

**RESOLUTION NO. 46**

**Nagwa Abdelghfour**

**WHEREAS**, the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, Inc. has selected 16 distinguished women to be honored at the *Salute to Women in Leadership Gala* celebrated on Friday, June 9, 2017, and held at the Marriott St. Louis Grand Hotel in downtown St. Louis, Missouri; and

**WHEREAS**, the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, Inc., under the leadership of its President and CEO, Michael McMillan, strives to enhance the lives of individuals within the entire Metropolitan area of St. Louis and St. Clair and Madison Counties in Illinois by focusing on self empowerment through 26 programs fostering education, economic and social services, neighborhood stabilization, and the recognition of outstanding women who have gone beyond the call of duty in service to the community; and

**WHEREAS**, Nagwa Abdelghfour is the recipient of the Salute to Women in Leadership Award; and

**WHEREAS**, Nagwa Abdelghfour is the founder and owner of the Wedding Gallery bridal stores, with three locations in the St. Louis metropolitan area; though her passion is now bridal, Nagwa comes from a technical background; she earned her bachelor's degree in Statistical Mathematics in 1976, and three years later, she received her master's degree in Computer Science and Architecture Design with highest honor from Ain Shams University in Egypt; and

**WHEREAS**, after retiring from her computer science career, Nagwa decided to open a small bridal shop in 2007; within two years, the business had grown significantly and she decided to expand; she and her husband purchased a 6,000 square foot historic building in St. Charles and rehabilitated it, converting it from an abandoned workshop into a beautiful bridal salon; quickly outgrowing the single building, two years later she expanded once again, purchasing and rehabilitating an 8,000 square foot structure in the Frenchtown Historic District of St. Charles; Nagwa and her family later purchased and rehabilitated their largest structure yet — a 40,000 square foot three-story building in south St. Louis; in response to increasing consumer demand for “Made in America” dresses, Nagwa and her family started a production facility in 2016 to begin manufacturing bridal gowns locally; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of St. Louis owes its gratitude to the tireless efforts and lofty standards of leading women such as Nagwa Abdelghfour, recipient of the Salute to Women in Leadership Award for her career achievements, who has demonstrated a dedicated, altruistic commitment to her fellow citizens.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize Nagwa Abdelghfour as a Salute to Women in Leadership Award Honoree, and we wish our honoree continued success, achievement, and accomplishment. 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 honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 9th day of June, 2017, by:

**The Honorable Marlene E. Davis, Alderwoman 19th Ward**

Adopted this the 9th day of June, 2017, as attested by:

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Donna Evans-Booker  
Assistant Clerk, Board of Aldermen

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Lewis E. Reed  
President, Board of Aldermen