

RESOLUTION NUMBER 26

Denise Thimes

WHEREAS, we have been apprised that Denise Thimes will be receiving the Entertainment Award from the St. Louis Community Empowerment Foundation; and

WHEREAS, an accomplished performer, Denise Thimes has always been destined for stardom. While many artists “dabble” in theater, Denise Times is an undisputed class act. She has toured both America and Europe with several critically acclaimed productions and is an 8-time recipient of the St. Louis Black Repertory Woodie Award for both musicals and drama; and

WHEREAS, this truly inspirational and unique artist is often asked by fellow noteworthy musicians “Why haven’t we heard of you?” Not to worry. With a voice that “ranks with one of the greats,” it won’t be long. It’s clear that Denise Thimes is unquestionably one of the fastest rising stars in modern jazz. So much, in fact, that when Queen Elizabeth II made her highly publicized visit to the United States in May of 2007, she hand-selected Denise as the entertainment for her private dinner gala with President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush among many other esteemed guests; and

WHEREAS, whether headlining at the historic “Blue Note Jazz Club” in New York, conquering the national jazz festival scene, or sharing the stage with the legendary Tony Bennett, Denise Thimes has an unmistakable tendency to steal the show and astonish crowds of every size and background; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Spelman College and an honorary member of the Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc., Denise Thimes lists her biggest influences as Marlena Shaw, Carmen McCrae, and her parents, the late Mildred Thimes and St. Louis radio personality Lou “Fatha” Thimes. When she is not wowing audiences with her talent, style and poise, she resides in St. Louis with her son and daughter; and

WHEREAS, in a career that spans over two decades, Denise has truly been one of the most cherished voices of modern jazz. With a number of distinguished gigs across the country and overseas already lined up, the rising first lady of jazz is unquestionably on the brink of certain stardom. As jazz aficionado Phoebe Jacobs stated following another famed New York show, “Denise Thimes is like Ella and Sarah born all over again.”

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize Denise Thimes and we wish her continued success, achievement and accomplishment 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 honorees at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 1st day of May, 2009 by:

Honorable Marlene Davis, Alderman 19th Ward

Adopted this the 1st day of May, 2009 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen