

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

22-299

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

April 10, 2018

To recognize and honor the importance of jazz music, and to declare April 2018 as “Jazz Appreciation Month” and April 30, 2018 as “International Jazz Day” in the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, jazz originated within African-American communities during the late 19th and early 20th centuries;

WHEREAS, jazz music has produced some of America’s most innovative artistry;

WHEREAS, Washington, D.C., has a rich jazz history;

WHEREAS, Washington, D.C., is the birthplace of the great jazz pianist and bandleader Duke Ellington, singer and pianist Shirley Horn, pianist Billy Taylor, and saxophonist Frank West;

WHEREAS, Washington, D.C., recognizes the influence of women in jazz, which for years was a male-dominated art;

WHEREAS, jazz music was an instrumental force in the Women’s Liberation Movement in the United States during the 1920s;

WHEREAS, many female jazz musicians have become internationally recognized vocalists, instrumental performers, composers, and bandleaders, such as Billie Holiday, Sarah “Sassy” Vaughn, Dolly Jones, Vi Redd, Mary Lou Williams, Dorothy Fields, Baby Esther, and “Sweet Emma” Barnett;

WHEREAS, Jazz Appreciation Month brings together schools, artists, historians, scholars, and jazz enthusiasts all over the world to celebrate and learn about jazz and its roots and future;

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WHEREAS, International Jazz Day is the culmination of Jazz Appreciation Month, and celebrates jazz music and its influence on education, peace, unity, dialogue, and cooperation amongst people;

WHEREAS, International Jazz Day celebrates its 7th anniversary on April 30, 2018; and

WHEREAS, on April 30, 2018, Washington, D.C., will join with towns, cities, and villages around the world in celebrating International Jazz Day through thousands of performances and programs.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Jazz Appreciation Month and International Jazz Day Recognition Resolution of 2018”.

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and honors the importance of jazz music and declares April 2018 as “Jazz Appreciation Month” and April 30, 2018 as “International Jazz Day” 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.