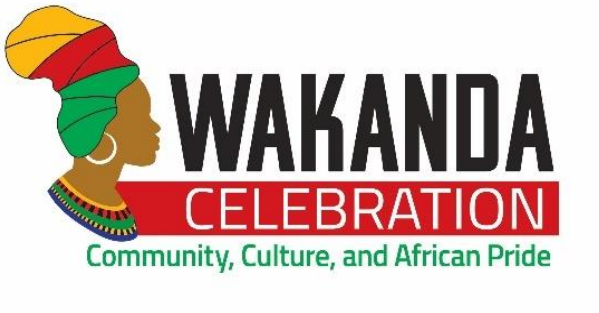


Wakanda Celebration Inc.
374 Hawthorne Terrace
Mt. Vernon, NY 10552
May 6, 2024

Honorable City Council of Mount Vernon
One Roosevelt Square
City Hall - Room 104
Mount Vernon, New York 10550

Dear Honorable Members of the City Council,

We are writing to respectfully request permission to hold a scaled-down version of our Annual Wakanda Celebration event. Due to unforeseen circumstances, we have been met with sponsorship denials from key organizations, including Arts Westchester, Wells Fargo, Costco, and others (attached). We anticipate additional denials and, as a result, our budget is currently $0.

Given these constraints, we will be hosting the event in the backyards of 374, 375, and 366 Hawthorne Terrace. The intimate gathering will be by invitation only, managed through Eventbrite, with an estimated attendance of 400 to 450 guests.

The event details are as follows:

- Date: Saturday, August 30th, 2025
- Time: 11am – 9pm
- Location: Backyards of 374, 375, and 366 Hawthorne Terrace
- Expected attendance: 400-450 guests (invitation only via Eventbrite)
- Parking: Free parking will be available for all visitors at Traphagen School, 72 Lexington Avenue, Mt. Vernon, NY (approval attached).

We believe this smaller, community-driven celebration will still bring joy and connection to our attendees. We will ensure that the event is safe, respectful, and considerate of our neighbors.

We would appreciate your consideration of our request. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any additional information.

Thank you for your time and understanding.

Sincerely,

Rose Luangisa
Wakanda Celebration Inc.

Attachments: Sponsorship Denial Letters (Arts Westchester, Wells Fargo, Costco, etc.) and Traphagen School Parking Approval

City of Mount Vernon, NY

June 10, 2025

SEB-25-3
Special Event Application
Status: Active
Submitted On: 5/6/2025

Primary Location
374 HAWTHORNE TERR
Mount Vernon, NY 10552

Owner
LUANGISA, ROSE & PETER &
374 Hawthorne Terrace Mount Vernon, NY 10552

Applicant
Rose Luangisa

374 Hawthorne Terrace
Mount Vernon, NY 10552

Applicant Information

Is the applicant an individual, organization OR CITY DEPARTMENT??*
Business / Organization

Applying Organization / Business Name*
Wakanda Celebration Inc

Applicant Address (Street Name, City, State, ZIP code, PLEASE!)*
374 Hawthorne Terrace, Mt. Vernon NY 10552

Applicant's Daytime Phone Number*
11

Organization/Business Main Contact Person*
Rose Luangisa

Event Information

Event Name*
Wakanda Celebration

Event Sponsor
Wakanda Celebration

Event Date*
08/30/2025

Rain Date
08/31/2025

Event Location*
Hawthorne Terrace from Lenox Avenue & Euclid Avenue

Start Time (e.g. 10 AM)*
9 am

End Time (e.g. 7 PM)*
11 pm

Streets to be Closed (Please include cross streets, e.g. 3rd Ave, between 1st and 2nd Streets)*
Hawthorne Terrace from Lenox Avenue & Euclid Avenue

Event Information

Event details. *

Free Community event for the entire family. This year's theme is "United We Stand"! A day filled with music, dance, art, and delicious food. Honoring our African heritage and embracing our unity.

Special Accommodations (Check all necessary for your event)

Parking Control

☑

Sound Amplification Equipment

☑

Use of Open Flame

☑

Stage, Tent, or Canopy

☐

Will you have any vendors operating at the event?

☑

Will you be having any vendors at your event?*

YES

Are you requesting to use Private Security?*

NO

Vendors

Vendor Name (First & Last or Company Name)*

Chef Ed

Vendor Address (include City, State and ZIP code)*

New Rochelle, New York

Vendor's Daytime Contact Number*

11

Does this vendor have a Peddler/Food Vendor License with the City of Mount Vernon?*

☑

Does this vendor have a Peddler/Food Vendor's License issued by the City of Mount Vernon? *

–

Additional Notes/Requests

Additional Information

Looking for support from the City of Mount Vernon, DPW & Recreation Department

Applicant Acknowledgement

I, the applicant, acknowledge that the information contained in this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I affirm that I, all other parties to this application, as well as those involved with this event will abide by the laws of New York State, and the ordinances of the County of Westchester and the City of Mount Vernon. *

