

# Formal Awards Ceremony/Docket

For Official Presentation: Monday, 12 February 2018/DRAFT 2.12.2018 1400 hrs/jeh

#	TITLE/RECIPIENT	TYPE	SUMMARY/NARRATIVE	MAIN PRESENTER/S
1	<p><b>Podium Foundation</b></p> <p>To be received by: Podium Foundation</p>	<p><b>RICHMOND OFFICIAL RECOGNITION AWARD</b></p>	<p>To recognize the organization for its dedication to and support of Richmond's middle and high school youth.</p>	<p><b>Hilbert</b></p>
2	<p><b>Ms. Gay Stokes</b> <i>Richmond Stormwater Utility Public Education &amp; Outreach Coordinator</i> Richmond Department of Public Utilities</p> <p>To be received by: Ms. Gay Stokes</p>	<p><b>RICHMOND OFFICIAL PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD</b></p>	<p>To recognize her on the occasion of her retirement after nearly 20 years of dedicated public service.</p>	<p><b>Agelasto Trammell</b></p>
3	<p><b>Friends of Forest Hill Park</b></p> <p>To be received by: Members of Friends of Forest Hill Park</p>	<p><b>RICHMOND OFFICIAL COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD</b></p>	<p>To recognize it and its members for their work on behalf of the community.</p>	<p><b>Agelasto Larson</b></p>



# Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

## RICHMOND OFFICIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

*By virtue of the authority vested in the United States of America, Commonwealth of Virginia, Virginia Code of Laws and the Richmond City Charter: Richmond City Council, the governing body of Richmond, Virginia, in the United States of America, do hereby officially recognize:*

# Podium Foundation

The Honorable Members of Richmond City Council, the governing body of Richmond, Virginia, in the United States of America, do hereby unite in solidarity and common purpose to recognize, honor, and celebrate the Podium Foundation for its dedication to and support of Richmond's middle and high school youth.

Founded in 2008, the Podium Foundation is an after-school program with a mission to empower Richmond Public Schools students to develop their knowledge of the literary arts while helping them to become more confident and capable communicators, readers, and writers. Students participating in the program compose original content based on instructions from Podium Foundation volunteers. Students share their writing with peers and critique each others' work. Content from throughout the school year is then selected for inclusion in an annual journal, which is designed by the students and distributed throughout the community.

Initially focusing exclusively on high school youth, the Podium Foundation expanded its scope in 2013 to include middle school students in its "Project Write Now!" program.

Richmond City Council is a strong supporter, champion, and advocate of the continued progress, advancement, and success of the Richmond Community, and is proud to promote and encourage academic activities that provide safe and structured learning environments that help prepare our children and youth for lifelong learning and success.

The result of hard work, support, and determination, the success of Richmond Public Schools students goes to parents and caregivers, outstanding teachers, volunteers, families, friends, organizations, and the greater Richmond Community for their collective roles in helping to educate our youth and encouraging their achievements and progress.

**Now, Therefore,** The Honorable Members of Richmond City Council do hereby recognize, honor, and celebrate the Podium Foundation organization for their work on behalf of Richmond Public Schools middle and high school students; and, thank the student participants, parents and caregivers, Richmond Public Schools teachers, volunteers, families, friends, and the greater Richmond Community for helping to make Richmond an even better place to live, love, work, learn, play, enjoy, visit, and raise a family.

In Witness Whereof, we have hereunto given under our hands for presentation on the twelfth day of February, two thousand eighteen, of the Common Era, in the two hundred eightieth year of the foundation of Richmond in 1737, in the two hundred forty-first year of the Commonwealth of Virginia and United States of America.

The Honorable Chris A. Hilbert  
Council President, Richmond City Council  
Councilman, Richmond Northside 3rd Voter District

The Honorable Cynthia I. Newbille  
Council Vice President, Richmond City Council  
Councilwoman, Richmond East End 7th Voter District

Richmond City Council - Richmond City Hall - 900 East Broad Street - Richmond, Virginia 23219 - U.S.A.



# Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

## RICHMOND OFFICIAL PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

By virtue of the authority vested in the United States of America, Commonwealth of Virginia, Virginia Code of Laws and the Richmond City Charter, Richmond City Council, the governing body of Richmond, Virginia, in the United States of America, do hereby officially recognize:

# Ms. Gay Stokes

*Richmond Stormwater Utility Public Education & Outreach Coordinator  
Richmond Department of Public Utilities*

The Honorable Members of Richmond City Council, the governing body of Richmond, Virginia, in the United States of America, do hereby unite in solidarity and common purpose to recognize, honor, and celebrate Ms. Gay Stokes, Richmond Stormwater Utility Public Education and Outreach Coordinator for the Richmond Department of Public Utilities, on the occasion of her retirement on February 1, 2018 after nearly 20 years of dedicated public service on behalf of Richmond residents.

