

BY: Senator PARKER

HONORING Donnaray Roc, artistic director, choreographer, cultural ambassador, and visionary creative leader, upon the occasion of receiving the International Cultural Connectivity Award

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend individuals whose extraordinary creativity, cultural leadership, and international vision have uplifted global artistic expression, strengthened cross-cultural exchange, and advanced the richness of the Afro-Caribbean cultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Donnaray Roc, internationally recognized artistic director, choreographer, creative entrepreneur, and cultural ambassador, upon the occasion of receiving the International Cultural Connectivity Award by Young, Gifted, & Black Entrepreneurial Awards, Inc., on Wednesday, February 25, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 2006 by Carl Gray, Young, Gifted, & Black Entrepreneurial Awards, Inc., is a nonprofit organization dedicated to recognizing distinguished individuals of color across the Americas, the Caribbean, and Africa, celebrating "unsung heroes and heroines" whose leadership, resilience, and service have made a lasting impact across arts, culture, business, and community development; and

WHEREAS, Born in Montego Bay, Jamaica, Donnaray Roc has emerged as a visionary artistic leader whose work has taken Jamaican dance and cultural expression onto global stages, blending music, movement, performance, fashion, and community advocacy in ways that honor her heritage while expanding its influence worldwide; and

WHEREAS, With more than fifteen years of experience in entertainment and creative production, Donnaray Roc is the Founder and President of ROC Factory LLC, a cultural enterprise that draws together artistic performance, production, choreography, talent development, and global cultural diplomacy to celebrate and elevate Caribbean artistic identity; and

WHEREAS, A fervent advocate for Jamaican dancehall and cultural exchange, Donnaray Roc has traveled extensively throughout Europe, North America, and Africa, including Ghana, where she launched initiatives such as the Black Star Renaissance and Akwaaba Grand Experience which were designed to strengthen cultural ties between Jamaica and the African continent and expand opportunities for artistic collaboration; and

WHEREAS, Donnaray Roc's creative work extends across choreography, theater production, music video direction, event conceptualization, and artistic leadership, earning her acclaim as an award-winning artistic

director and dancehall master who has contributed to the global visibility of Jamaican dance culture; and

WHEREAS, Demonstrating deep commitment to community and cultural education, Donnaray Roc has served as a cultural connector, working to promote dancehall and Jamaican artistic traditions, empower emerging performers, and build platforms where youth from diverse communities can develop their talents and achieve artistic excellence; and

WHEREAS, Donnaray Roc's remarkable career bridges creative innovation and intercultural bridge building, and her artistic vision continues to inspire audiences, practitioners, and cultural institutions across continents, expanding the reach of Jamaican expressive arts as an enduring force in global culture; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Donnaray Roc, upon the occasion of receiving the International Cultural Connectivity Award, and to commend her extraordinary contributions to artistic excellence, cultural diplomacy, and international cultural exchange; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Donnaray Roc as an expression of the highest respect and appreciation of this Legislative Body.