



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State of Colorado, Denver and Aurora Officially Recognize HBCU Legacy Week

Three proclamations honor the contributions of Historically Black Colleges and Universities ahead of the second annual Mile High HBCU Weekend, July 23–26

DENVER, Colo. — July 20, 2026 — Mile High HBCU Weekend, Inc. today announced that the State of Colorado, the City and County of Denver, and the City of Aurora have officially recognized HBCU Legacy Week, creating a unified state and local celebration of Historically Black Colleges and Universities and their enduring impact.

Governor Jared Polis approved a proclamation recognizing Colorado HBCU Legacy Week, while the Denver City Council and the City of Aurora approved local proclamations honoring the contributions of HBCUs, their alumni, students, educators and supporters.

The recognitions come ahead of the second annual Mile High HBCU Weekend, taking place July 23–26, 2026, across the Denver metropolitan area. The four-day celebration brings together HBCU alumni, current students, prospective students, families and community partners for educational programming, networking, cultural celebration, wellness and community connection.

“Receiving recognition from the State of Colorado, Denver and Aurora affirms that the legacy of Historically Black Colleges and Universities extends far beyond the campuses where it began,” said Kristina Lance, Founder and President of Mile High HBCU Weekend, Inc. “HBCU alumni are educators, entrepreneurs, public servants, healthcare professionals, creatives and community leaders throughout Colorado. These proclamations celebrate their contributions while helping more students and families understand the opportunities HBCUs provide.”

Although Colorado does not have an HBCU within its borders, the state is home to alumni and students representing institutions throughout the country. Mile High HBCU Weekend, Inc. works to strengthen that community while expanding awareness of HBCUs among Colorado students and families.

The organization's mission is to increase access to HBCU admissions and scholarship resources, connect students with alumni and mentors, preserve HBCU culture and history, and build a more visible and connected statewide HBCU community.

A Four-Day Celebration of HBCU Culture and Community

The 2026 Mile High HBCU Weekend includes:

Who Got Game? — Thursday, July 23

An outdoor game night featuring Spades, Dominoes, Uno, music, community activities and an HBCU-themed screening of A Different World.

The HBCYou Experience — Friday, July 24

An intergenerational panel and networking experience connecting prospective students and families with current HBCU students, alumni, community organizations and college-access resources.

Mile High Yardfest — Saturday, July 25

A family-friendly HBCU and Divine Nine Greek picnic featuring DJs, food, vendors, alumni connections, a stroll-off and a celebration of HBCU culture.

Moving in Excellence — Sunday, July 26

A community wellness experience featuring a fitness bootcamp, Trap Yoga, music, wellness vendors, giveaways and a school-supply drive.

"HBCU Legacy Week is both a celebration and an invitation," Lance said. "We are honoring generations of HBCU excellence while encouraging Colorado students to see themselves as part of that legacy and consider HBCUs as a pathway to education, leadership and lifelong community."

The statewide and municipal recognitions represent a significant milestone for Mile High HBCU Weekend, which began as a community celebration and has grown into a year-round nonprofit organization supporting HBCU awareness, college access, alumni engagement and community programming across Colorado.

Media and Interview Opportunities

Members of the media are invited to cover Mile High HBCU Weekend events and the community's celebration of HBCU Legacy Week.

Available interview subjects include:

- Kristina Lance, Founder and President of Mile High HBCU Weekend, Inc.
- Current HBCU students and recent graduates
- Colorado-based HBCU alumni
- High school students and families exploring HBCUs
- Community partners and event sponsors
- Participating elected officials and proclamation sponsors, subject to availability

On-site coverage opportunities include student and alumni interviews, educational programming, proclamation recognition, HBCU and Divine Nine cultural traditions, community wellness activities and the Mile High Yardfest celebration.

Event details, tickets and additional information are available at

www.milehighhbcuweekend.com/hbcu-weekend-2026.

About Mile High HBCU Weekend, Inc.

Mile High HBCU Weekend, Inc. is a Colorado-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to expanding awareness of Historically Black Colleges and Universities, increasing access to admissions and scholarship resources, connecting students and families with HBCU alumni, and preserving and celebrating HBCU legacy and culture. Through year-round educational programming and its annual Mile High HBCU Weekend, the organization is building a stronger and more connected HBCU community throughout Colorado.

Media Contact

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