

  
Councilmember Janeese Lewis George

1 A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION  
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5 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
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9 To celebrate the 46<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Zenith Gallery and recognize it for its contributions to the  
10 District of Columbia and the Greater Washington Metropolitan Area.  
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12 WHEREAS, Ward 4 resident Margery E. Goldberg, founder and director, opened Zenith  
13 Gallery on Rhode Island Avenue NW, March 1978 when she was 27 years old;  
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15 WHEREAS, since opening their doors, Zenith continues to represent artists from the  
16 Washington Area, national, and international artists;  
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18 WHEREAS, for over 46 years, Ms. Goldberg has been curating public, private, corporate,  
19 and institutional collections throughout the Washington D.C. tri-state area and nationally;  
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21 WHEREAS, by pushing boundaries, Zenith Gallery has grown to become one of  
22 Washington's foremost and longest running galleries, recognized for its striking mix of high-  
23 quality contemporary artworks in all media including paintings, indoor and outdoor sculpture,  
24 neon art, tapestries and mixed media and collage art, and photography that stimulate and  
25 engage. The gallery services have expanded to include high-quality acquisition, consulting,  
26 appraisal, and commissioning services to residential, corporate, and institutional clients  
27 including many DC Public Schools;  
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29 WHEREAS, Margery Goldberg received a BA in Fine Arts from George Washington  
30 University and studied woodworking, sculpture and silversmithing at the Rochester Institute of  
31 Technology where she was later a guest lecturer. Ms. Goldberg arrived in DC in 1968 from  
32 Rochester, New York. An art major, dance minor with a heavy dose of social activism. After  
33 college, Ms. Goldberg opened a woodworking studio in Georgetown, under the Whitehurst  
34 Freeway and produced sculptures, sculptural furniture, and commissioned art;  
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36 WHEREAS, Ms. Goldberg was one of the first woman in America with her own  
37 woodworking studio. After a fire left her Hayloft studio in ruins, she opened Zenith Gallery  
38 in a complex at 15th and Rhode Island Avenue NW, 50,000 square-foot property that had  
39 been the international school of law, 4 townhouses, a large three-story building that housed the  
40 Dance Exchange and Studio Theater and a carriage house where Zenith Gallery began which  
41 had her woodshop and several artists' studios. The gallery opened in 1978, 10 years after the  
42 riots decimated 14<sup>th</sup> Street. Soon after, 50 artists' studios were added which served as an

43 affordable haven for artists to work, live, show their work and support each other. After the  
44 complex was closed in a zoning dispute the Zenith Gallery moved to 413 Seventh Street NW  
45 for 24 years and was actively involved in the development and growth of the Penn Quarter  
46 downtown business community and the building of the Capital One Arena which was then  
47 the MCI Center;

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49 WHEREAS, In 2009, Zenith Gallery and The Zenith Community Arts Foundation  
50 moved to Ms. Goldbergs home in Ward 4, which includes a two-story Gallery Salon, a  
51 regular gallery in the lower level, a sculpture garden in front and an inground sculpture  
52 garden in her former swimming pool. Zenith continues to host art exhibitions with artists  
53 talks for noted and emerging artists at Zenith Gallery in upper northwest Washington;

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55 WHEREAS, as an accomplished artist, Goldberg has created more than 300 pieces of  
56 sculpture, sculptured furniture and neon, now in private and public collections throughout the U.S.,  
57 Canada and Europe. In addition to showing her work in her own gallery, she has been featured in  
58 ten one-women shows in the Mid-Atlantic region and more than 40 group shows in 13 U.S. cities;

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60 WHEREAS, as a curator, Mrs. Goldberg has launched 450-plus shows for her own gallery  
61 as well as traveling exhibitions, multiple Art League shows and more than 100 corporate  
62 collections and projects, including major outdoor sculptures;

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64 WHEREAS, Ms. Goldberg established The Zenith Community Arts Foundation– a  
65 Washington DC, non-profit 501C-3 organization in 2000. The Foundation is dedicated to  
66 promoting art and fostering alliances between artists, businesses, non-profits, and public sector  
67 organizations, using the transformative power of art to benefit the community particularly through  
68 public art projects, education;

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70 WHEREAS, in 2020, ZCAF received a \$150,000 grant from events DC to build the  
71 nation’s capital’s first mobile woodshop and a stationary woodshop. The mobile woodshop  
72 goes to two schools teaching carpentry skills, math, and employability skills at Ballou Stay in  
73 Ward 8 and Luke C. Moore Stay program in Ward 5; and

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75 WHEREAS, In 2023, ZCAF received another grant from Events DC to create a  
76 traveling exhibition about the trees of DC. DC is the Tree capital of the country and along with  
77 Casey trees this exhibition will be traveling around DC for the next few years. ZCAF and  
78 Casey Trees produced eight arboreal panels, called “The Wonders of DC Trees.” These colorful  
79 displays dramatize the significance of the urban canopy in the District of Columbia. They have  
80 already appeared at the Kennedy Center and will eventually be featured in selected DC public  
81 libraries, with a kickoff exhibition at Martin Luther King Library in April 2025.

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83 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this  
84 resolution may be cited as the “Zenith Gallery 46<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ceremonial Recognition  
85 Resolution of 2024”.

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87 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and congratulates the Zenith  
88 Gallery on its 46<sup>th</sup> anniversary and Zenith Community Arts Foundation on its 24 years, and  
89 recognizes its success as a champion for the arts in the District.

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Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.