

RESOLUTION NUMBER 322
Patricia C. McKissack

Whereas, Patricia C. McKissack and her husband, Frederick have written over 100 books about the African American experience; and

Whereas, the McKissacks received the National Council of Teachers of English Orbis Picture Award for their non-fiction book Christmas In the Big House as well as the NAACP Image Award for Sojourner Truth: Ain't I A Woman? Other awards include The Coretta Scott King and The Newbery Award; and

Whereas, Patricia has written several fiction and non-fiction novels on her own and is an American children's writer. Her first book was A Biography of Paul Laurence Dunbar. Her writing ideas come from childhood memories, many people, places and a diary that she takes notes in; and Whereas, Patricia McKissack continues to share her heritage with readers and challenges them through her literature; and

Whereas, Mrs. McKissack, as a former junior high school English teacher, sets very high standards for her students; and

Whereas, Patricia McKissack is a board member of the National Children's Book and Literacy Alliance, a national not-for-profit that actively advocates for literacy, literature, and libraries; and

Whereas, Mrs. McKissack focuses on bringing an awareness of African-American culture to readers. She says, "I am not a black writer, but rather a writer who happens to be black-I write for children of all races"; and

Whereas, on March 8, 2012, the administration, faculty, staff, parents and students of Ashland Elementary School will come together to celebrate this great woman of distinction who has come to share her love and expertise for literature and writing.

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 many achievements of Patricia C. McKissack and we 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 9th day of March, 2012 by:

Honorable Antonio D. French Alderman 21st Ward

Adopted this the 9th day of March, 2012 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen