

**RESOLUTION NO. 24R-09-235**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL APPROVING THE PRESENTATION OF A KEY TO THE CITY OF LAUDERHILL TO MACHEL MONTANO IN RECOGNITION OF HIS DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT TO SOCA MUSIC; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (REQUESTED BY MAYOR KEN THURSTON)**

WHEREAS, the Key to the City is the most prestigious award and is used to recognize exceptional achievement; and

WHEREAS, Machel Montano, born on November 24, 1974, in Port of Spain, Trinidad, began his musical journey at the age of seven. He quickly became a rising star, showcasing Soca music to new audiences, including a performance on the popular U.S. television show Star Search in 1986. By the age of 12, he had already made history as the youngest winner of the prestigious Caribbean Song Festival, solidifying his place in the region's music scene; and

WHEREAS, Montano's early achievements included performing at New York City's Madison Square Garden when he was just nine years old. Over the years, his talent has earned him numerous awards, including multiple accolades from the Annual Copyright Organization of Trinidad & Tobago (COTT) and the International Soca Awards. He also made history by receiving the Bob Marley Award for Entertainer of the Year twice and was recognized as the Best Caribbean Artist at the BET J Virtual Awards.

WHEREAS, a key part of Montano's career has been his commitment to pushing Soca into the global mainstream. He became the first Soca artist to headline the Jamaica Jazz and Blues Festival, showcasing the genre's potential for crossover appeal. He is deeply passionate about elevating the quality of Soca music and expanding its reach to international markets, hoping to see it embraced alongside other popular global genres; and

WHEREAS, through his innovative sound and tireless work ethic, Machel Montano has revolutionized Soca music, helping it reach new audiences worldwide. His influence has not only expanded Soca's presence internationally but also inspired new generations of artists and fans to appreciate its unique energy and appeal; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lauderhill is honored to host the Soca superstar and legend, internationally recognized as the "Soca King", Mr. Machel Montano and present him with a Key to the City to recognize his exceptional achievements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION. THAT:

SECTION 1. That the foregoing WHEREAS clauses are hereby adopted and incorporated herein.

SECTION 2. That the presentation of a Key to the City award to Machel Montano, in recognition of his dedication and commitment to Soca and to recognize his exceptional achievement as the "Soca King" is hereby approved.

SECTION 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

DATED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on first reading this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDING OFFICER

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK

MOTION \_\_\_\_\_  
SECOND \_\_\_\_\_

M. DUNN \_\_\_\_\_  
D. GRANT \_\_\_\_\_  
L. MARTIN \_\_\_\_\_  
S. MARTIN \_\_\_\_\_  
K. THURSTON \_\_\_\_\_

Approved as to Form

\_\_\_\_\_  
Angel Petti Rosenberg  
City Attorney