Rose Luangisa
Apr 9, 2025

City Clerk's Office ONLY

Amount of Insurance Required

–

Number of Days Until the Event

–

Attachments

Office of the City Clerk
One Roosevelt Square, Room 104
Mount Vernon, New York 10550
(914) 665-2351
cityclerk@mountvernonny.gov

EVENT NAME & DATE: Wakanda Celebration Saturday August 30th 2025

EVENT SPONSOR: Wakanda Celebration Inc

REIMBURSEMENT AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT

In consideration of the granting of a block party/special event permit by the City of Mount Vernon ("the City") for the above named event do hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless the City of Mount Vernon, its officers, employees and agents from and against all liability, damage, claims, demands, costs, judgments, fees, attorney fees, or loss arising out of the grant of this Block Party/Special Event Permit and at their sole expense and agree to bear all other costs and expenses relating thereto, and to reimburse the City for any costs incurred by the City in repairing damage due to the actions of the Sponsors and/or by the Sponsors' officers, employees or agents, vendors or any person or entity under the Sponsors control. Further, the Sponsors hereby agree to defend the City, its officers, employees and agents from any liability to any person or entity resulting from any damage or injury occurring in connection with the event proximately caused by the actions of the City and the Sponsors' officers, employees or agents, or any person who is under the Undersigned's control.

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES

- Sidewalks are to remain open to pedestrians with proper visible signage.
- The Police Department will determine whether police presence is required and how much is required. The event organizers will have to pay the salary for each officer. Payment must be received 72 hours in advance of the event. The Police Department will determine if Auxiliary Police can be used in lieu of Police Officers.
- If requesting authorization to procure private security, all must have an NYS Security License and provide proof of being bonded. All documentation must be submitted 72 hours before the event.
- No alcohol use is permitted on city property as per City Code §191-1. The sale of alcohol is prohibited.
- If your event is in a residential area and using vendors, the vendors must set up only on one (1) side of the street and not obstruct driveways.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Sponsor/Organization/Applicant for the Block Party/Special Event Permit.
(Must be signed in the presence of a Notary/Commissioner of Deeds)

Print Name:	Rose Luangisa
Authorized Officer Title ***(if applicable)*****:**	
Signature:	R Luangisa R Luangisa

State of **New York**) ss.:
County of Westchester)

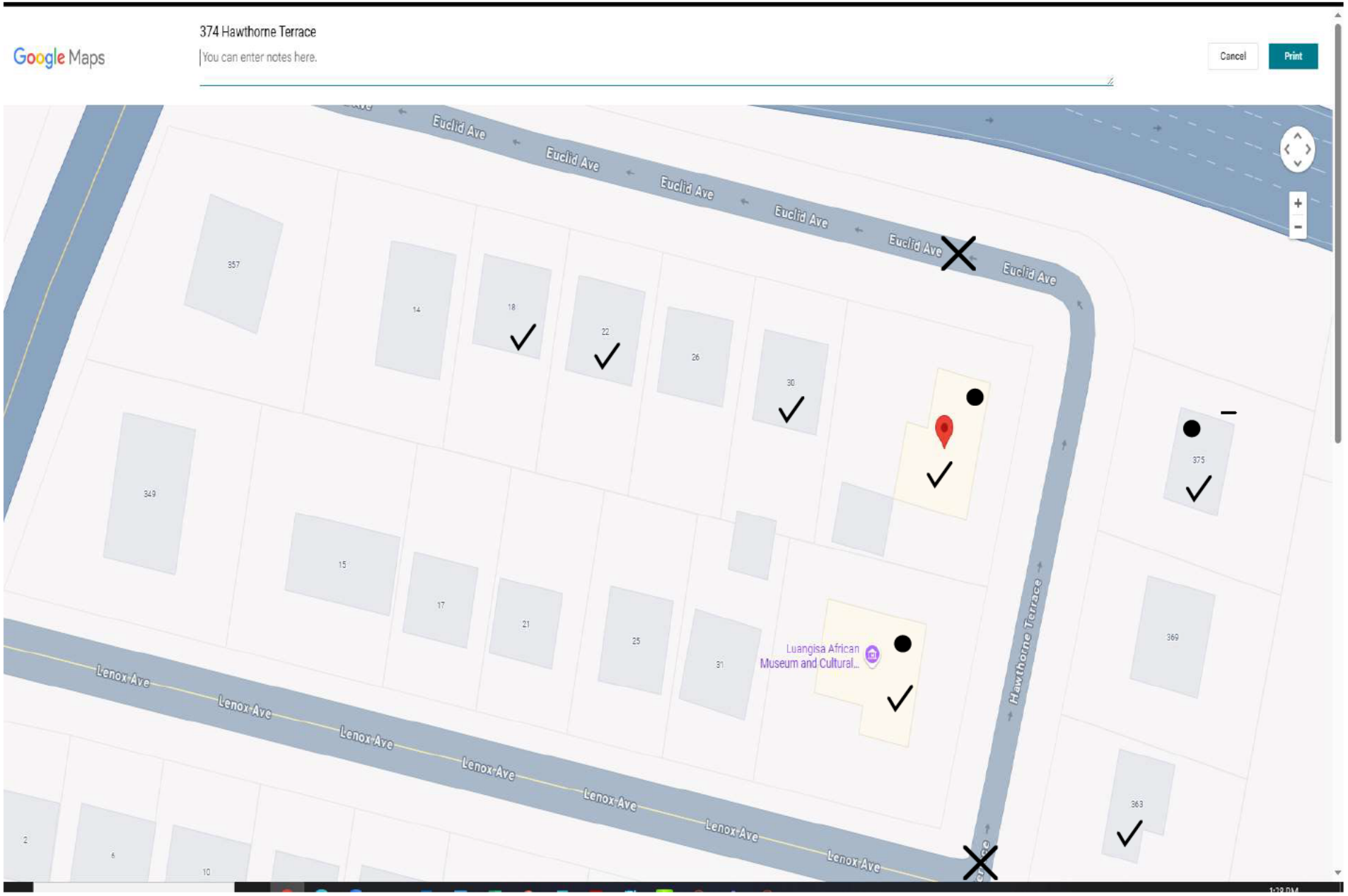
On the 3rd day of May in the year 2025 before me, the undersigned, personally appeared Rose Luangisa, personally known to me or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual(s) whose name(s) is (are) subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument, the individual(s), or the person upon behalf of which the individual(s) acted, executed the instrument.

