

**RESOLUTION NO. 11-037
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING FLORENE NICHOLS FOR HER COMMITMENT TO
EDUCATION AND THE ARTS**

WHEREAS, Florene Litthcut Nichols' dream of giving the "gift of dance" to a small group of children in Liberty City has turned into the Inner City Children's Touring Dance Company, Inc., which has served the community for more than three decades; and

WHEREAS, the non-profit dance company now serves thousands of students from toddlers to adults. The organization provides a culturally-rich environment that is focused on developing and nurturing self-esteem, character, discipline, and mutual respect; and

WHEREAS, in 1995, Ms. Nichols' expanded her vision and created the after-school program Artz-N-The-Hood, a juvenile crime intervention program offered to residents of Miami-Dade County's public housing developments; and

WHEREAS, the Inner City Children's Touring Dance Company offers classical ballet, tap, modern dance, creative movement and piano forte classes, in addition to master classes. It provides a safe, exciting environment for students; and

WHEREAS, for 19 years, the dance school ran the Equal Footing Project in partnership with Miami-Dade County Public Schools, which offered free classical ballet and modern dance training that prepared students to audition for the school district's arts programs. The organization currently runs the Preserving Dance Traditions Project, which educates and celebrates African-American cultural expressions; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Nichols is to be commended for enriching the lives of her students through the arts and fostering the belief that dreams do come true;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 11-037 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Florene Nichols for her commitment to education and the arts.

A copy of this resolution is placed in the permanent records of this Board.

Presented this ninth day of March, A.D. 2011

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary