

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

25-30

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

March 7, 2023

To recognize and celebrate Blues Alley Jazz, the Blues Alley Jazz Society, and the Blues Alley Jazz Festival for their contributions to jazz, the music world, and music education in the District.

WHEREAS, Blues Alley Jazz was founded in 1965 in the Georgetown neighborhood of Washington, DC, and continues to this day as America's oldest operating jazz supper club;

WHEREAS, since its inception, Blues Alley Jazz has presented the finest in musical entertainment and also features distinctive Creole dining cuisine in reflection of its inimitable historic heritage;

WHEREAS, Blues Alley Jazz has presented jazz legends as estimable as Count Basie, Sarah Vaughn, Dave Brubeck, Tony Bennett, Ella Fitzgerald, and Betty Carter, among many more musical legends;

WHEREAS, Blues Alley Jazz has preserved this historic hegemony and further contributed culturally to this unique genre of jazz with live recording releases including legends Dizzy Gillespie, Wynton Marsalis, Eva Cassidy, Ramsey Lewis, and Ahmad Jamal;

WHEREAS, Blues Alley Jazz is a legendary jazz landmark that enjoys international recognition as both an industry leader and a jazz ambassador to the world;

WHEREAS, Blues Alley Jazz further contributed to the pantheon of pioneering musical mentoring by establishing its non-profit organization, Blues Alley Jazz Society, in 1985;

WHEREAS, since the Blues Alley Jazz Society's inception, their programming has graduated students from every major music school and conservatory in America;

WHEREAS, the Blues Alley Jazz Society's signature programs include a year-round youth orchestra, summer jazz camp for children, and the inaugural Blues Alley Jazz Festival in 2023;

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

WHEREAS, Blues Alley Jazz Society is defined by its presentation of performances and its music education programming, including its annual guitar series with symposium, Ella Fitzgerald international vocal competition, and BIG BAND JAM! festival every April during national Jazz Appreciation Month;

WHEREAS, Blues Alley Jazz Society's past and present programming partners have included the White House, United States Congress, National Park Service, Library of Congress, District of Columbia Public Libraries, Georgetown University, George Washington University, and American University; and

WHEREAS, the 2023 Blues Alley Jazz Festival will take place in Washington, DC, from April 15 through April 30, featuring artists-in-residence Stanley Jordan, Jane Monheit, and Jon Faddis.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Blues Alley Jazz Month Recognition Resolution of 2023".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia honors Blues Alley Jazz and the Blues Alley Jazz Society and celebrates the Blues Alley Jazz Festival by declaring April 2023 as "Blues Alley Jazz Month" in the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.