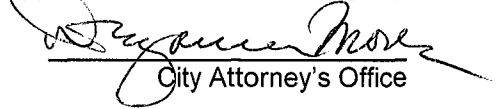


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City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBERS NOEL GALLO AND ABEL GUILLEN

**ADOPT A RESOLUTION IN CELEBRATION OF CESAR CHAVEZ DAY
HONORING OAKLAND LATINOS AND LATINAS WHO THROUGH
THEIR LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY SERVICE HAVE CONTINUED
THE LEGACY OF CESAR CHAVEZ**

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez was an American farm worker, labor leader and civil rights activist, who, with Dolores Huerta, co-founded the National Farm Workers Association; and

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez believed in the principles of nonviolence practiced by Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and employed nonviolent means to bring attention to the plight of farm workers, and as a labor leader, led marches, called for boycotts and went on several hunger strikes and brought national awareness to the dangers of pesticides to workers' health; and

WHEREAS, the legacy of Cesar Chavez lives on through the leadership and activism of Oaklanders who today continue to practice Cesar Chavez' efforts and core values of Service to Others, Sacrifice, A Preference to Help the Most Needy, Determination, Non-Violence, Acceptance of all People, Respect for Life, Celebrating Community, Knowledge and Innovation; and

WHEREAS, District 1 is honoring: **Cristy Johnston Limón**, who for over the past five years has successfully served as Executive Director of Destiny Arts Center in North Oakland, and who was recognized with a 2014 Community Impact Award from the Northern California Community Loan Fund, has demonstrated a strong commitment to empowering young people through community engagement and the arts. Cristy Johnston Limón, a graduate of U.C. Berkeley, has doubled the organization's size, solidified its reputation as a dynamic, quality youth development arts organization, and raised Destiny Arts' visibility and sustainability by purchasing, renovating and occupying Destiny's new community arts facility in North Oakland, serving as a catalyst for economic development, jobs and greater access to the arts for families throughout Oakland and beyond; and

WHEREAS, District 2 is honoring: **Guillermo Mayer**, the grandson of a bracero who worked the railroads in California in the 1940s, served as Associated Student Body President at San Diego State University, has worked at Public Advocates, one of the oldest public-interest law firms in the nation for more than a decade as an award-winning lawyer, and currently President/CEO to address civil-rights issues affecting the daily lives of low-income communities and challenge the systemic causes of poverty and racial discrimination by strengthening community

voices in public policy, ensuring equitable allocation of resources, and achieving tangible legal victories that advance Oakland's efforts to create the building blocks of vibrant neighborhoods through good schools, affordable housing, transit equity, quality health care, environmental justice, sustainable job opportunities and economic security; strengthened Public Advocates to serve as an incubator that has launched other issue advocacy organizations, including the Greenlining Institute, Health Access and the Latino Coalition for a Healthy California; and

WHEREAS, District 3 is honoring: **Viola Gonzales**, a remarkable leader and champion of small business enterprises as the CEO of AnewAmerica, which is dedicated to the economic advancement of vulnerable communities in Oakland (including immigrants, women and low-income families) through civic engagement and business training.

WHEREAS, District 4 is honoring: **Favianna Rodriguez**, a transformative and internationally acclaimed artist. Born in Oakland, she is committed to public awareness and community involvement in grassroots causes. Her work encompasses issues ranging from immigrant and women's rights, genetically modified foods, globalization, affirmative action and youth activism. As Co-Founder of Tumis Inc., East Side Alliance Center and the Taller Tupac Amaru print studio, Ms. Rodriguez is an innovator who gives back to her community by promoting social justice and community sustainability and by supporting local artists. Ms. Rodriguez has received numerous honors including induction into the Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame and being named one of Utne Reader Magazine's "50 Visionaries Who Are Changing the World"; her impactful work advocating for progressive, systemic social change is a powerful example of the best of Oakland; and

WHEREAS, District 5 is honoring: **Jorge Lopez**, Executive Director of A method Public Schools or (AMPS), who with the utmost respect for excellence in education, molded Oakland Charter Academy into one of California's most exceptional schools, and works diligently towards maintaining high academic performance rates among all scholars at A Method Public Schools; as well as strives to promote the importance of education to students in Oakland's inner city. Jorge Lopez leads AMPS Network with specific focuses and philosophies, including emphases on academic result analyses, school-community commitment, college preparatory curriculum, rigorous educational programs, accountability, and respect. Oakland Charter Academy has received many honors for its exceptional improvement over the years, including recognition as a 2008 Blue Ribbon School, a Title I Academic Achievement Award, and being named one of the California Charter Schools Association's Charter Schools of the Year; and

WHEREAS, District 6 is honoring: **Homies Empowerment**, an independent youth empowerment organization working with trauma impacted youth in Oakland, CA, which hosts a dinner every Wednesday night to help educate Latino and African-American youths about their history which may not always be taught in the public school curriculum, and, for two hours a week, the dinner provides a peaceful refuge from the tensions of the street. Founded by bay area natives Cesar Cruz and

Lizbeth Gomez, Homies Empowerment Program seeks to empower young people by guiding them towards their life's purpose; taking gang strengths as assets including family, a sense of belonging, safety, discipline, commitment and resistance; Homies Empowerment seeks to reinforce the belief that "Peace is happening in Oakland, and it's not just stories of murder and violence"; and

WHEREAS, District 6 is also honoring: **Jose Dueñas**, born and raised in Oakland, is a product of Oakland schools attending E. Morris Cox & Highland Elementary Schools, Elmhurst Middle School and Castlemont High School graduating in 1999 and is the first in her family to graduate from college with a Master's Degree in Public Administration; is committed to making Oakland a better place to live and work by serving on Oakland Fund for Children and Youth Commission (OFCY), OFCY Planning and Oversight Committee, the Citizen Police Review Board, and since 2007 has been a member of the Board of Directors for the Lighthouse Community Charter School, to name a few of her endeavors; and since 2012 has been the Executive Director for the East Oakland Boxing Association whose mission is to provide a safe and nurturing environment in which youth of Oakland can feel secure as they achieve success in school while learning life skills and building self-esteem in preparation for their futures; and

WHEREAS, District 7 is honoring: **Sarah Chavez Yoell**, born and raised in Oakland, is a product of Oakland schools attending E. Morris Cox & Highland Elementary Schools, Elmhurst Middle School and Castlemont High School graduating in 1999 and is the first in her family to graduate from college with a Master's Degree in Public Administration; is committed to making Oakland a better place to live and work by serving on Oakland Fund for Children and Youth Commission (OFCY), OFCY Planning and Oversight Committee, the Citizen Police Review Board, and since 2007 has been a member of the Board of Directors for the Lighthouse Community Charter School, to name a few of her endeavors; and since 2012 has been the Executive Director for the East Oakland Boxing Association whose mission is to provide a safe and nurturing environment in which youth of Oakland can feel secure as they achieve success in school while learning life skills and building self-esteem in preparation for their futures; and

WHEREAS, the At-Large District is honoring: **Luz Buitrago** who has been a fearless fighter in the Bay Area for civil rights advocating for equal opportunities for all of our citizens; using multi-strategic approaches that include community education, collaboration and organizing, litigation, and advocacy to provide legal services in the areas of housing, public benefits, consumer and civil rights, including the rights of recent immigrants and survivors of domestic abuse; as part of her state-wide and local multi-decade work on language access for immigrants, she, along with partners such as Family Bridges Inc. and Unity Council, has helped to make Oakland a friendlier and more accessible city for our limited English speaking residents, so that they can participate in the overall health and growth of the city as business owners, residents and workers; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor's Office is honoring: **Jose Corona**, a Mexican American role model who was raised by a family of successful farming entrepreneurs and whose leadership continues to grow Bay Area businesses and create more good local jobs. As the Chief Executive Office of Inner City Advisors, Jose Corona works tirelessly with entrepreneurs, advisors, employees, and sponsors to create a more equitable and impactful economic ecosystem in the Bay Area through Entrepreneurship Education, Pro Bono Management Consulting, Talent Management, and the organization Fund Good Jobs; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council recognizes these Oakland leaders who through their activism and exemplary community service have continued to strengthen, improve, and enhance Oakland communities.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, CAMPBELL-WASHINGTON, GALLO, GUILLEN, KALB,
 KAPLAN, REID AND PRESIDENT GIBSON MCELHANEY

NOES –
ABSENT –
ABSTENTION –

ATTEST:

LATONDA SIMMONS
City Clerk and Clerk of the
Council of the
City of Oakland, California