



# City of Chicago



R2017-448

Office of the City Clerk

## Document Tracking Sheet

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	5/24/2017
<b>Sponsor(s):</b>	Burke (14)
<b>Type:</b>	Resolution
<b>Title:</b>	Tribute to late Martha Lavey
<b>Committee(s) Assignment:</b>	

## **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS,** Martha Lavey has been called to eternal life by the wisdom of God at the age of 60; and

**WHEREAS,** The Chicago City Council has been informed of her passing by Alderman Edward M. Burke; and

**WHEREAS,** Martha Lavey was a former actress and the longtime Artistic Director at Steppenwolf Theatre in Chicago; and

**WHEREAS,** During her highly influential tenure as Artistic Director from 1995 to 2014, Martha Lavey earned a national reputation as a leader in producing new plays and commissioning playwrights; and

**WHEREAS,** Under the innovative leadership of Martha Lavey, the Steppenwolf Theatre produced Tracy Letts' play *August: Osage County* which went on to Broadway and won five Tony Awards; and

**WHEREAS,** In 1988 Martha Lavey established The School at Steppenwolf, a training residency for actors; and

**WHEREAS,** Also in 1988 Martha Lavey accepted on behalf of the theatre troupe the National Medal of Arts presented by President Bill Clinton; and

**WHEREAS,** In 2004 Martha Lavey was named one of Chicago's "10 Most Powerful Women in the Arts" by the Chicago Sun-Times; and

**WHEREAS,** In 2010 Martha Lavey opened Steppenwolf's Garage Theater which gave visibility to productions staged by local storefront theaters; and

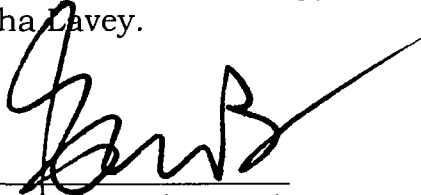
**WHEREAS,** The hard work, sacrifice and dedication of Martha Lavey serve as an example to all; and

**WHEREAS,** Her love of life and ability to live it to the fullest endeared Martha Lavey to her family members, friends and all who knew her, and enabled her to enrich their lives in ways they will never forget; and

**WHEREAS,** To her beloved family, Martha Lavey imparts a legacy of faithfulness, service and dignity; now, therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED,** That we, the Mayor and the members of the Chicago City Council, assembled this twenty-fourth day of May, 2017, do hereby commemorate Martha Lavey for her grace-filled life and do hereby express our condolences to her family; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Martha Lavey.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. B. B.', written over a horizontal line.

**Alderman – 14<sup>th</sup> Ward**