

RESOLUTION NUMBER 53

WHEREAS, we have been apprised that the annual *Salute to Women in Leadership* will take place on Friday, May 9 and Bonita Cornute will be the recipient of the Media Leadership Award. The luncheon gives recognition to women who excel in their work in a professional, civic, or social capacity in our region; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Bonita Cornute is an experienced, respected journalist, committed to making a difference. She has been covering the complex issues and events that affect women and minorities in the St. Louis community since she joined FOX 2 in 1982. She is presently a general assignment reporter for FOX 2 News; and

WHEREAS, prior to joining FOX 2, Ms. Cornute worked for KETC-TV, where she co-produced and co-hosted several public affairs programs. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Wisconsin at Madison; and

WHEREAS, active in many professional organizations, Ms. Cornute has held leadership roles in the Greater St. Louis Association of Black Journalists and the St. Louis chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Cornute is the recipient of many awards for her outstanding work. The list includes four local Emmy Awards, the Quest Award from the National Federation of Press Women-Missouri Affiliate, the Excellence in Journalism Award from the National Association of Women Legislators, the NAACP Crisis Magazine's Role Model of the Year Award, the Shero Award for Outstanding Achievement from the Coalition of 100 Black Women, the Unity Award from Lincoln University, Excellence in Journalism Awards from the Greater St. Louis Association of Black Journalists, awards for Outstanding Achievement in the Media from Better FamilyLife, Inc. and community service awards from the Walbridge Caring Communities Program, The Missouri Black Expo, The University of Missouri/Columbia, The Professional Organization for Women and Matthews Dickey Boys Club. Cornute was the 1995-96 spokesperson for "Be There" - the motivational attendance project for the St. Louis Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, active in community organizations, Ms. Cornute works with many civic groups including the St. Louis Black Repertory Company, Community Women Against Hardship, the St. Louis Public Schools and the Matthews Dickey Boys and Girls Club. She serves on the Board of Directors for the People's Health Center and Hopewell Mental Health Center. She is a former member of the Board of Directors of the YWCA.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize Ms. Bonita Cornute on her selfless dedication to helping others and for her continuous effort to make a difference in the St. Louis community 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 9th day of May, 2008 by:

Honorable Lewis E. Reed, President St. Louis City Board of Aldermen
Honorable Marlene Davis, Alderwoman 19th Ward

Adopted this the 9th day of May, 2008 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen

