

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS  
COUNTY OF ESSEX

#45

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
PROPOSED BY: FREEHOLDER GILL  
SUBJECT:

AUTHORITY FOR RESOLUTION N.J.S.A. 40:41A-38(q)  
AUTHORITY FOR ACTION C.C.E 2-29 (B)

IN MEMORIAM

INEZ KERR McCLENDON

WHEREAS, Inez Kerr McClendon of Newark, New Jersey, is being remembered upon her passing from this life on Wednesday, April 15, 2020, at the age of 86; and

WHEREAS, Inez Kerr McClendon was born on June 28, 1933, the youngest of six children born to Ella Mae and Lester Kerr. She was a life-long Newark resident and commitment and trust in God were hallmarks of her family. Her faithful devoted walk with God began at St. John Baptist in 1941 and was sustained until her death; and

WHEREAS, Inez Kerr McClendon was a product of the Newark Public School System attending 18th Avenue School, Cleveland Jr. High School and South Side High (Malcolm X Shabazz) where she graduated in 1950. She continued her education at Montclair State University where she earned three degrees, a BA in Music, and a MA in both Music, Speech and Theater Arts; and

WHEREAS, Inez Kerr McClendon was married to Rufus McClendon on April 10, 1965, and that union produced one son, Todd. Before her stellar career in education, she was a factory worker. Her time in the "factory" afforded her opportunities to hone her musical and thespian skills through work, travel and performances with The Jaxson Sisters, The Troupe, Lamplighters and Voices Inc. Her life's passion of teaching music began in 1965 and spanned four decades in the Newark Public Schools. She taught at West Side High School for 30 years and influenced the lives of countless students and co-workers; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure with the Newark Board of Education, Inez Kerr McClendon remained heavily involved with several churches and community-based organizations throughout the area serving as the organist, choir director, and/or drama instructor. She committed years of service to Seton Hall Upward Bound Program, Protestant Community Centers, Incorporated, the Essex County Youth House, and the Boys and Girls Club of America, to name a few. Even after retirement from the Newark Public School System she never skipped a beat and continued to mold and develop students of all ages at the Newark Community School of the Arts, where she also taught for more than 30 years; and

WHEREAS, Inez Kerr McClendon's most important role was that of a Mother. As the matriarch of the Kerr family, despite her commitment and dedication to her career, she always valued her family and loved ones above all. Her sense of style was legendary. Her greatest production was her son Todd. Among her notable music/drama accomplishments were 2010 Worship at the Manger, Talent in Triplicate, Many Faces of Inez, The Jaxson Sisters, and School Holiday and Black History Concerts, and installation into the Elders Council (NJ PAC) for recognition of sixty years of excellence in music leadership in Newark; and

WHEREAS, Inez Kerr McClendon's parents and all her siblings preceded her in death. She is survived by her son Todd McClendon; Daughter-in-law Isa McClendon; Grandchildren: Syr McClendon and Takiyah White; Niece Joyce Tarpley; Nephews Anthony Kerr, Robert Kerr, Ernest Brodus, and Pete Sifford; Aunt Ruby Lewis-Johnson; Cousins Cheryl Iroka, George Kerr, Victor Kerr, Carol Kerr, Sylvia Kerr, Alline Graham, Yanique Graham-Mesa, John T. Kerr, Ann Sobers, and Gloria Kerr; Goddaughter Thelma Ann Ramsey; extended family Frenchie Edmonson, Antoinette Montague, Josephine Jackson, Grace Hackett; and a host of other family members, friends, and loved ones; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders hereby celebrates the life and mourns the passing of Inez Kerr McClendon, and offers their heartfelt condolences to her family; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Inez Kerr McClendon.

Approved as to form and legality

Freeholder Counsel

*Michael J. P... ..*

RECORD OF VOTE (X=Vote N.V.=Abstention ABS=Absent)

Moved by Freeholder

Second by Freeholder

Freeholder	Yes	No	N.V.	ABS	Freeholder	Yes	No.	N.V.	ABS
COOPER					POMARES				
GRAHAM					RICHARDSON, V.P.	✓			
JOHNSON					SEBOLD				
LUCIANO									
MERCADO					GILL, PRES.				

It is hereby certified that the foregoing Resolution was ( ) adopted ( ) defeated ( ) tabled by roll call vote at a \_\_\_\_\_ meeting of the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Essex, New Jersey held on \_\_\_\_\_

Is Publication Required ( ) Yes ( ) No

Date Published \_\_\_\_\_

Brendan W. Gill, President