



# Board of Commissioners of Cook County

118 North Clark Street  
Chicago, IL

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 24-2711, **Version:** 1

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### **PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

#### **HONORING AVERY R. YOUNG FOR NATIONAL POETRY MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, Avery R. Young is an interdisciplinary artist, educator, recipient of the Leader for a New Chicago 2022 award, a Cave Canem fellow and co-director of The Floating Museum, and;

**WHEREAS**, Young's poetry and prose have been featured in BreakBeat Poets, Teaching Black, Poetry Magazine and alongside images in photographer Cecil McDonald Jr's, In The Company of Black, and;

**WHEREAS**, Young is the composer and librettist for a new commissioned work from The Lyrics Opera of Chicago titled Safronia, and;

**WHEREAS**, Young's work in performance, visual text, and sound design has been featured in several exhibitions and theater festivals---notably The Hip Hop Theatre Festival, The Art Institute of Chicago, The Museum of Contemporary Art, and American Jazz Museum, and;

**WHEREAS**, Young is the featured vocalist on flutist Nicole Mitchell's Mandorla Awakening (FPE Records). His theater credits include co-writing and co-producing the soundtrack for Lise Haller Baggeson's Hatorgrade Retrograde: The Musical, scoring RedClay Dance's Rest. Restore. Nourish. Move. Heal, and;

**WHEREAS**, Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot, in partnership with the Chicago Public Library (CPL), the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE), and the Poetry Foundation, proudly named Avery R. Young as the inaugural Chicago Poet Laureate, and;

**WHEREAS**, April 1996 the Academy of American Poets launched National Poetry Month, a special occasion to celebrates poets' integral role in our culture and that poetry matters. Over the years, it has become the largest literary celebration in the world, and;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, does hereby celebrate Avery R. Young during National Poetry Month and honors his contributors as an award-winning poet, educator, composer, performer, and producer, and;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this Resolution be archived as a token of the esteem held by the President of the Cook County Board of Commissioners and the Cook County Board of Commissioners.