Joining the Richmond Department of Public Utilities in August 1998, Ms. Stokes began serving as the Richmond Stormwater Utility Public Education and Outreach Coordinator in 2010. Prior to that, Ms. Stokes had served progressive positions of responsibility with that department, which included Gas Utility Marketing Specialist, and Administrative Project Analysis for the Communications Division.

During her tenure as the Richmond Stormwater Utility Public Education and Outreach Coordinator, Ms. Stokes implemented the *Richmond Build a Barrel, Save the Bay Program*, which provided rain collection barrels across the city. Ms. Stokes also helped coordinate and deliver other important environmental programs and campaigns, such as those involving neighborhood cleanups, recycling, storm drain identification, and pet waste.

During her tenure, Ms. Stokes was successful in engaging and collaborating with numerous Richmond Public Schools students, community groups, and environmental organizations.

As further example of her dedication to the Richmond community, Ms. Stokes serves as a member of the Middle James Roundtable and the James River Advisory Council. In recognition of her service, Ms. Stokes was awarded a 2015 James River Advisory Council Stewards of the River Award, for her work on behalf of the James River.

In America, public service is considered to be among the most noble and important work a person can do and, through her outstanding example, Ms. Gay Stokes has proven her dedication to and support of the principles and creed written into the founding documents of our great Nation, in that our individual destinies and that of our families, communities, city, state and country include not only the aspiration of our federal constitutional republic but, the time, talent, investment, labor and dedication of all residents in realizing the fulfillment of its promise.

**Now, Therefore,** The Honorable Members of Richmond City Council do hereby recognize, honor, and celebrate Ms. Gay Stokes, Richmond Stormwater Utility Public Education and Outreach Coordinator for the Richmond Department of Public Utilities, on the occasion of her retirement after nearly 20 years of dedicated public service; and, thank her for helping to make Richmond an even better and more environmentally responsible place to live, love, work, learn, play, visit and raise a family.

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Councilman, Richmond Northside 3rd Voter District

The Honorable Cynthia I. Newbille  
Council Vice President, Richmond City Council  
Councilwoman, Richmond East End 7th Voter District

The Honorable Parker C. Agelasto  
Councilman, Richmond City Council  
Richmond Central 5th Voter District



# Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

## RICHMOND OFFICIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

*By virtue of the authority vested in the United States of America, Commonwealth of Virginia, Virginia Code of Laws and the Richmond City Charter, Richmond City Council, the governing body of Richmond, Virginia, in the United States of America, do hereby officially recognize:*

# Friends of Forest Hill Park

The Honorable Members of Richmond City Council, the governing body of Richmond, Virginia, in the United States of America, do hereby unite in solidarity and common purpose to recognize, honor, and celebrate the Friends of Forest Hill Park organization for its dedication to and support of the ongoing beautification and preservation of Richmond's beautiful Forest Hill Park.

Begun in 1997 as a committee of the Forest Hill Neighborhood Association, Friends of Forest Hill Park emerged as a distinct nonprofit entity to provide additional community support and assistance on behalf of the park's substantial perpetual care, repair, and conservation needs.

Considered one of Richmond's highly cherished natural treasures, Forest Hill Park is a beloved 105-acre city park owned by Richmond residents that rests on gently rolling forested bluffs in the heart of the city, just south of the powerful James River. It's area includes a western boundary of 42nd Street extending eastward to 32nd Street, and from the northern boundary of Riverside Drive southward to Forest Hill Avenue and Semmes Avenue.

A tremendous asset, Forest Hill Park is managed, preserved, and cared for by the Richmond Department of Parks, Recreation & Community Facilities, which has been instrumental in conserving and restoring this beautiful and historic sanctuary with additional assistance and support provided by Richmond residents, visitors, and groups and organizations like Friends of Forest Hill Park.

Dedicated to serving the park, the Friends organization has been very involved in the removal of invasive plant species and has provided educational workshops and guided walks in the park to identify common invasive plants versus native species. Each month, the group holds a volunteer event to pull and remove non-native plants from the park. As a sterling example of their efforts, in 2017 the group dedicated more than 446 hours in the park's azalea garden removing invasive species.

**Now, Therefore,** Richmond City Council does hereby officially recognize, honor and celebrate Friends of Forest Hill Park organization for its dedication to and support of the ongoing beautification and preservation of Richmond's beautiful Forest Hill Park and thanks its members, donors, and supporters for helping make Richmond an even better and more beautiful place to live, love, work, play, enjoy, visit, and raise a family.

In Witness Whereof, we have hereunto given under our hands for presentation on the twelfth day of February, two thousand eighteen, of the Common Era, in the two hundred eightieth year of the foundation of Richmond in 1737, in the two hundred forty-first year of the Commonwealth of Virginia and United States of America.

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Councilman, Richmond City Council  
Richmond Central 5th Voter District