

Resolution Number 113
13th Annual Festival of Nations

WHEREAS, we have been apprised that the International Institute's 13th annual Festival of Nations will take place August 25-26 in Tower Grove Park; and

WHEREAS, the Festival of Nations is a multiethnic celebration that highlights and celebrates multiculturalism in the St. Louis community and beyond; and

WHEREAS, today's Festival of Nations has its origins in the International May Festival, first held in St. Louis in 1920. Organized by the International Institute of St. Louis, the May Festival was one of the earliest multicultural celebrations in our nation; and

WHEREAS, last year, more than 140,000 visitors attended Festival of Nations. They dined and shopped at booths representing 51 ethnicities and delighted in arts and performances representing 62 ethnicities. In all, 81 ethnicities were represented at the festival which represents the traditions of St. Louis' long-timers and newcomers alike; and

WHEREAS, this year's Festival of Nations will feature three stages of non-stop dynamic music and dance performances by traditional ethnic artists, world music favorites and the finest traditional acoustic music and song. From Spanish *flamenco* to a Vietnamese lion dance, from thundering drums to Irish harp, there is something for every taste! Back by popular demand, COBU, Japanese *taiko*, direct from New York City; and

WHEREAS, there will be 50 food booths featuring Ethiopian *injera* with *doro wat*, Filipino *kebabs*, and other mouth-watering ethnic treats.

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 13th Annual Festival of Nations and we thank the International Institute for their contributions to the citizens of the St. Louis community and we direct the Clerk of this Board to prepare a commemorative copy of this Resolution to the end that it may be presented to our honorees at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 24th day of August, 2012 by:

Honorable Jennifer Florida, Alderwoman 15th Ward

Honorable Lewis E. Reed, President of the Board of Aldermen

Honorable Stephen Conway, Alderman 8th Ward

Honorable Craig N. Schmid, Alderman 20th Ward

Adopted this the 24th day of August, 2012 as attested:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen