



## Text File

**Introduced:** 9/11/2018

**Bill No:** 2018-0863, **Version:** 1

**Committee:** City Council

**Status:** Adopted

**WHEREAS**, we celebrate the life of **Barbara Luderowski** as an artist, a leader and a true visionary who made a significant impact in Pittsburgh which had a national and international reach and who will be forever known in the world of installation art; and,

**WHEREAS**, **Barbara** was born to be an artist. Born January 26, 1930 in Flushing, New York, raised as an only child in Connecticut, **Barbara's** Father was an architect, her Mother was involved in the arts, and her Aunt was a sculptor and so became **Barbara**. She attended the alma mater of her parents, Carnegie Tech, until she realized college was not the right fit for her. **Barbara** decided to go to The Arts Student League of New York then to Cranbrook Academy of Art in Michigan; and,

**WHEREAS**, **Barbara** came to Pittsburgh in 1972, she fell in love with the North Side. She was a sculptor. She and her daughter, Taya, moved to a condemned property in the Mexican War Streets; and,

**WHEREAS**, **Barbara's** vision extended beyond herself and her own creativity as a sculptor. She sought to create a community of like-minded individuals. She purchased the abandoned Stearns & Foster mattress warehouse in 1975. She turned it into a living space, studios for artists, theater, and a food market; and

**WHEREAS**, **Barbara** founded the Mattress Factory museum of contemporary art in 1977 and served as President and Co-Director until her death, May 30, 2018. **Barbara's** leap of faith was a shot in the arm that gave life and revitalization to her North Side neighborhood through the development of the museum and the expansion of educational and community outreach programs. **Barbara's** 41 years of leadership saw the renovation and construction of three gallery buildings, six artist apartments, an administrative office, an educational studio, a garden, and a museum parking lot; and,

**WHEREAS**, Barbara impacted the lives of everyone around her, including fellow artists, her colleagues and staff, community members and stakeholders. Her championship of the artistic voice contributed to the redevelopment of the North Side and changed the fabric of the City of Pittsburgh; and

**WHEREAS**, The Mattress Factory's artist residency program has provided opportunities to more than 750 artists from Pittsburgh, the United States, and around the world. **Barbara** is recognized by internationally renowned artist, James Turrell, who gave to **Barbara**, the Mattress Factory, and the City of Pittsburgh the designs of a "Skyspace" for the museum to erect in honor of her leadership and dedication to all artists; and

**WHEREAS**, today, the Mattress Factory annually welcomes more than 104,000 visitors to the museum and serves over 30,000 students of all ages through its educational and community programming; and,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby

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memorialize **Barbara Luderowski** celebrating her life of 88 years including 41 years of distinguished service to the Mattress Factory museum and her outstanding contributions to the North Side, the City of Pittsburgh and the art community, locally, nationally and internationally.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that in celebration of her wonderful life the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare the week of September 10<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018 to be “**Barbara Luderowski Week**” in the City of Pittsburgh.