

PROCLAMATION

A key component of the City of Philadelphia's legacy as a premier musical destination is our residents' desire to discover, encourage, and support the artists. As a place where some of the greatest musicians have made their mark, it is a truly special talent whose works create a deep and lasting connection with our residents. As Philadelphians, we are frequently inspired by these iconic performers whose work makes a lasting impact on our City and leaves a legacy of goodwill and positive change.

Philadelphia played an integral part in furthering the legendary career of David Bowie, who performed many sold-out shows that delighted Philadelphians in his early years and which helped build his loyal following. Throughout his career, Bowie remained very true to his audience in the City of Brotherly and Sisterly Love, as he recorded his album "Young Americans" at the iconic Sigma Sound Studios on 12th Street in August 1974. He recorded three LPs – "David Live," "Young Americans," and "Stage" – in Philadelphia, as well as filmed the music video for the 1983 hit single "Modern Love" here. In total, his works include 27 studio albums, nine live albums, 49 compilation albums, six extended plays, and 121 singles. He is estimated to have sold over 140 million records during his unparalleled lifetime career.

Bowie's death from liver cancer on January 10, 2016 stunned his many fans around the world who were devastated by the surprising and tragic news. In his 1977 classic "Heroes" Bowie wrote, "We can be heroes, forever and ever, just for one day." For many Philadelphians, they heeded those inspiring words, and the intense love and passion they had for his music was rechanneled into a desire to benefit others.

For one week in January 2017 many of Bowie's fans gathered together for dozens of events themed around his work and the various ways in which he inspired them. Led by co-organizers Patti Brett and Marla Kanevsky, the inaugural "Philly Loves Bowie Week" included a powerful celebration on the anniversary of his birthday on January 8th. The unique annual celebration continues in our City and has raised more than \$40,000 for the Cancer Center at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), which was founded in November of 1855 as the first children's hospital in the United States. CHOP remains a leader for similar institutions having been ranked first in more specialty care programs than any other pediatric hospital in the country, and is a leader in pediatric oncology.

The 4th annual Philly Loves Bowie Week will be held from Friday, January 3 through Sunday, January 12, 2020, and feature live concerts, cabaret performances, movie screenings, a curated art exhibit, dance parties, and family events like Bowling for Bowie and the annual Snowy Bowie Skate at the Blue Cross RiverRink at Penn's Landing.

THEREFORE...

I, James F. Kenney, Mayor of the City of Philadelphia, do hereby proclaim the week of Friday, January 3 through Sunday, January 12, 2020 to be

PHILLY LOVES BOWIE WEEK

in Philadelphia, and commend all of the organizers and participants who help raise money to support an important City institution to cure and prevent pediatric cancer.


James F. Kenney
Mayor

Given under my hand and the seal
of the City of Philadelphia on this
third day of January, two thousand
and twenty

