

1 [Philip P. Choy Day - April 23, 2017]

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3 **Resolution declaring April 23, 2017, to be Philip P. Choy Day in the City and County of**
4 **San Francisco in appreciation of his contributions to the Chinese-American**
5 **community, both locally and nationally, and increasing the public’s knowledge of the**
6 **Chinese-American community’s significant contributions to our country’s**
7 **development.**

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9 WHEREAS, Philip P. Choy was a third-generation native San Franciscan who lived his
10 entire life in the city he loved; and

11 WHEREAS, Philip was a renowned Chinese-American historian, scholar and educator
12 who created and taught the first college-level Chinese-American history course at San
13 Francisco State University in 1969, which became the curricular model for the instruction of
14 Chinese American history; and

15 WHEREAS, Philip was a major force in front of and behind the camera in the first
16 documentary on Chinese American history, Gum Saan Haak, a three-hour program
17 broadcasted on television in 1974 to educate the public on the history of Chinese in America;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, Philip independently fought for the recognition of forgotten Chinese
20 railroad workers for their instrumental work on the Transcontinental Railroad Centennial in
21 1969, won the acknowledgement and recognition from the Centennial organizers for the
22 thousands of Chinese workers who made tremendous contributions and huge sacrifices
23 building the Transcontinental Railroad from the Sierra foothills to Utah, which pushed forth the
24 rapid development of America’s western frontiers, and made San Francisco the major city and
25 financial center west of Mississippi; and

1 WHEREAS, Philip worked diligently with the San Francisco Chinese community
2 organizations to establish museum exhibitions in San Francisco, Sacramento, and at the
3 Angel Island Immigration Station to educate the community and the nation about the painful
4 history of the Chinese in America; and

5 WHEREAS, Philip was a tireless community activist who provided pro-bono
6 professional expertise in architecture, championed historical preservation of significant
7 California and San Francisco Bay Area community and neighborhood landmarks, dedicated
8 his life to community service, and mentored younger generations of San Franciscans to
9 become engaged citizens; now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
11 recognizes Philip was an outstanding San Francisco citizen and an exemplary role model in
12 civic volunteerism, and in recognition of his life-time dedication and achievement in public
13 service; and, be it

14 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors declares April 23, 2017, Philip
15 P. Choy Day in the City and County of San Francisco.

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