

# 2018 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 568

*Commending ART 180.*

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, May 30, 2018

WHEREAS, for two decades, ART 180 has helped young people express themselves and make a positive difference in their communities through the power of the arts; and

WHEREAS, founded on November 5, 1998, ART 180 initially offered one-day arts events and has grown to offer several comprehensive programs to inspire youths to pursue the arts and become leaders in their communities; and

WHEREAS, throughout its 20-year history, ART 180, under the leadership of cofounder and executive director Marlene Paul, has served thousands of young people through more than 400 programs, eliminating barriers to participation by hosting programs in schools and building partnerships with other youth organizations; and

WHEREAS, in addition to giving young people a safe place to explore and create art under the mentorship of trusted adult leaders, ART 180 has strengthened cultural life in Richmond and brought many people together to enjoy the work of young artists; and

WHEREAS, ART 180 has fulfilled its mission through three main programs: after-school initiatives, the Atlas center, and Youth Self Advocacy Through Art; and

WHEREAS, ART 180 offers two 13-week after-school sessions each year, as well as summer sessions, and hosts art showcase events attended by hundreds of members of the public; and

WHEREAS, ART 180's Atlas is Richmond's only teen art center and youth gallery and offers programs, workshops, open-mic nights, and monthly exhibitions, as well as leadership development and mentorship opportunities through the Teen Leadership Council; and

WHEREAS, ART 180's newest branch of programming, Youth Self Advocacy Through Art, seeks to help incarcerated youths find a voice through a partnership with the Legal Aid Justice Center; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That ART 180 hereby be commended for its legacy of service to the youth of the Richmond community on the occasion of its 20th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to ART 180 as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the program's unique contributions to the Richmond community.

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