

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, throughout our history, transformative leaders have emerged to champion equity, justice, and dignity for all people, especially those whose voices have been historically excluded; and

WHEREAS, Executive Director **Jaelynn Scott** of the Lavender Rights Project has exemplified unwavering commitment to advancing justice, resources and visibility for Black trans communities by using her voice, leadership, and brilliance to reshape the landscape of LGBTQ+ rights; and,

WHEREAS, under Jaelynn Scott's leadership, the Lavender Rights Project has continued to be an organization of advocacy, empowerment, and legal support, offering not only services but also hope and affirmation by providing a home, safe space and a loving community; and,

WHEREAS, **Andrew Ashiofu** has stood tall as a dynamic advocate, courageous leader, and outspoken champion for LGBTQ+ rights, racial equity, and the visibility of immigrant and HIV-positive communities, leading with authenticity, compassion, and resilience; and,

WHEREAS, Andrew Ashiofu's activism and community-building have inspired countless individuals to embrace their full selves and to also seek public office; and,

WHEREAS, We proudly recognize the leadership of Executive Director **Nikita Venus** at Seattle's LGBTQ+ Center, an advocate for equity and liberation, they embody the strength of our community; and,

WHEREAS, through their visionary leadership, they have continued to elevate LGBTQ+ voices, helped to expand access to affirming resources, and build bridges across communities which marks a powerful step forward in pursuit of dignity, justice, and joy for all gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, and nonbinary people in Seattle and King County.

WHEREAS, Jaelynn Scott, Andrew Ashiofu and Nakita Venus embody the spirit of advocacy and positive representation, standing as role models whose dedication uplifts the lives of many and transforms the DNA of our communities;

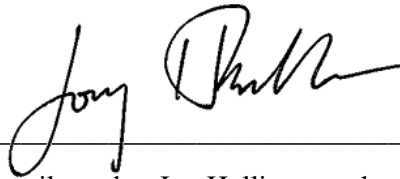
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*NOW, THEREFORE, we do hereby proclaim our deepest appreciation and celebration of **Jaelynn Scott, Andrew Ashiofu, and Nikita Venus** for their **brilliant leadership, fierce advocacy, and unwavering commitment** to the LGBTQ+ community and our city of Seattle.*

Let this proclamation serve as a lasting tribute to their powerful voices and bold actions and a commitment from the city council that we will continue to work with our LGBTQ+ communities, especially, our Black Trans Communities for equity, resources, and protection.



Mayor Bruce A. Harrell



Councilmember Joy Hollingsworth