

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

22-375

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

September 18, 2018

To recognize and congratulate the Washington Jazz Arts Institute on the occasion of its 20th anniversary.

WHEREAS, the Washington Jazz Arts Institute was founded in 1998 by the husband-and-wife team of Davey Yarborough and Esther Williams, to further their dream of teaching music in a mentoring atmosphere to inspire young people into careers of performing, writing, and producing music through the jazz medium;

WHEREAS, the Washington Jazz Arts Institute was initially formed to create a continuing music and mentoring support system for aspiring artists residing in the Washington, D.C. area from aspiration through retirement;

WHEREAS, the Washington Jazz Arts Institute serves 35 to 50 participants yearly, produces beyond-school programs 10 months out of a year, and continues to render its services free of charge to youth in Washington, D.C.;

WHEREAS, the Washington Jazz Arts Institute promotes the traditional oral passage of the elements of jazz through workshops, clinics, and performances transferred to our participants by local, national, and international jazz icons;

WHEREAS, notable alumni of the Washington Jazz Arts Institute include Ben Williams, Eric Wheeler, Corcoran Holt, Donvonte McCoy, Brian Settles, Jessica Settles, Amy Bormet, and Leon Rawlings, among many others;

WHEREAS, Washington Jazz Arts Institute co-founder Davey Yarborough, a noted performer and composer, created the Jazz Studies program at the Duke Ellington School of the Arts and has been recognized nationally for his contributions to jazz education;

WHEREAS, Davey Yarborough was named the Jazz Education Network's John LaPorta Jazz Educator of the Year in 2013 and received the Kennedy Center's Stephen Sondheim Inspirational Teacher Award in 2016;

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

WHEREAS, on July 20, 2018, the Washington Jazz Arts Institute will celebrate its 20th anniversary and commemorate Davey Yarborough's retirement from a stellar 40-year career with District of Columbia Public Schools with a special performance by Wynton Marsalis at the People's Congregational United Church of Christ; and

WHEREAS, after 20 years of service to the District of Columbia, the Washington Jazz Arts Institute continues its commitment to nurturing young musicians by supporting their efforts to create music and to enter into music-related careers.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Washington Jazz Arts Institute 20th Anniversary Recognition Resolution of 2018".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and congratulates the Washington Jazz Arts Institute on the occasion of its 20th anniversary and commends its commitment to serving young musicians in the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.