

Philadelphia's Anthem...The Theme Song from Rocky

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

By popular acclaim, "Gonna Fly Now," the theme song from *Rocky*, has been unofficially adopted as Philadelphia's anthem. The song is regularly played at local sporting events, other Philadelphia events, and even at the Philly Pops to accompany Music Director Michael Krajewski's entrance.

Written in Philadelphia, the song was performed by DeEtta Little and Nelson Pigford in the first *Rocky* movie, released in 1976. Bill Conti composed the music, and Carol Connors and Ayn Robbins wrote

the lyrics. In the movie, the title character, Rocky Balboa, finishes his daily training regimen as he runs up the 72 stone steps of the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Early in his training, he can barely reach the top without gasping for air, but with hard work and dedication to his goal we see him finally charging up the steps in triumph, as he raises his arms in victory, an iconic scene that tens of thousands of visitors try to replicate every year.

In 1977, the song was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Music,

Original Song, and hit number one on the *Billboard* Hot 100 chart. The soundtracks of subsequent *Rocky* movies include the theme song in different arrangements. Many other versions and arrangements have been played and recorded, and the song is now firmly entrenched in popular culture in the U.S. and worldwide. To watch the film clip from the first *Rocky* movie, accompanied by the music, go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xSmYAdiXb5M>

Out & About

Philadelphia Ranked High in Walkability Again this Year

Philadelphia ranked number 4 of most walkable cities in the U.S. according to Walk Score®, a Redfin company. New York was ranked number 1, followed by San Francisco and Boston. Philadelphia's Walk Score was 78.3. All cities in the top

ten increased their scores over last year. Walk Score analyzed 2,500 cities with populations of more than 300,000, using an algorithm that incorporates walking routes, number of nearby amenities (such as restaurants, coffee shops and grocery

stores), distance to those amenities, pedestrian-friendliness, population and neighborhood boundaries. From RedFin, April 28. <https://www.redfin.com/blog/2016/04/the-most-walkable-us-cities-of-2016.html>

Shop Talk

CCRA Merchant Members Discount Program

Support these local merchants and save money too, with discounts to any CCRA member who shows a current CCRA membership card (Di Bruno Bros. has its own CCRA discount card), and personal identification.

Computer Troubleshooters
108 S. 20th Street
(215-825-2101)

Crow & The Pitcher
267 S. 19th St.
(267-876-2808)

Di Bruno Bros.
1730 Chestnut Street; The Market at the Comcast Center
(215-665-9220)

Dom's Shoe Repair
203 S. 20th Street
(215-972-0098)

Eye Candy Vision
218 S. 20th Street
(215-568-3937)

Koresh Dance Company
2002 Rittenhouse Square Street
(267-687-1769)

Liberty Vet Pets
265 S. 20th Street
(888-458-8587)

Nature's Gallery Florist
2124 Walnut Street
(215-563-5554)

PhotoLounge
1909 Chestnut Street
(267-322-6651)

Twenty-Two Gallery
236 S. 22nd Street
(215-772-1911)

Raven Lounge
1718 Sansom Street
(215-840-3577)

Rim's Dry Cleaners & Tailors
2203 South Street
(215-546-1889)

Rittenhouse Hardware
2001 Pine Street
(215-735-6311)

Uber - Limo service
\$20 off first ride, new users only. Members use promo code CCRA14.

Philly Foodworks - Use code "CCRA" when signing up for home delivery and receive a \$20 discount on delivery charges.

Dance Affiliates - Get \$10 off Dance Performances with CCRA Member promo code allattheprince.

My Doc Urgent Care - 1420 Locust St. (215 800-1909) Show CCRA membership card for a \$25 flu shot with coupon (available via CCRA website).