Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Brittany Simpkins, one of Brooklyn's rising stars. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding young woman and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing her impressive service.

Brittany Simpkins is a very active and gifted young woman with a determination to become all that she can be. The daughter of Nanette Simpkins, Ms. Simpkins is a graduate of Fashion Industries High School and she has a deep passion for the creative arts and fashion design. She is wonderfully gifted in that area and has designed fashionable dresses for young ladies. Ms. Simpkins has participated in various modeling assignments and provided assistance to teachers in her school's annual fashion shows. Recently, she did community work with Artmaker, Inc., painting a mural on the wall of one of Bedford Stuyvesant's edifices at Nostrand and Green Avenues in Brooklyn, portraying famous American women who contributed tremendously to the African American community.

Ms. Simpkins currently attends Baruch College in New York City where she majors in Business/Marketing. As a dedicated member of Berean Baptist Church since the age of 4, she has been active with the choir, Girl Scouts, and the Ministry of Sacred Dance. Ms. Simpkins was recognized by her pastor, congregants, and the church community as the "Member of the Week." She enjoys working with children from the community and her church home and was employed by Berean's Summer Day Camp as an assistant teacher. She has also been a strong advocate for the cure for breast cancer and has demonstrated her concern by participating in the annual American Cancer Society Breast Cancer Walk-A-Thon.

Ms. Simpkins has received numerous awards, namely an art award from the United Federation of Teachers, as well as an Incenotive Award for her academic studies. In addition, she has won several medals participating on the track team. Ms. Simpkins desires to become one of New York's greatest entrepreneurs in fashion design, and she is currently working on her business logo and developing her clientele.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the work of Brittany Simpkins. Her deep commitment to her family and community makes her most worthy of our recognition today.

HONORING THE FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Field Museum of Natural History on its recent award of a $10,000 grant from the Illinois Humanities Council. This grant helps fund the development of public outreach programming related to the Halls of the Ancient Americas exhibition.

The Field Museum is a world-class institution dedicated to providing outstanding educational experiences to the millions of people who walk through its doors every year. Founded as the Columbian Museum of Chicago in 1893, the Field Museum’s original goal was, "accumulation and dissemination of knowledge, and the preservation and exhibition of objects in the fields of science, art, history and culture." The Field Museum continues the same goals and objectives today, continuing its commitment to preservation and education.

The Field Museum is so much more than a museum, it is a world class education and research facility; the Field Museum also boasts an impressive 250,000 piece natural history collection. In addition, this wonderful institution is committed to giving back to the community through outstanding learning opportunities and important research.

I am proud to join the Field Museum calls Chicago home. Its impressive exhibits and collections have the ability to educate the people of both Chicago and the world. With important education programs such as the Halls of the Ancient Americas, the Field Museum has the ability to instruct those who walk through its doors on their heritage, culture and history.

Once again I would like congratulate the Field Museum on receiving the grant from the Illinois Humanities Council. The Field Museum has served and will continue to serve both Chicago and the nation for decades to come.

HONORING RUTGERS-CAMDEN UNIVERSITY ON THE NCAA DIVISION III WOMEN’S SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Rutgers-Camden University Women’s Softball Team for winning the NCAA Division III Women’s Softball Championship in 2006.

The Scarlet Raptors defeated the defending champion, the University of St. Thomas, in a thrilling 3–2 decision during play at Peace College in North Carolina last spring in May 2006. This is the first national sports title in Rutgers-Camden history, and also the first NCAA title for a team sport earned on any Rutgers campus.

Mr. Speaker, I celebrate the outstanding season of the Rutgers-Camden Women’s Softball Team. I applaud every member of the Scarlet Raptors softball team, as well as Coach Carl Taylor and his staff, for this outstanding accomplishment. I am proud of their skill, determination, and fierce competitiveness, and thank them for the excitement they created for all Rutgers-Camden supporters throughout the season.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF GERALD LEVERT

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise in celebration of the life of Gerald Levert. On November 10, 2006, beloved entertainer, father, son, brother, and friend Gerald Levert departed this life at the age of 40. Gerald was
one of the greatest entertainers of our time. Known for his silky-smooth vocals and electrifying showmanship, Gerald was adored the world over and will truly be missed. He was a son of the 11th Congressional District of Ohio.

Born in Philadelphia on July 13, 1966 and raised in Cleveland, Gerald is the son of legendary singer Eddie Levert of The O’Jays and Martha Levert. Gerald was exposed to music as a child and his love for it grew even further after he attended Shaker Heights High School. He was a member of the Rude Boyz group, which would later go on to record seven albums, four of which were certified platinum. The albums yielded such memorable hits as “Pop, Pop Goes My Mind,” “Casanova,” and “Suave.”

In 1981, Gerald launched his solo career with the album Private Line which went on to be #1 on the R&B charts. It was during this time that he began writing and producing songs for other artists including Stephanie Mills, James Ingram, Teddy Pendergrass, and even The Jacksons. Gerald earned a Grammy nomination for his work on Barry White’s hit “Practice What You Preach,” and helped launch the careers of many Cleveland-area R&B groups including Men At Large and the Rudy Wardyz.

Some of Gerald’s most memorable works were his collaborations with his father Eddie Levert. In 1992 they recorded the #1 R&B single “Baby Hold On To Me” and later in 1995 recorded the album Father & Son which topped both the R&B and pop charts. Gerald and Eddie allowed the old school generation and the hip-hop generation to have a meeting of the minds that ultimately produced beautiful music for all to enjoy.

Affectionately known as the “teddy bear” of the music industry, Gerald carried himself with a gentle kindness. He always would greet you with a smile and was a friend to all he encountered. News reports of Gerald’s death talked about his recent trip to South Africa with his father. They reported that he and his father were well received throughout the country and treated like kings. Gerald was our king and his legacy of love and zest for life will forever live in our hearts.

On behalf of the Congress of the United States and the citizens of the 11th Congressional District of Ohio, I would like to offer my sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Gerald Levert. On a personal note, I cherish the times I was in cities when he was around and will truly be missed. He was a king and his legacy of love and zest for life will forever live in our hearts.

HONORING THE FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT PRESERVATION TRUST

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 15, 2006

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust. The American Association of Museums recently conferred accreditation on the Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust. Accreditation is a prestigious honor; it is the highest national recognition of a museum’s commitment to professional museum standards, accountability, public service, and excellence in education.

The Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust works tirelessly to preserve both Wright’s home and studio as well as the Frederick C. Robie House, arguably one of Wright’s most significant architectural works. Frank Lloyd Wright was one of the most influential architects of the 20th century and one of the most prominent American architects of all time. The Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust provides a great service to the people of my congressional district, the Seventh District of Illinois.

Mr. Speaker, I once again would like to extend my sincerest congratulations and thanks to the Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust for all of their hard work and recent accreditation.