



Text File

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Bill No: 2018-0992, **Version:** 1

Committee: City Council

Status: Adopted

WHEREAS, The University of Pittsburgh Community Engagement Center initiative is currently one of only a handful of U.S. universities with a neighborhood-based community engagement strategy. The Community Engagement Center is the physical representation of Pitt's place-based Neighborhood Commitments strategy. The Community Engagement Center is one of Chancellor Patrick D. Gallagher's strategic initiatives and is aligned with the university's strategic plan - The Plan for Pitt, whose strategic priorities include Building Community Strength; and,

WHEREAS, The Community Engagement Centers in an effort to support local artists have created the CEC Local Arts Initiative, a committee of Pitt and community stakeholders invested in the arts. Beginning with a mosaic, created by the East End Art Team, located on the façade of the Center to welcome visitors, the gallery space inside contains pieces for-sale from local artists, providing them another platform to showcase their work; and,

WHEREAS, The Community Engagement Center in Homewood is guided by a 30-member Advisory Council, made up of residents and local leaders. The Council has guided and shaped the foundation of the CEC to ensure that the center truly reflects the desires of the community and the culture of Homewood; and,

WHEREAS, programs that will be offered within the center include initiatives from every school in the university, such as the Urban & Community Entrepreneurship Program from the Institute for Entrepreneurial Excellence, Pitt Assisted Community and Schools, a school program from the School of Social Work, the Wellness Pavilion facilitated by the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, STEM programming through a youth-friendly science lab, and regular employment workshops facilitated by Human Resources; and,

WHEREAS, these new commitments grow out of decades of Pitt partnerships with community-based organizations throughout the City of Pittsburgh, including the Homewood Children's Village, the Community Empowerment Association, Alma Illery Medical Center, and many others who have made positive impacts in community health, youth programming, and social services; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby commend University of Pittsburgh Community Engagement Centers for showing its commitment and dedication to the community; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare Thursday, October 18, 2018, to be "**University of Pittsburgh Community Engagement Centers Day**" in the City of Pittsburgh.