

RESOLUTION No. 16-189

WHEREAS, the City Council and the Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, are apprised that Urban Strings will be the featured talent during the "2016 Honoring Our Elders Celebration" sponsored by the Rosetta James Foundation, held at the Jackson Center on March 12, 2016; and,

WHEREAS, the Rosetta James Foundation was founded in December 2006. It is a 509 (a) (2) public charity and educational organization founded for the purposes of providing scholarships to deserving students and recognizing the contributions of the elderly in the community while promoting volunteerism and community outreach; and,

WHEREAS, the Foundation's famous "Honoring Our Elders Celebration" is named in honor of Mrs. Rosetta James, a native of Akron, Alabama, in recognition of her outstanding and extraordinary dedication and service to many communities by way of active citizenship. Mrs. James has been determined to seek and search for ways to serve the underserved, minister to the incarcerated, register citizens to vote, provide for the poor and assure hope for the hopeless throughout Huntsville-Madison County for the past 35 years, and continues to be an exemplar of servant citizenship; and,

WHEREAS, Urban Strings, located in Columbus, Ohio, is a youth orchestra of young talented musicians from Columbus city, charter, suburban, and private schools. Founded in 2007 by Catherin Willis, a retired educator (from whom the inspiration for the Rosetta James Foundation derived), Urban Strings continues to be a Central Ohio-based community youth orchestra of serious, young, talented musicians; and,

WHEREAS, Urban Strings performs a multicultural repertoire of great music, ranging from classical, jazz and gospel, to R&B and movie themes. Participants receive an opportunity to learn various types of music to which they might not otherwise be exposed. Moreover, Urban Strings seeks to provide the opportunity for its instrumentalists to hone proper performance techniques for their respective instruments, while placing a high value on academic performance, preparing participants to become well-rounded college applicants; and,

WHEREAS, in 2013, Urban Strings Half Notes and Urban Strings Quarter Notes were launched as learning and performance groups for less experienced and beginning musicians that would serve as avenues of growth for Urban Strings Youth Orchestra; and,

WHEREAS, Friends of Art for Community Enrichment (F.A.C.E.) is the sponsor of Urban Strings and has a 501c3 tax-exempt status.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, gratefully acknowledge and congratulate Urban Strings and the Rosetta James Foundation, and extend best wishes for continued success in all future endeavors.

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ADOPTED this the 10th day of March, 2016.

President of the City Council of the
City of Huntsville, Alabama

APPROVED this the 10th day of March, 2016.

Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama