

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 181**

**William F. Guest**

**WHEREAS**, one of the founders of the sound of what we come to know as the Soul sound of Motown, William F. Guest a R&B/soul singer, best known as a founding member of the legendary group, Gladys Knight & the Pips for over 35 years. He formed the group The Pips at the age of 18 with his sister Eleanor Guest and cousins Gladys Knight, Brenda Knight and Merald “Bubba” Knight. This was the beginning to what became a string of hit singles for the group on Motown's "Soul" record label and Buddah Records. These included "I Heard It through the Grapevine" and "Midnight Train to Georgia"; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Guest has received eleven gold certified albums and was inducted to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, the Grammy Hall of Fame, the Vocal Group Hall of Fame and the Apollo Theater's Hall of Fame; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Guest is the recipient of five American Music Awards, six Grammy Awards, the Soul Train Heritage Award, the Rhythm & Blues Foundation Pioneer Award and the Rhythm & Blues Foundation Lifetime Achievement Award; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Guest has scored 21 Top Twenty Singles in the U.S. and U.K. and twelve Top Forty Albums in the U.S. and U.K. With such hits as “If I Were Your Woman”, “Neither One of Us”, “I’ve Got to Use My Imagination” and “Best Thing That Ever Happened to Me” ; and

**WHEREAS**, he has made several appearances on television in different capacities’ as a performer and guest including The Ed Sullivan Show, The Flip Wilson Show, The Richard Pryor Show, American Bandstand, Soul Train and Sesame Street. In fact the group had their own television show produced by NBC entitled “The Gladys Knight and The Pips Show”; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Guest is the owner and operator of Crew Entertainment and Records headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, with offices in Detroit, Michigan. The company’s current projects and non-profit partnerships include the “Soul of St. Louis” song collaboration with The Katy Ann Foundation, headed by Amber Boykins and the Gospel Explosion 2012 benefiting The Albert T. Mills Enrichment Center, headed by Rosa Arnold.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize William F. Guest and we wish him continued success, achievement and accomplishment 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 30th day of November, 2012 by:

**Honorable Marlene Davis, Alderman 19th Ward**

Adopted this the 30th day of November, 2012 as attested by:

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David W. Sweeney  
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

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Lewis E. Reed  
President, Board of Aldermen