

**RESOLUTION NO. 86**  
**Charley's Body Shoppe**

**WHEREAS**, Charley's Body Shoppe, Liturgical Dance Ministry (CBS) was founded by Charley Johnson in 1983 and has been serving the north side community through dance and exercise; and

**WHEREAS**, for 29 years Charley's Body Shoppe has served women and at-risk youth in North St. Louis City and surrounding communities by offering aerobic and liturgical dance as healthy alternatives to high risk behaviors; and

**WHEREAS**, founder, Charley Johnson began Charley's Body Shoppe in 1983 in the basement of her local church. She began by offering four adult only aerobic classes and three liturgical dance classes. Within two years, CBS outgrew its space and moved to a store front building on North Kingshighway Blvd and established itself as the premiere liturgical dance and aerobic studio in North St. Louis; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1986, Charley noticed the youth in the community continued to make negative life choices such as drug use, gang activity and teen pregnancy. She saw a need for a safe, positive environment during the summer months. CBS began its summer youth workshops to teach youth healthy lifestyle choices, dance techniques, and social etiquette. After the addition of the youth program, the purpose of CBS became clear, to provide a high quality educational and artistic training to women and youth through the fundamentals of dance and exercise while promoting healthy living and social etiquette for North St. Louis city's underprivileged youth and women; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2007, CBS received its 501c-3 status and established itself as a nonprofit organization. This transition enables the organization to increase its financial sustainability, improve on existing programs, and to develop new programs; and

**WHEREAS**, to date, CBS provides a variety of dance and aerobic exercise classes for women and children three and up. The dance classes include tap, modern dance, jazz, hip hop, and Zumba. Dance classes are offered weekly and an annual dance concert is performed to showcase the talent and hard work by the students. Aerobic classes consist of strength and toning, step aerobics, and cardio circuit training. Through the use of spiritual music to guide the dance and aerobic classes, CBS uniquely connects the mind, body, and continues to be a beacon of the safety to the North St. Louis community.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize the many contributions of Charley's Body Shoppe and we further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to further prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to our honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 13th day of July, 2012 by:

**Honorable Charles Quincy Troupe, Alderwoman 1st Ward**

Adopted this the 13th day of July, 2012 as attested by:

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David W. Sweeney  
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

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Lewis E. Reed  
President, Board of Aldermen