

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 12**  
**Julius Caesar Hip-Hop Style**

**WHEREAS, Julius Caesar Hip-Hop Style** is the result of a partnership between *Shakespeare Festival St. Louis-Shake 38* and *Urban Speak Out*, it's an exciting creative collaboration: *Shakespeare Festival St. Louis*, a legendary theatrical mainstay, and recently formed *Urban Speak Out*, which consists of talented, low-income inner city college students from East St. Louis, Illinois and St. Louis, Missouri, united to produce an edutainment version of a Shakespearean classic, *Julius Caesar*; and

**WHEREAS, Julius Caesar Hip-Hop Style** will use edutainment as a way to explore the relationship between power and ethics during Julius Caesar's time and modern politics in action. Through dramatic reading, poetry, music, along with "on-the-spot" interactions with individuals who attend the event, *Urban Speak Out* presenters look at timeless themes of ambition, manipulation, betrayal, and honor. The event is free and open to the public; and

**WHEREAS, Urban Speak out** presents positive images and messages by giving back to the community through performances, community services, educational programs, and entrepreneurial opportunities that counter negative impressions of urban young people; and

**WHEREAS, low-income college students, who ordinarily would not get together from East St. Louis and St. Louis first created Urban Speak Out as a virtual community in July 2013. Social media provided a platform, a forum, and showcase for talented urban young people to express themselves in a respectful manner that motivates and reinforces favorable changes in them and their community. "Let creativity be your motivation," became their slogan; and**

**WHEREAS, through original poetry, songs, music, speeches, dance, photography, and creative multimedia expressions, Urban Speak Out participants present positive images and messages to counter negative impressions of urban young people; and**

**WHEREAS, via its website, Urban Speak Out strives to showcase talented young people from all over the world. Participants are encouraged to develop a supportive global community that is based on creativity. Whether it's through art or business or culture or education or science or spirituality or technology, Urban Speak Out represents positive change that's uplifting.**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize **Julius Caesar Hip-Hop Style** and we further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to our honorees at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 25th day of April, 2014 by:

**Honorable Marlene Davis, Alderwoman 19<sup>th</sup> Ward**

Adopted this the 25th day of April, 2014 as attested by:

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David W. Sweeney  
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

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Lewis E. Reed  
President, Board of Aldermen