

1 [International Museum of Women]

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Resolution urging the City and County of San Francisco to aid the International Museum of Women in their efforts to secure a permanent physical location in San Francisco to display their exhibitions and to educate and enrich those who visit.

WHEREAS, The mission of the International Museum of Women (I.M.O.W) is to value the lives of women around the world and advance the human right to gender equity worldwide; and

WHEREAS, The I.M.O.W is a social change museum which inspired global action, connects people and helps to transform hearts and minds by broadcasting the voices of women worldwide; and,

WHEREAS, The I.M.O.W amplifies the voices of women by global online exhibitions, history, the arts and cultural programs that educate and create dialogue and build community; and,

WHEREAS, The I.M.O.W was originally founded as the Women’s Heritage Museum in 1985. It produced several exhibitions, hosted public programs sponsored an annual book fair, provided teacher resources for Women’s History Month, honored unknown women from our local history and recreated historic events; and

WHEREAS, In 1997, the Women’s Heritage Museum was transformed into the International Museum of Women. Since then, the I.M.O.W has organized seven major exhibitions, hosted public forums, developed educational curriculum for schools and created a speaker series drawing world-class artists, authors and political leaders; and,

1 WHEREAS, In 2005, I.M.O.W embarked on a plan to build an innovated twenty-first
2 century museum, to impact women around the world through strategic partnerships,
3 innovative global online exhibitions and local events; and,

4 WHEREAS, In 2006, I.M.O.W launched *Imagining Ourselves: A Global Generation of*
5 *Women*, their first interactive, multi-lingual online exhibition that connected more than a
6 million participants around the world. It was a very successful project, which received
7 worldwide recognition and awards including the Anita Borg Social Impact Award; and

8 WHEREAS, In 2008, the global online exhibition, *Women, Power and Politics* was
9 launched in four languages, Arabic, English, French and Spanish. It focused on the
10 groundbreaking campaigns, elections, and leadership of women from Argentina to the United
11 States. It connects its audience with stories of women who have harnessed politics and
12 power to transform women’s lives and society; and,

13 WHEREAS, I.M.O.W operates under a Board of Directors consisting of philanthropic,
14 business and community leaders, a professional staff and hundreds of volunteers; and,

15 WHEREAS, I.M.O.W receives strategic guidance from its Global Council members, a
16 group of distinguished women leaders from around the world, including Mary Robinson
17 (former president of Ireland), who are committed to strengthening and improving the lives of
18 women throughout the world; and

19 WHEREAS, I.M.O.W provides interactive global online exhibitions, using advanced
20 technology, to invite visitors to join in dialogue with other women around the world; and,

21 WHEREAS, I.M.O.W also holds speaker series, held quarterly in San Francisco.
22 Women from around the world who have made profound and unprecedented political, social
23 and economic changes in the lives of women worldwide make these series of lectures; and,
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1 WHEREAS, I.M.O.W offers exhibitions and special events, which give visitors
2 engaging experiences that inform them about women’s issues and roles across cultures and
3 throughout time; and,

4 WHEREAS, I.M.O.W is in the process of creating a permanent physical exhibition site
5 in their hometown of San Francisco, where visitors can connect and become inspired in
6 person. They hope to open their site in by 2012; now, therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco aid I.M.O.W in their efforts to
8 secure a permanent physical location in San Francisco to display their exhibitions and to
9 educate and enrich those who visit.

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