

RESOLUTION NUMBER 126

Emiel Cleaver

WHEREAS, Emiel Davenport Cleaver is an accomplished multi media producer with over 10 years of production experience; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cleaver will premiere his latest endeavor, *Freedom is Now: The History of Freedom, Incorporated*; and

WHEREAS, *Freedom is Now* is the story of Kansas City's pioneering African American political organization; and

WHEREAS, in its infancy, during the 1960's, Freedom, Inc. developed a reputation for shaking up the system, busting up political machines in the black community and fighting for public accommodations; and

WHEREAS, a highlight of the film is the struggles and obstacles that Freedom Inc. endured in their beginning days; and

WHEREAS, the film opens with an original gospel tune "Freedom," written and performed by the late Michael Charles and accompanied by his choir. The film also debuts an original rap song "Freedom Tonight," written and performed by Emiel Cleaver; and

WHEREAS, not only did Freedom, Inc. give many African Americans their first taste of politics, but for decades, it tirelessly fought for self-determination and equal rights; and

WHEREAS, in addition, Mr. Cleaver has promoted concerts, organized special events, has directed several music videos, a short film and several mini documentaries.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize the hard work of Emiel Cleaver and praise the tremendous contribution his film will make in our community. 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 14th day of September, 2012 by:

Honorable Antonio D. French, Alderman 21st Ward

Honorable Lewis E. Reed, President of the Board of Aldermen

Adopted this the 14th day of September, 2012 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen