

City of Chicago



R2014-477

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:

6/25/2014

Sponsor(s):

Burke (14)

Type:

Resolution

Title:

Tribute to late Maya Angelou

Committee(s) Assignment:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Maya Angelou has been called to eternal life by the wisdom of God at the age of 86; and

WHEREAS, The Chicago City Council has been informed of her passing by Alderman Edward M. Burke; and

WHEREAS, Maya Angelou was a renowned author, poet, dancer, actress, civil rights activist and educator; and

WHEREAS, Beginning with her debut memoir in 1969 entitled *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, Maya Angelou was the author of seven autobiographies, three books of essays and several books of poetry; and

WHEREAS, Maya Angelou began writing after a series of occupations that included performing as a cast member of *Porgy and Bess*; and

WHEREAS, Beginning in 1982 Maya Angelou taught at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina where she held the first lifetime Reynolds Professorship of American Studies; and

WHEREAS, Maya Angelou was also an accomplished producer, playwright and film director; and

WHEREAS, Maya Angelou recited her poem, On the Pulse of the Morning, at the 1992 inauguration of President Bill Clinton and was the first poet to do so since Robert Frost recited at President John F. Kennedy's inauguration in 1961; and

WHEREAS, Maya Angelou was awarded the National Medal of Arts in 2000, the Lincoln Medal in 2008 and the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2011; and

WHEREAS, Maya Angelou will be dearly missed and fondly remembered by her many relatives, friends and admirers; and

WHEREAS, To her beloved family, Maya Angelou imparts a legacy of faithfulness, service and dignity; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council, assembled this twenty-fifth day of June, 2014, do hereby commemorate Maya Angelou for her grace-filled life and do hereby express our condolences to her family; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Maya Angelou.

Alderman - 14th Ward