

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

22-303

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

April 10, 2018

To celebrate the 70th anniversary of The Washington (DC) Chapter of the Links, Inc. and recognize it for its 7 decades of friendship and service to the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, The Links, Inc. is a nationwide and international nonprofit organization dedicated to bettering the lives and communities of African Americans and other persons of African ancestry;

WHEREAS, The Links, Inc. has nearly 15,000 members and was founded in Philadelphia on November 9, 1946, making it one of the nation's oldest and largest volunteer services organizations for women;

WHEREAS, The Links, Inc. has 12 core values: friendship, integrity, honesty, service, commitment, family relationships, courage, respect for self and others, legacy, confidentiality, responsibility, and accountability;

WHEREAS, The Links, Inc. focuses on Arts, Health and Human Services, International Trends and Services, National Trends and Service, and Services to Youth;

WHEREAS, members of the Links, Inc. contribute more than 950,000 hours of community service each year;

WHEREAS, The Washington (DC) Chapter of the Links, Inc. was installed on April 17, 1948 as the organization's third chapter and the first chapter in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area;

WHEREAS, The Washington (DC) Chapter of the Links, Inc. was organized by Bernice Thomas and Ruth Young;

WHEREAS, in 1982, The Washington (DC) Chapter of the Links, Inc. established the Thomas-Young Scholarship Fund, named in memory of the organizers, which has provided scholarships to District of Columbia public high school graduates, impacting the lives of nearly 500 District students;

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WHEREAS, The Washington (DC) Chapter of the Links, Inc. hosts many programs, including the award-winning Family Caregivers Program, which serves as a model program for other chapters;

WHEREAS, The Washington (DC) Chapter of the Links, Inc. spearheaded and led the efforts of the national Links, Inc. organization in contributing \$1 million on behalf of The Links, Inc. to the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture;

WHEREAS, The Washington (DC) Chapter of the Links, Inc. will celebrate 70 years of friendship and service at the Emerald and Platinum Gala on April 21, 2018 at the JW Marriott; and

WHEREAS, this event also serves as a fundraiser for the Thomas-Young Scholarship Fund and to enable the chapter to provide support for services and activities focused on the needs of women, education, health, housing, and employment issues and challenges.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Washington (DC) Chapter of the Links, Inc. 70th Anniversary Recognition Resolution of 2018”.

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia congratulates the Washington (DC) Chapter of the Links, Inc. on its 70th anniversary, and recognizes its immeasurable contributions to the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.