

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

25-10

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

February 7, 2023

To recognize and honor Washington, D.C. native Dolores Conchita Figueroa del Rivero Anderson AKA Chita Rivera for her legendary career and accomplishments as an award-winning actress as she recently celebrated her 90th birthday on January 23, 2023.

WHEREAS, Chita Rivera was born in 1933 and lived in the Ledroit Park/Bloomingdale neighborhood on Flagler Place, NW;

WHEREAS, Ms. Rivera enrolled in the legendary Jones-Haywood School of Ballet (now known as the Jones Haywood School of Dance), located on 1400 Delafield Place NW in the 16th Street Heights neighborhood of Ward 4;

WHEREAS, after impressing several instructors in an audition, Ms. Rivera was accepted into and given a scholarship to attend the School of American Ballet in New York City, widely considered the most renowned ballet school in the United States;

WHEREAS, Ms. Rivera began her Broadway career in 1950, starring in *Guys and Dolls*;

WHEREAS, in 1957, Ms. Rivera launched into super-stardom via her performance as Anita in the classic Broadway musical *West Side Story*;

WHEREAS, Ms. Rivera went on to appear in many other critically-acclaimed productions, including *Bye Bye Birdie* (1960), *Chicago* (1975), *Brind Back Birdie* (1981), *The Rink* (1984), *Kiss of the Spider Woman* (1993), *Nine* (2003), and *The Visit* (2015);

WHEREAS, Ms. Rivera is one of the most decorated Broadway performers of all time and the winner of many awards, including an all-time record of ten (10) Tony Award nominations;

WHEREAS, Ms. Rivera has earned three (3) Tony Awards, including one for lifetime achievement;

WHEREAS, in 2002, Ms. Rivera became the first Latina and Latina-American to receive a Kennedy Center Honor;

WHEREAS, in 2009, she was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Barack Obama;

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WHEREAS, Ms. Rivera has inspired thousands of aspiring entertainers around the world with her originating roles in Broadway musicals and in television performances; and,

WHEREAS, on January 23, 2023, Ms. Rivera celebrated her 90th birthday.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Chita Rivera Recognition Resolution of 2023”.

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia honors, recognizes, and commends Washington, D.C. native Chita Rivera on her remarkable career and legendary achievements during her 60-plus year career in show business, where she will be forever remembered as a groundbreaking legend on Broadway and in the world of show business.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.