

Proclamation

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR JUSTIN M. BIBB

City of Cleveland, Ohio

In Recognition of

Accelerate 10th Year Anniversary

hereas, on behalf of the citizens of the City of Cleveland, I am honored to offer this Proclamation recognizing Accelerate's 10th Anniversary in Cleveland, Ohio; and,

hereas, Accelerate: Citizens Make Change, is a civic pitch competition the Cleveland Leadership Center launched a decade ago and has become a groundbreaking initiative that continues to drive positive change across the community. Accelerate has been a catalyst for projects that have transformed lives in Cleveland with the critical partnership forged with Citizens; and,

hereas, at the heart of this transformative event lies a public platform where any citizen can offer innovative solutions to address local issues. Accelerate encourages collaboration and inspires individuals to play an active role in shaping the destiny of our region. The event has drawn an attendance of more than 4,000 individuals over the years, including hundreds of community leaders who have judged pitch categories and supported the event as Host Committee members; and,

hereas, The Cleveland Leadership Center, with an unwavering belief in the power of individuals to shape a brighter future, has inspired and connected citizens, invited them to take action, and amplified their impact. The annual event has become a force that strengthens community engagement, propels economic growth, promotes social equity, and ignites a profound sense of civic pride; and,

hereas, Accelerate has showcased over 240 pitches from a diverse cross-section of Northeast Ohio residents ranging in age from 11 to 70+. From revitalizing neighborhoods to advancing educational opportunities and elevating the quality of life for all, each pitch represents a ripple of transformation that emanates throughout the region. It is a testament to the resilience, creativity, and unwavering spirit of the people of Cleveland; and,

hereas, Accelerate is not just an event; it is a testament to the enduring spirit of collaboration, innovation, and impact that defines the Cleveland Leadership Center and propels Cleveland's journey toward a brighter tomorrow.

Now therefore, I, Justin M. Bibb, the 58th Mayor of the City of Cleveland, do hereby offer this Proclamation in recognition of Accelerate's 10th Year Anniversary. I encourage all citizens to join me in thanking them for their years of service.

In witness thereof, I have set my hand and caused the Corporate Seal of the City of Cleveland to be affixed on this 22nd day of February in the year 2024.

