

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 233

Approved May 24, 2024

WHEREAS, The Knight Memorial Library has served as a vital community resource to the Elmwood, South Side, and West End neighborhoods of Providence since its opening to the public in 1924; and

WHEREAS, The library was originally built to house the Elmwood Public Library Association, established in 1915, and is dedicated to Robert Brayton Knight and his wife, Josephine, by their children; and

WHEREAS, Robert Knight, a founder of the B. B. and R. Knight Co., played a significant role in the cotton-manufacturing industry and contributed to the growth of Providence in the early twentieth century; and

WHEREAS, The Knight Memorial Library's architectural design, featuring an open floor plan with cast iron stacks, Beaux Arts Neoclassical interior, and elements inspired by Roman atriums, including a skylight and relief sculpture of the Parthenon frieze, reflects both historical and cultural significance; and

WHEREAS, For a century, the library has been a beacon of knowledge, fostering literacy, education, and community engagement among its patrons; and

WHEREAS, Public libraries like Knight Memorial Library play an essential role in providing access to information, promoting lifelong learning, supporting literacy initiatives, and serving as community hubs for cultural and educational activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City of Providence hereby recognizes and celebrates the 100th anniversary of Knight Memorial Library and expresses gratitude for its enduring contributions to the Elmwood neighborhood and the city as a whole, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage a copy of this resolution be sent the Knight Memorial Library.

IN CITY COUNCIL

MAY 16 2024

READ AND PASSED

  
RACHEL M. MILLER, PRESIDENT  
  
CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.

  
Mayor

Date: 5/24/24