



## Legislation Text

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To congratulate Greater Columbus Sister Cities International (GCSCI) for winning the Sister Cities International 2018 Innovation Award for Arts and Culture for a city with a population greater than 100,000.

**WHEREAS**, Columbus Sister Cities International is a non-profit organization that works to enhance the quality of life for the residents of Columbus and Central Ohio through advocacy, engagement and cultural exchange; and

**WHEREAS**, Greater Columbus Sister Cities International (GCSCI) has won the Sister Cities International 2018 Innovation Award for Arts and Culture for a city with a population greater than 100,000 - The awards competition, which is open to over 500 sister city programs nationwide, recognizes the accomplishments of outstanding individuals and community sister city programs that are promoting peace through mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation; and

**WHEREAS**, GCSCI was selected for the Thousand People project which took place in Columbus from March 25<sup>th</sup> through April 9<sup>th</sup> 2018 GCSCI received support from Columbus City Council, GCSCI which allowed it to host Emanuele Timothy Costa, a photographer from the Columbus Sister City of Genoa, Italy -For two weeks, Costa's portraits from the Thousand People of Genoa project were displayed at the Cultural Arts Center, John Glenn International Airport, the Columbus Museum of Art, the Greater Columbus Convention Center and Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens - While in Columbus, Mr. Costa began a new chapter in this project where he photographed over 1,400 Columbus residents for an exhibit which will be displayed in Genoa in 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sister Cities International Annual Awards program recognizes the excellence in overall programming - highlights key innovations in arts and culture; business and trade; humanitarian assistance; youth and education; as well as professional and technical exchange; and

**WHEREAS**, This year Sister Cities International will honor each of its award winners during SCI's 2018 Annual Conference which will take place from August 2<sup>nd</sup> through 4th in Aurora, Colorado - a conference that will bring together hundreds of the most influential citizen diplomats and global leaders in diplomacy, foreign affairs, policy, business, and innovation to discuss and share examples, as well as network; and

**WHEREAS**, This year's theme, Cities Leading the Way, will focus on smart and resilient cities, leadership development, and entrepreneurship as key building blocks of President Eisenhower's vision of creating a more peaceful world through citizen engagement and international cooperation between cities, now therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:** That this Council does hereby congratulate Greater Columbus Sister Cities International (GCSCI) for winning the Sister Cities International 2018 Innovation Award for Arts and Culture for a city with a population greater than 100,000.