

Resolution Number 111
Allan Preston Merry

WHEREAS, Allan Preston Merry hails to us from the southland of Jackson, Tennessee and made his musical debut on saxophone while attending Merry High School with his group “Allan and his Lads;” and

WHEREAS, Allan Merry majored in music with concentration in woodwinds at the historical Tennessee State University and then pursued a professional music career performing with such greats as Smokey Robinson, Betty Everett, Joe Turner, Lou Rawls, Friends of Distinction and the highlight of this era of his career was his stint with the Ray Charles Band; and

WHEREAS, Allan planted his feet in the St. Louis/East St. Louis community working with youth from the bi-state area to form a profound performing arts cadre by the name of the Young Disciples “YODI;” and

WHEREAS, Allan has set high standards of excellence as a teacher in St. Louis Public Schools devoting an exuberant amount of energy in producing superior bands annually in the Saint Louis Public Schools Instrumental Music Adjudication Festival; and

WHEREAS, Allan has received many honors from: St. Louis Public Schools, The St. Louis Division of the FBI for his support and musical participation in Black History Program, The Deacons Board of Cote Brilliant Presbyterian Church, and the prestigious “Distinguished Service Award” from Metro 8; and

WHEREAS, Allan, in addition to teaching, has performed locally with the 7th Music Society, University City Concert Band , Allan and Friends, and the phenomenal “Big Band” The Jazz Edge; and

WHEREAS, Allan has motivated students and the community through his musical expertise and untiring service; and

WHEREAS, on June 25 , 2011, the family, staff, parents, and students of St. Louis Public Schools , and the St. Louis/East St. Louis community will come together to recognize this great “master musician” Allan Preston Merry, who has generously given his love and appreciation for music.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize and honor Allan Preston Merry and to thank him for his continuous commitment to excellence in education 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 honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 10th day of June, 2011 by:

Honorable Jennifer Florida, Alderwoman 15th Ward

Adopted this the 10th day of June, 2011 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen