



 City Attorney

FILED
 OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL
 OAKLAND

RESOLUTION NO. JUN -5 PM 2:34 C.M.S.
 Introduced by Councilmember Henry Chang, Jr.

RESOLUTION HONORING OAKLAND ARTIST BRUCE BEASLEY ON HIS SELECTION BY THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE AS ONE OF THE TOP 20 ARTISTS IN THE WORLD TO MAKE AND SHOWCASE A MONUMENTAL SCULPTURE FOR THE "2008 BEIJING OLYMPICS"

WHEREAS, Bruce Beasley, a graduate from UC Berkeley, moved to Oakland in 1962. At the age of 23, he became the youngest artist ever to have his work permanently exhibited in the renowned Museum of Modern Art in New York; and

WHEREAS, Bruce Beasley started an industrial building on Cypress St. in West Oakland where he built an "artist run" foundry and produced the work for his first solo exhibition; that same year, he was selected to be one of eleven American artists to represent the United States at the Paris Biennale -a highly important international art exhibition - and won the purchase prize at this important event and his work was added to the prestigious French National Collection; and

WHEREAS, in 1964, Bruce Beasley contributed to the revitalization of West Oakland; he purchased an abandoned warehouse on Lewis Street in West Oakland; founded and currently chairs the oldest neighborhood association in West Oakland, the South Prescott Neighborhood Association; and

WHEREAS, Bruce Beasley has been actively involved in the community, and in 1964, Mr. Beasley contributed to the revitalization of West Oakland; he purchased an abandoned Warehouse on Lewis Street in West Oakland; founded and currently chairs the oldest neighborhood association in West Oakland, the South Prescott Neighborhood Association. He has also served on numerous boards and committees including Model Cities Board of Directors, West Oakland District Council, State and Local Coalition for the Replacement of the Cypress Freeway, Committee to Draft a Live/Work code, Mayors Advisory Committee for the Re-Use of the Cypress Right-of-Way, Community Advisory Committee for Middle Harbor Shoreline Park. He presently serves on the West Oakland project Area Committee for Redevelopment and on the Board of Directors of the Friends of Mandela Parkway; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his community involvement, Bruce Beasley has vigorously pursued his career as an artist for which today he outstands as one of the Nation's leading sculptors. In 1968 he won a statewide competition for a commission for the first monumental sculpture for the State Capitol. Since then, he has done over thirty monumental sculpture commissions in the United States and Europe including the San Francisco International Airport, Stanford University, The United States Government, The State of California, the Cities of San Francisco, Mannheim, Homburg, and Dortmund in Germany, and Oaklanders know well his forty foot bronze sculpture titled "Vitality" in the fountain in Frank Ogawa Plaza in front of City Hall; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, the Oakland Museum featured a 45-year retrospective exhibition of his work covering the years 1960 to 2005; Philip Linhares, Chief Curator of Art at the Oakland Museum has dubbed Beasley "Oakland's' Sculptor Laureate", having had over fifty solo exhibitions in Museums and galleries around the world; his work is in the permanent collection of twenty-seven of the world's leading art museums and he has participated in one hundred and sixty-five group exhibitions world wide; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED: that the City of Oakland congratulates Bruce Beasley on his selection by the International Olympic Committee as one of the top 20 artists in the world to make and showcase a monumental sculpture for the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 2008

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES- BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, QUAN, REID and PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION-

ATTEST: _____
LaTonda Simmons
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
of the City of Oakland, California