

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS OF
VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY**

Commemorating Dr. Murry DePillars

WHEREAS, Virginia Commonwealth University (the "University") is the premier urban, public research university distinguished by its commitment to the intellectual and academic success of a diverse student body; research and discovery that advances knowledge, inspires creativity and improves human health; and the global engagement of students, faculty and staff that transforms lives and communities;

WHEREAS, The University's goal is to foster a commemorative landscape that reflects The University's core values of achievement (ensuring distinction in learning, research and scholarly pursuits and service), diversity and inclusion (where all people are valued and differences are recognized as an asset), and service (engaging in the application of learning and discovery to improve the human condition and support the public good at home and abroad);

WHEREAS, the Virginia Commonwealth University's Committee on Commemorations and Memorials (the "Committee" was created through the Virginia Commonwealth University Board of Visitors' (the "Board") Memorials and Commemorations policy, which states that all requests for memorials, commemoration and/or de-commemoration be submitted in writing to the Assistant Secretary to the Board of Visitors and Board Liaison, who will refer the request to the Committee. The Committee shall make a recommendation to approve memorials, commemorations and de-commemorations to the President, who in turn shall make a recommendation to the Board.

WHEREAS, The Committee affirms to the President that Dr. Murry DePillars was a significant person related to the history of the institution and is deserving of commemoration;

WHEREAS, Dr. Murry DePillars dedicated 25 years of distinguished service at Virginia Commonwealth University's School of the Arts as Assistant Dean beginning in 1971, and then as Dean beginning in 1976;

WHEREAS, Dr. Murry DePillars provided the creative and intellectual foundation to Virginia Commonwealth University's School of Arts; and is responsible in large part for its growth in student enrollment and in achieving its ranking as a top Arts school in the nation;

WHEREAS, Dr. Murry DePillars was an accomplished artist whose work has been displayed in exhibitions halls across the world; to include the Paul Robeson Cultural Center, the African American Pavilion of the World Expo, the studio Museum of Harlem and the Whitney Museum;

WHEREAS, Dr. Murry DePillars contributions to Richmond, Virginia's arts and music community is highly respected and valued, as is his outstanding commitment and contributions to the education of thousands of students.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Virginia Commonwealth University Board of Visitors (the "Board") expresses immense gratitude for the significant accomplishments of Dr. Murry DePillars and does hereby grant approval to begin commemoration activities for Dr. Murry DePillars, by honoring his contributions in the form of naming a soon-to-be identified School of the Arts building as the Dr. Murry DePillars building.