

By: Senator(s) Horhn

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 16

1 A RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE RECOGNITION OF THE MISSISSIPPI
2 SENATE TO THE ROBERT M. HEARIN SUPPORT FOUNDATION AND THE ANNIE
3 LAURIE SWAIM HEARIN MEMORIAL EXHIBITION SERIES AT THE MISSISSIPPI
4 MUSEUM OF ART AS THE RECIPIENT OF THE 2023 GOVERNOR'S ARTS AWARD
5 FOR PATRON OF THE ARTS.

6 WHEREAS, the Governor's Arts Awards Program has announced its
7 2023 recipients, which include the Robert M. Hearin Support
8 Foundation as the 2023 recipient of the Stephen C. Edds Patron of
9 the Arts Award; and

10 WHEREAS, established in 1988, Governor's Arts Awards are
11 given to individuals and organizations to recognize outstanding
12 work in the artistic disciplines, as well as arts-based community
13 development and arts patronage in Mississippi. The awards are
14 presented in partnership with the Governor's Office and signify
15 the important relationship between government and the arts; and

16 WHEREAS, the Robert M. Hearin Support Foundation's mission is
17 to fund four-year colleges and universities in Mississippi and the
18 Mississippi Museum of Art, Mississippi Symphony Orchestra, and the
19 Mississippi Opera. 2022 marked the 30th anniversary of its



20 best-known project: the establishment of the Annie Laurie Swaim
21 Hearin Memorial Exhibition Series at the Mississippi Museum of
22 Art; and

23 WHEREAS, through this series, the foundation has helped bring
24 blockbuster exhibits that have attracted more than 700,000
25 visitors to the Jackson museum. Forty percent of those visitors
26 come from outside the city; and

27 WHEREAS, the list of exhibits supported by the foundation
28 includes *Old Masters to Monet: French Paintings from the Wadsworth*
29 *Atheneum* (2013); *When Modern Was Contemporary: The Neuberger*
30 *Collection of Modern Art* (2016); *Van Gogh, Monet, and Degas: The*
31 *Mellon Collection of French Art from the Virginia Museum of Fine*
32 *Arts* (2020), and the latest, *A Movement in Every Direction:*
33 *Legacies of the Great Migration* (2022); and

34 WHEREAS, these exhibits have not only brought visitors to the
35 museum and money to the local economy, but they have also resulted
36 in positive national media coverage of the museum and the arts in
37 Mississippi. *The Great Migration* exhibit was recently featured in
38 *The New York Times*; and

39 WHEREAS, the Annie Laurie Swaim Hearin Memorial Exhibition
40 series has featured exhibitions by some of the world's greatest
41 artists. Museum visitors have been able to experience the emotion
42 and beauty of Van Gogh, O'Keefe, Monet, and others; and

43 WHEREAS, the Hearin Foundation's support of the series has
44 afforded Mississippians and visitors the opportunity to view



45 world-renowned art works and experience the emotional impact that
46 fine art evokes; and

47 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that we pay tribute and
48 express appreciation for the energy of a Mississippi foundation
49 whose support of the arts has made Mississippi a better place and
50 exemplifies the charitable and artistic/literary traditions of our
51 great state:

52 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
53 MISSISSIPPI, That we hereby extend the recognition of the
54 Mississippi Senate to the Robert M. Hearin Support Foundation and
55 the Annie Laurie Swaim Hearin Memorial Exhibition Series at the
56 Mississippi Museum of Art as the recipient of the 2023 Governor's
57 Arts Award for patron of the arts and extend our congratulations
58 to this outstanding arts support leader on this auspicious
59 occasion.

60 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
61 the administrative staff of the Hearin Foundation and made
62 available to the Capitol Press Corps.

