

**RESOLUTION 237**  
**MS. HY-C AND FRESH START**

**WHEREAS**, each year the St. Louis Blues Society sends a representative band to Memphis, Tennessee to compete in the Blues Foundation's International Blues Challenge. Bands from over 100 cities from all over the world show up to compete; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 200 acts from 38 states and 14 countries traveled to Memphis for the event, which kicked off on Tuesday, January 22, 2019. The competitive portion of the International Blues Challenge began Wednesday, January 23, 2019 at various clubs on Beale, as acts in the solo/duo and band categories were weaned down by judges, with quarterfinal and semifinal rounds continuing on Thursday and Friday. Saturday's finals brought the competition down to a final group of 10 in both categories; and

**WHEREAS**, the International Blues Challenge is judged by blues professionals from across the world who have years of experience in listening to, producing, and creating blues music. The Blues Foundation has established a set of criteria by which all acts are evaluated throughout the five days of the International Blues Challenge; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Hy-C and Fresh Start claimed top prize at the 35th annual International Blues Challenge on Saturday, January 26, 2019 in Memphis, Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, to say that this is a big deal for St. Louis is an understatement. While we are so often overlooked as a player on the International stage, this success puts us squarely on the map; and

**WHEREAS**, few forms of American music can claim a history as long, as tradition-rich, and as complex as the Blues. Since its origins in the Deep South long ago, the blues has been a bedrock for virtually all American popular music of the last hundred-plus years; and

**WHEREAS**, whether it's jazz or folk, country or pop, rock or rap, the blues has exerted a deep, profound influence that resonates to this day. The blues have always expressed emotional, heartfelt truths about life that continue to speak to generations of listeners, from all corners and walks of society; and

**WHEREAS**, with distinct roots in centuries-old African-American culture, the blues has always been about those feelings the word itself conjures up: feelings of sadness and solitude, and of being impacted by forces outside of one's control; and

**WHEREAS**, the St. Louis Blues Society, the fans, and the City of St. Louis are incredibly proud of Ms. Hy-C and Fresh Start for representing what we all know is the truth; that St. Louis is one of the greatest music cities in the world. Our Blues is the truth.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause to applaud and acknowledge Ms. Hy-C and Fresh Start 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 the honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced this 1<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2019 by:

**The Honorable Cara Spencer, Alderwoman 20th Ward**

Adopted this 1<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2019 as attested by:

---

Lou Galli  
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

---

Lewis E. Reed  
President, Board of Aldermen