

## 2014 SESSION

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 138

Offered January 13, 2014

*Commending the Visual Arts Center of Richmond.*

Patrons—Carr, Loupassi, McClellan, McQuinn and Morrissey; Senators: Marsh, McEachin and Watkins

WHEREAS, the Visual Arts Center of Richmond proudly celebrated 50 years of service to the community in 2013; and

WHEREAS, located in a historic Church Hill area house, the Visual Arts Center of Richmond (Visual Arts Center) was founded as the Hand Workshop by Elisabeth Scott Bocock in 1963; and

WHEREAS, after programs and classes continued in several locations around the city, the Visual Arts Center finally settled in a former dairy building in 1985; and

WHEREAS, the Visual Arts Center completed renovations in 2007 that transformed the facility into an inviting and inspiring space with a state-of-the-art regional center where its students create and not just observe art; and

WHEREAS, over the course of its storied history, the Visual Arts Center has succeeded in its mission to engage the community in the creative process through the visual arts; and

WHEREAS, generations of Richmond residents have learned about stained glass, drawing, jewelry-making, fabric art, animation, oil painting, and many other forms of artistic expression in classes led by individuals with a love for the art they share; and

WHEREAS, during their 50th anniversary year, the Visual Arts Center showcased six art exhibits and had over 20,000 visitors; and

WHEREAS, over the past year, the Visual Arts Center offered over 400 adult classes to 2,500 participants, served 900 elementary and middle school children through their Art After School classes, had 225 Summer ArtVenture classes for over 1,400 campers, and had 143 Engage tours attended by 2,276 students; and

WHEREAS, the Visual Arts Center encourages people of all ages and skill levels to explore and participate in the visual arts, building a culture of creativity that has greatly benefited the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Visual Arts Center of Richmond, an outstanding cultural organization; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Visual Arts Center of Richmond as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude to the center for enriching the artistic lives of the Richmond community for 50 years.

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