

## Resolution Number 232

### The Miles Davis Festival

**WHEREAS**, the mission of the Miles Davis Festival is to educate the public about the music of Miles Davis and to encourage the public to explore all kinds of music, particularly jazz. The first annual festival will take place in June 2009. To ensure that all members of society have the opportunity to hear some of the world's most talented musicians, the event will be free to the public; and

**WHEREAS**, jazz legend Miles Davis was born in the St. Louis region, and he spent his formative years here. Throughout his acclaimed career, Davis has been a leader in almost every important jazz movement in the 20th Century such as bebop, modal jazz and jazz-fusion; and

**WHEREAS**, Davis has earned recognition from his musical peers on many occasions including a 1960 Grammy Award, a 1970 Grammy Award and a 1990 Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award. In addition to his Grammy awards, Davis has earned membership in several prestigious groups including, the Hollywood Walk of Fame, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Hollywood's Rockwalk.

**WHEREAS**, Davis' friends and family believe in the need for an annual tribute to him in his hometown. The new Miles Davis Festival will build upon a successful birthday concert for Davis that was held in 2001 in East St. Louis, which attracted an audience of 3,000. Quincy Troupe and Eugene B. Redmond, close Davis friends organized the 2001 tribute. Quincy Troupe is a renowned writer and poet who coauthored, *Miles, the Autobiography*, and wrote, *Miles and Me*, a personal memoir of his friendship with Davis. Eugene B. Redmond is an Emeritus Professor of English at SIUE and the editor of "Drumvoices Revue." Troupe and Redmond are the leaders of the Miles Davis Festival; and

**WHEREAS**, the Miles Davis Festival will have multiple activities for the public to experience the magic of Davis and the artistry of jazz. Planned activities include: Showcase Free Concerts featuring Internationally-Known Artists, Literary Showcases, Youth Music Workshops, Miles Davis Multi-Media Pavilion, the Miles Marketplace and the Miles Fare.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to call upon the City of St. Louis to support the Miles Davis Festival and work in conjunction with officials from East St. Louis to make the annual Miles Davis Festival a great success. Hopefully, in the near future a concurrent resolution between the cities of St. Louis and East St. Louis will be formed.

Introduced on the 7th day of November, 2008 by:

**Honorable Charles Quincy Troupe, Alderman 1st Ward**

Adopted this the 7th day of November, 2008 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