

RESOLUTION NUMBER 109
118th Anniversary of the National Association of
Colored Women’s Clubs, Inc. National Convention

WHEREAS, the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, Inc. (NACWC) was founded in July 1896 to secure the rights of women, children and families and to begin a new era in African-American womanhood in the United States ; and

WHEREAS, the NACWC quickly became, and has remained, a significant voice in national affairs and has, for more than 119 years, contributed to the uplifting of the American way of life; and

WHEREAS, the NACWC was built on the backbone of women like Mary Church Terrell, Margaret Washington, Marty Talbert, and Nannie Burroughs, women that propelled the NACWC’s status and influence, leading the association through the women suffrage and civil rights movements and advancing an agenda aimed at securing the moral, economic, social and religious welfare of all families; and

WHEREAS, Ebony Magazine, in 2010, named the NACWC as one of the top 10 non-profit organizations in the country, recognizing their commitment to youth development, to community health and well being and to strengthening families through direct impact programming; and

WHEREAS, we are honored, as residents of the city and region of St. Louis, to host the 118th Anniversary of the NACWC’s National Convention and recognize that it was here in the City of St. Louis that The St. Louis Association of Colored Women’s Clubs, Inc., was organized in 1904 by Mrs. Maria L. Harrison at her home with the assistance of Mrs. Susan Paul (Smith) Vashon and Mrs. Mary Alice (Ford) Pitts. The City Association was organized to host the National Association in 1904 the year of the World Fair – a very proud and meaningful moment in our city’s history; and

WHEREAS, we commend National President Evelyn Rising and the co-chairs of this convention, Ms. Shirley Washington and Ms. Fanita Wilson, for making this historic event a success, for carrying forth the Association’s important mission and for their leadership throughout the year; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to celebrate the successes of the National Association of Colored Women’s Clubs, to welcome members from 5 regions and 36 states to our fair city and to stand in solidarity with the mission and purpose of “Lifting as we Climb” towards a more equitable and opportunity rich America where African-American women and their families share in the economic, social and educational resources this great nation offers. 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 24th day of July, 2014 by:

Honorable President of the Board of Alderman Lewis E. Reed

Adopted this the 24th day of July, 2014 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen