

DETROIT CITY COUNCIL

Testimonial Resolution

Dr. Hubert Massey

WHEREAS, Dr. Hubert Massey has been a resident of Detroit, Michigan for more than forty years and lives in a Detroit Historical District. He is a native of Flint, Michigan. Dr. Massey began his career more than two decades ago and has become renowned as a master Muralist/Artist. His work includes "vibrant and bold images" and can be enjoyed by visiting Detroit's Mexicantown, Greektown, the Cultural Center, Detroit's Convention Center, Grand Valley State, Paradise Valley, the Detroit Athletic Club, Wayne State University, and the IRS Midwest Computer Center in Detroit. He also had a mural at the Michigan State Fairgrounds;

WHEREAS, Dr. Massey received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Grand Valley State University in 1981. While working as a pictorial painter at Gannett Outdoor Sign Company, he began studying art restoration and conservation in 1989. Dr. Massey studied at the University of London's Slade Institute of Fine Arts. In 1995, he participated in a Fresco workshop conducted by two apprentices of Diego Rivera, which served as his foundation for the notable medium that was considered to be a lost art;

WHEREAS, Dr. Massey has been recognized by the National Society of Mural Painters in New York. He is also an award-winning Kresge Fine Arts Fellow. Dr. Massey was appointed to the Wayne County Community Leaders Council in 1995 and he recently joined the Board of Directors for the Detroit Institute of Arts. He is also soon receiving an honorary Ph.D. in Fine Arts from Grand Valley State University;

WHEREAS, Dr. Massey has amassed numerous Fine Art techniques, which have led to his commissioned participation in a plethora of art programs, workshops, and gallery exhibits. He has coupled his talents and passions to support youth throughout Detroit as an Art instructor for the Detroit Council of Arts, Detroit Summer Youth Employment Program, and the Advanced Gifted and Talented Program. He appreciates the platform his art provides towards the continuance of his legacy and support for his communities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Massey's murals always contain deeply meaningful and powerful perspectives. The terrazzo floor laid in the rotunda of the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History in Detroit is entitled "Genealogy" and depicts the historical struggle of Africans and African Americans. Paradise Valley, formerly named Harmony Park, includes several terrazzo medallions decorating the walkway. A fresco entitled "Importing and Exporting Knowledge" is housed on Grand Valley State University's campus. Also, Dr. Massey designed a street mural "Power to the People" in downtown Detroit during the protests following the murder of George Floyd.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council Member Angela Whitfield Calloway, the Detroit City Council, and Detroiters hereby honor the impactful artistic leadership and community engagement of Dr. Hubert Massey. We celebrate his contributions to the artistic footprint of the City of Detroit and his legacy as "The Voice of the People."

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March 15, 2022

DATE