

I'm Noah Griffin a native san Franciscan. I would first off like to thank Supervisor Peskin and the members of this committee to speak before you this afternoon on behalf of the issue of installing the Howard Thurman commemorative Street. marker.

First of all let me put forward to you who Howard Thurman was in life and who he remains in legacy.

It's no exaggeration to say that there is not a religious institution in the world that did not study the work of this remarkable theologian minister, poet and Mystic.

You might wonder how this native floridian born at the turn of this last century wound up in San Francisco.

After finishing the Florida Baptist Academy in 1915 the matriculating at Morehouse college than graduating from Rochester theological seminary. He did further study at Haverford college with Rufus Jones a noted Quaker philosopher and Mystic.

He was selected to be the first Dean of Rankin Chapel at Howard University in Washington DC where he served there from 1932 to 1944.

During the time there he visited with Mahatma Gandhi in India in 1935 leading the first delegation of African Americans to so many with Gandhi.

Part of his delegation asked why he was a Christian because it was in the name of Christianity his people were enslaved.

When he returned home he wrote the book *Jesus and the Disinherited* as one of the 20 books he would author in his lifetime. What would Jesus do with the pariahs of the world today. It was said that Martin Luther King was never without a copy of that book and indeed it formed the basis of his American nonviolent movement.

In 1944 Thurman got a call from Doctor Alfred Fiske of San Francisco State to inquire whether or not Thurman had a student who would be willing to come to San Francisco to help establish the first interracial non denominational church in the 20th century.

Thurman **wrestled** with the idea before volunteering himself to come out which was well beyond anything that Alfred Fiske could have imagined. My parents who were already here became early pioneering members of the Fellowship Church of all peoples as did I. The church was so groundbreaking that Eleanor Roosevelt became a member and was on its first board.

Thurman was invited to Boston University in 1953 where he became Dean of Marsh Chapel from 1953 to 65 he was the first black Dean of a Chapel at a majority white University or College in the United States in addition to that he served on the faculty of Boston University school of theology.

Returning to San Francisco following his stint at Boston University he established the Howard Thurman educational trust fund. He located his home and the Trust on Stockton street adjacent to Pfeiffer.

It is only fitting that's San Francisco honor such a great man with an historic marker. I urge you to vote yes on behalf of that issue.

4 Northland Terrace
Cambridge
K1G 2P4 (Aut 5)

From: [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)
To: [BOS-Supervisors](#); [BOS-Legislative Aides](#)
Cc: [BOS-Operations](#); [Carroll, John \(BOS\)](#); [Calvillo, Angela \(BOS\)](#); [De Asis, Edward \(BOS\)](#); [Entezari, Mehran \(BOS\)](#); [Mchugh, Eileen \(BOS\)](#); [Ng, Wilson \(BOS\)](#); [Somera, Alisa \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: FW: Howard Thurman Streetmarker Support 06142024.pdf
Date: Monday, June 17, 2024 9:34:28 AM
Attachments: [Howard Thurman Streetmarker Support 06142024.pdf](#)

Hello,

Please see attached regarding **File No. 240213**: Resolution adding the commemorative street name “Dr. Howard Thurman Way” to the 2020 Block of Stockton Street in recognition of Dr. Howard Thurman’s legacy in San Francisco.

Regards,

John Bullock
Office of the Clerk of the Board
San Francisco Board of Supervisor
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 554-5184
BOS@sfgov.org | www.sfbos.org

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From: Yan, Calvin (BOS) <calvin.yan@sfgov.org>
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2024 4:29 PM
To: collinscharlesm@icloud.com
Cc: Board of Supervisors (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>
Subject: FW: Howard Thurman Streetmarker Support 06142024.pdf

Hi Charles,

Thank you for your letter of support for Item 2 on the 6/17 Land Use and Transportation

Committee agenda, File No. 240213. I'm forwarding your email to the Clerk of the Board so it can be included in the official record.

Calvin Yan | 甄錦浩

Legislative Aide | 市參事助理

Office of Supervisor Peskin | 市參事佩斯金辦公室

Office: 415-554-7450

Direct: 415-554-7453

calvin.yan@sfgov.org

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From: Charles Collins <collinscharlesm@icloud.com>

Sent: Friday, June 14, 2024 4:05 PM

To: Yan, Calvin (BOS) <calvin.yan@sfgov.org>

Subject: Howard Thurman Streetmarker Support 06142024.pdf

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Thank you Calvin and Sarah.

This is the letter from Morehouse College President David Thomas.

I will make every attempt to be personally at the hearing on Monday.

Charles Collins

Sent from my iPhone

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE



June 14, 2024

Board of Supervisors
City and County of San Francisco
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, City Hall
Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Dear Members of the Board,

Howard Thurman was the valedictorian of Morehouse College Class of 1923 and among the most influential graduates of our college. An acclaimed author, theologian, and educator, Thurman is credited with mentoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and other leaders of the day, who would significantly contribute to the modern Civil Rights Movement in America.

The Howard Thurman Honors Program is a four-year comprehensive program providing special learning opportunities for students of outstanding intellectual ability, high motivation and broad interests. This is how we keep the Thurman legacy alive.

Your decision to place the commemorative street marker at their home at 2020 Stockton Street in San Francisco will continue to emphasize and bring alive the Thurman legacy.

We urge your positive actions to bring this noble project alive for future generations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David A. Thomas".

David A. Thomas
President

2020 Stockton Street
San Francisco, CA 94133

June 9, 2024

Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: File No. 240213, Resolution adding the commemorative street name "Dr. Howard Thurman Way" to the 2020 Block of Stockton Street, in recognition of Dr. Howard Thurman's legacy in San Francisco.

To the Board of Supervisors:

We are the current owner/residents of 2020 Stockton Street, the former residence of Dr. Howard Thurman. For the record, we strongly support this resolution in recognition of Dr. Thurman's role and legacy in building fellowship among all people of our city.

Very truly yours,



Constance Rubiano



Peter Yedidia

For the Yedidia-Rubiano Rev. Family Trust