

House Resolution No. 3438

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives feel it is altogether fitting and proper to pause from time to time to recognize individuals and organizations that have contributed to the welfare of this great state and its citizens; and

Whereas, musician and composer Clark Terry, who was born in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1920, will be honored on Sunday, May 13 at the Sheldon Concert Hall in St. Louis for the 11th Annual Denise Thimes & Friends Special Mother's Day Concert, where he will perform with "Peanuts" Whalum, Helen Sung, Sylvia Cuenca, and Tom Kennedy; and

Whereas, Clark Terry's first jazz band was called the The Vashon High School Swingsters, and he continued to play the trumpet with various groups in St. Louis during the 1930s and 1940s; and

Whereas, Clark Terry gained invaluable experience while serving in the United States Navy in 1942 performing with the Camp Small Radio Unit of the U.S. Naval Training Center in Great Lakesm, Illinois, a 50-piece band composed largely of black musicians who performed regularly for various military functions; and

Whereas, following his discharge from the Navy, Clark Terry went on to perform with various bands including the George Hudson Band, the Charlie Barnet Band, and the Count Basie Band, and in the 1950s, he joined the Duke Ellington Orchestra, where he remained for eight years as a featured soloist; and

Whereas, after leaving the Duke Ellington Band, Clark Terry toured Europe for a year with Quincy Jones's big band for the Free and Easy tour, which brought him international attention and recognition; and

Whereas, at the conclusion of the Free and Easy tour, Clark Terry joined the "Tonight Show" band, and he was the first black musician to be on the NBC payroll, and when the "Tonight Show" moved to Los Angeles, Clark Terry chose to remain in New York to pursue a busy schedule as a studio and live performance musician and jazz artist in the United States and abroad; and

Whereas, Clark Terry has more than two hundred jazz arrangements to his credit and has made more than three hundred recordings; and

Whereas, Clark Terry holds sixteen honorary doctorate degrees and numerous lifetime achievement awards, has been knighted in Germany and is the recipient of the French Order of Arts and Letters, has been deemed a Jazz Master by the National Endowment for the Arts, has performed for seven U.S. Presidents, and served as Jazz Ambassador for the State Department tours in the Middle East and Africa; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join to extend our humblest congratulations to Clark Terry on his enormously successful career; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Clark Terry.

Offered by _____
Representative Rodney R. Hubbard
District No. 58

Representative Theodore Hoskins
District No. 80

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 3438, adopted May 9, 2007.

Rod Jetton, Speaker