## OFFERED BY COUNCILORS BENJAMIN J. WEBER, BREADON, COLETTA, DURKAN, FITZGERALD, FLYNN, MEJIA, MURPHY, PEPÉN, SANTANA, WEBER, WORRELL, AND LOUIJEUNE



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

## RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE SUN POEM AS A POWERFUL TOOL TO IGNITE CHANGE

- **WHEREAS**, Boston prides itself on being a welcoming City to all and its strength is its diversity; and
- **WHEREAS**, Boston is taking steps to address inequities, recognizing that there is strength in racial and cultural diversity; *and*
- **WHEREAS**, To become a more just and equitable society we must promote racial and ethnic harmony; *and*
- **WHEREAS**, Breaking down barriers and reducing discrimination makes us a safer and more vibrant community; *and*
- WHEREAS, In 1985 Jamaica Plain resident Sara Ting, a Chinese American, published the "Sun Poem," which inspired her to found World Unity Inc., a local nonprofit which work towards eliminating all forms of racial, ethnic, gender, religious and cultural bigotry, prejudices, discrimination and biases; and
- WHEREAS, The "Sun Poem" invites us to put aside our biases and look within to see our common humanity; it challenges us to end our prejudice and states the following: "Are you greater than the sun that shines on everyone...Black, Brown, Yellow, Red and White the sun does not discriminate"; and
- **WHEREAS**, World Unity Inc., an organization dedicated to promoting equality, diversity and inclusion through self-awareness, hosts Sun Poem Workshops to empower individuals through the arts, education and through innovative ideas; and
- WHEREAS, The poem has been and continues to be used as a powerful tool to bridge differences, and was recited at the 50th year celebration of Reverend Martin Luther King's Mountaintop speech; and
- WHEREAS, The "Sun Poem" was previously recognized by this Council following resolutions filed by City Councilor Michelle Wu in 2018 and Councilor Kendra Lara in 2023; NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

**RESOLVED**: The Boston City Council hereby recognizes Sara Ting, World Unity Inc., and the "Sun Poem" for their dedication and work to build a diverse, intersectional, and equitable City of Boston.

Filed on: March 13, 2024