Notary Public/Commissioner of Deeds:

Subscribed and sworn/affirmed before me this) 3rd day of May, 20 25
Print Name: Natasha A. Greco
Signature: Natasha A. Greco
Qualified in Westchester County Commission Expires: 01/03/2026

NATASHA A. GRECO
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF NEW YORK
Registration No. 01GR6427592
Qualified in Westchester County
Commission Expires January 3, 2026

effective: April 1, 2025



● **Participating House** ✓ **Signed consent form** ✕ **Barricade**

LUANGISA
African Gallery

Your requested schedule has been routed. (Event:Free Cultural Community Event)

SchoolDude Message Center Thu, May 15, 2025 at 10:34 AM

(This message is to notify you of a new schedule request.)

The facility schedule request listed below was routed to Sharece Bailey and is waiting for his/her approval.

FS Schedule ID: 3268
Event Title: Free Cultural Community Event
Status: Submitted
Schedule State: Inactive
Organization: Wakanda Celebration Inc
Events:

Date : 8/30/2025
Start Time : 9:00 AM
End Time : 11:00 PM
Location : TRAPHAGEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Building : TRAPHAGEN Parking Lot
Area :
Room(s) : Parking Lot

City of Mount Vernon, NY June 10, 2025

SSD Review and Recommendation

Record No.**SEB 25 3**

Status Completed

Became Active May 16, 2025

Assignee Daniel DeBenedictis

Due Date None

Primary Location

374 HAWTHORNE TERR
Mount Vernon, NY 10552

Owner

LUANGISA, ROSE & PETER &
374 Hawthorne Terrace Mount Vernon, NY 10552

Applicant

Rose Luangisa

374 Hawthorne Terrace
Mount Vernon, NY 10552

Messages

Daniel DeBenedictis **Internal** June 9, 2025 at 12:55 pm

The undersigned has reviewed the application for the event Wakanda Celebration, and I recommend that two (2) Auxiliary officers be assigned to the event and that the Sector car and supervisor give special attention to the area and that the supervisor be authorized to hire additional officers at the expense of the organizer should the need arise. I also recommend approval for the request of the street closure the applicant has reached out to the area residence and school, and they did not have an issue with the request. The street closure also will not impact vehicular traffic due to it being a secondary street used mostly for the residence.

CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, N.Y.
DEPARTMENT of PUBLIC WORKS

SHAWYN PATTERSON-HOWARD
Mayor

City Hall, One Roosevelt Square
Mount Vernon. NY. 10550
(914) 914-665-2343
email:dpwconcerns@mountvernonny.gov

DAMANI L. BUSH
Commissioner

JOHN NUCULOVIC
Deputy Commissioner

May 20, 2025

Honorable City Council Members
The City of Mount Vernon Mount Vernon, New York
(Through the Office of the Mayor)

RE: Wakanda Celebration 2025

Please be advised that the Department of Public Works, City of Mount Vernon, has no objections to the Wakanda Celebration 2025. The Department of Public Works will place No Parking signs 72 hours in advance and place barricades for street closure at:

- 366 Hawthorne Terrace (corner of Lenox and Hawthorne Terrace)

Respectfully,

John Nuculovic
Deputy Commissioner of Public Works
JN/dg