

City of Boston

IN CITY COUNCIL

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR LIZ BREADON, Arroyo, Baker, Bok, Fernandes Anderson, Flaherty, Lara, Louijeune, Mejia, Murphy, Worrell and Flynn

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE NAMING OF THE CHILDREN'S ROOM IN THE FANEUIL BRANCH OF THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY AS "JAIJAI'S ROOM"

in memory of

JAIRAM MIGUEL RODRIGUES RAO

- WHEREAS,* Jairam Miguel Rodrigues Rao, born on March 30th, 2002 and raised in Boston and in Brazil, was tragically lost on July 2nd, 2019 in Buzios, Brazil while pursuing his passion for adventure and rock climbing; *and*
- WHEREAS,* By the age of eight, Jairam began his work on the frontlines to advance social causes as an activist, including support of the Boston Public Library; *and*
- WHEREAS,* A student of the Boston Public Schools, Jairam graduated from Boston Latin School in June 2019 and was headed to Boston University to pursue a degree in Environmental Sciences; *and*
- WHEREAS,* He played drums and guitar, was an avid woodworker, loved the outdoors, and was deeply involved with the Boston Latin School Junior Classical League, making history while demonstrating his knowledge of Latin classics and achieving the highest levels at Certamen tournaments; *and*
- WHEREAS,* Jairam was a Field Team Member of Branching Out, a career development and educational program hosted by the Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation, where he contributed to the stewardship of the National Park System in the Northeast; *and*
- WHEREAS,* A member of Youth on Board and the Boston Student Advisory Council's Climate Justice Team, Jairam provided powerful testimony at a Boston City Council hearing in March 2019 on the urgent policy changes needed to address climate change while centering young people in the climate justice movement; *and*
- WHEREAS,* He is remembered as a young disruptive thinker with a free spirit guided by relentless passion for his pursuits, especially environmental advocacy; *and*
- WHEREAS,* An Annual Lecture on Environmental Racism/Justice and the "Jairam Miguel Rodrigues Rao Prize for Work on Environmental Racism and Justice" were established by the Environmental Studies Program at the College of the Holy Cross to honor his dedication toward environmental activism from an early age; *and*
- WHEREAS,* Jairam lived every day as if it were his last, fighting urgently against climate change and environmental degradation, dedicating his life to making the world a better place, while touching the lives and hearts of many; *NOW THEREFORE BE IT*
- RESOLVED:* That the Boston City Council, in meeting assembled, supports the naming of the Children's Room in the Faneuil Branch of the Boston Public Library located at 419 Faneuil Street in Brighton as "JaiJai's Room" in memory of Jairam Miguel Rodrigues Rao.

By: _____
President of the City Council

Attest: _____
Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: _____
Councilor Liz Breadon

Date: May 11th, 2022