

RESOLUTION NUMBER 286
Third Degree Glass

WHEREAS, the Renaissance Award is presented to the commercial business that has consistently provided value added contributions to the enhancement of the Central West End community; and

WHEREAS, Third Degree Glass Factory is St. Louis' largest public-access glass art education center. Every day they introduce people to the magical process of creating glass art. Their staff, instructors, and volunteers are experienced, educated and committed to providing quality classes and programs. Through the studio rental program, artists hone skills and create glass art. By fostering camaraderie among glass artists, they are developing a glass art community and enriching the arts; and

WHEREAS, Jim McKelvey and Doug Auer established Third Degree in 2002. Located in what once was an abandoned 1930s service station, McKelvey and Auer with assistance from aspiring glass artists, turned the dilapidated structure into a state-of-the-art glass facility with over 12,000 square feet of usable space. By renovating the building and providing classes and events during day and evening hours, Third Degree has become an anchor of the neighborhood. They have successfully improved one of the rougher edges of the neighborhood – urban pioneers of sorts; and

WHEREAS, Third Degree promotes contemporary glass art through education, studio facility rental for artists and students, glass created by TDGF artists for sale in gallery shop; and event venue rental for parties and corporate events; and

WHEREAS, their 3rd Fridays draws people from all over the region, many of whom would not have considered stepping onto this stretch of Delmar just a few years ago. They provide an eclectic mix to the neighborhood. They took on a substantial risk when so many were abandoning the area.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Saint Louis that we pause in our deliberations to congratulate Third Degree Glass on receiving the Central West End Association Renaissance Award and thank them for their many contributions to the City of Saint Louis 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 6th day of January, 2012 by:

Honorable Lyda Krewson, Alderwoman 28th Ward

Adopted this the 6th day of January, 2012 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen