

**RESOLUTION NO. 16-191**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, are apprised March 24 through 27, 2016 will be celebrated as the 90<sup>th</sup> Alumni Homecoming Weekend of Oakwood University promoting both Oakwood University and the fellowship of its alumni. The main gathering of alumni and friends will occur on Saturday, March 26, 2016 at 10:45 a.m., in the Von Braun Arena; and,

**WHEREAS**, Oakwood University was founded as the Oakwood Manual Training School in 1896 with an initial enrollment of 16 students, as an industrial school to educate African-Americans in the South; and,

**WHEREAS**, today, Oakwood University is a historically black, Seventh-day Adventist liberal arts institution in Huntsville, Alabama, with the mission to transform students through biblically-based education for service to God and humanity; and,

**WHEREAS**, Oakwood is considered one of Huntsville's historical landmarks, with current land holdings of over 1200 acres and a student enrollment of over 1,700; and,

**WHEREAS**, the University is very much a part of the Huntsville community with students carrying out their mission of service by participating in local tutoring, disaster relief, community improvement and child development programs; and,

**WHEREAS**, in 1958, Oakwood College was accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award associate and baccalaureate degrees; and,

**WHEREAS**, the name of the institution was changed to Oakwood University on January 1, 2008, when the school achieved university status after adding its first graduate program, the Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies; and,

**WHEREAS**, U. S. News & World Report has consistently ranked Oakwood University among top-tier, private liberal arts colleges and universities in the South; and,

**WHEREAS**, Oakwood University is beginning its celebration of 120 years of transforming lives during 2016. During this Alumni Homecoming Weekend, the Oakwood University Alumni Association is celebrating its 90<sup>th</sup> year of promoting both Oakwood University and the fellowship of its alumni.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, that we do hereby welcome past and present students during all activities in celebration of the 90<sup>th</sup>

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Alumni Homecoming Weekend of Oakwood University on March 24 through 26, 2016. Best wishes for a joyous homecoming, and may the best be yours in all future endeavors.

**ADOPTED** this the 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2016.

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

**APPROVED** this the 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2016.

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Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama