

RESOLUTION NO. 57

Melba Moore

WHEREAS, the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, Inc. has selected 14 distinguished women to be honored at the *Salute to Women in Leadership Gala* celebrated on Friday, June 17, 2016, 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, Melba Moore is the recipient of the Salute to Women in Leadership Lifetime Achievement Award for her work as an actress and vocalist and her years of philanthropy; and

WHEREAS, Melba Moore got her first big break on Broadway in the musical *Hair*, where she became the first African-American woman to replace a white actress in a lead role on Broadway; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Moore went on to win a Tony for her portrayal of Lutiebelle in *Purlie* and to play the character of Fantine in the musical *Les Misérables*; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Moore worked hard at her philanthropic efforts; one of her major accomplishments was being instrumental in having "Lift Every Voice and Sing" inducted in the United States Library of Congress as the official Negro National Anthem; she also worked with Dr. Dorothy I. Height and the National Council of Negro Women as their national membership chairwoman and with Dr. C. Delores Tucker and the National Congress of Black Women; and

WHEREAS, our nation owes its greatness to the tireless efforts and lofty standards of leading women such as Melba Moore, recipient of the Salute to Women in Leadership Lifetime Achievement 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 Melba Moore as a Salute to Women in Leadership Lifetime Achievement 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 17th day of June, 2016, by:

The Honorable Marlene E. Davis, Alderwoman 19th Ward

Adopted this the 17th day of June, 2016, as attested by:

Timothy O'Connell
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen