

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 360**  
**Jennifer Parker**  
**Parker Whitehead Design Studio**

**WHEREAS**, we have been apprised that Jennifer Parker will be receiving an award for outstanding entrepreneurship from Grace Hill and her name will be placed on the Hall of Fame of the Grace Hill Women’s Business Center; and

**WHEREAS**, Jennifer Parker, a 30 year-old, native St. Louisan, said that design was really her second career. She graduated from the University of Missouri with a degree in psychology. “That was not a waste,” she said. “It turned out to be useful in my current work.” When she decided to go into interior design, she earned another degree in commercial interior design from Maryville University; and

**WHEREAS**, she has been in business for a year, right in the middle of the recession, but has actually been doing all right. Ms. Parker is a provider of commercial and residential design services in the St. Louis area. In this capacity, she provides design for the home, office, retail and hospitality spaces. She also works with builders and developers of rehab projects--a part of the business she especially enjoys; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Parker states, “My Mom gave me my artistic side. She is the Whitehead in my company name. She was a stay-at-home mom but she did so many artistic things around the house - design, cooking and everything. She was an inspiration and she is still a help to me in my business. Not so much artistically, but she is very useful in helping me with bookkeeping and scheduling;” and

**WHEREAS**, Jennifer first met Lynn Steele through one of her clients, a shoe store owner, who was working with the Grace Hill Business Center. She got Lynn’s card and made an appointment immediately to see him at the Women’s Business Center. Lynn met with her several times and he put her in touch with Curtis Triggs, a counselor at the Women’s Business Center, to work out a business plan. They completed the plan and she has it ready for when she will need it. Currently, Jennifer is operating her business out of her home to keep her overhead costs low, but is looking forward to opening her own office when the economy improves. She has her business plan and all her backup material ready to apply for a loan when the time comes.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize Jennifer Parker for her outstanding achievement 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 24th day of March, 2009 by:

**Honorable April Ford-Griffin, Alderwoman 5th Ward**

Adopted this the 24th day of March, 2009 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

