

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

23-8

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

February 5, 2019

To recognize and honor the 20th Anniversary Celebration of Jazz Night in D.C. at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Southwest Washington, D.C.

WHEREAS, Jazz Night in D.C. commenced weekly performances on January 22, 1999 at Westminster Presbyterian Church, an historic local congregation jointly pastored by Brian and Ruth Hamilton, and the first performance featured Washington's own Buck Hill;

WHEREAS, but for 3 weather events in 20 years, 1,040 lively performances have happened every week from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the church;

WHEREAS, the audience regularly assembled always represents many of the most dedicated, knowledgeable, and passionate jazz lovers in the region;

WHEREAS, this 20-year span has contributed to jazz history at a time when jazz has diminished in general appreciation within our popular mass culture;

WHEREAS, the constant devotion to jazz from both staff, performers, and audience alike has maintained a consistently high level of performance as demonstrated every week;

WHEREAS, the Jazz Night in D.C. agenda has expanded toward outreach activities, including special performances for students, educational programs presenting a featured jazz artist or movement within jazz, and youth jazz programs to support next generations of jazz innovators;

WHEREAS, Jazz Night in D.C. at Westminster is one of the largest jazz venues in Washington, D.C. and the most affordable and accessible for District of Columbia residents, especially fixed-income seniors, who are brought in by the busload by community centers throughout the Washington, D.C. area every week;

WHEREAS, it has been a mission of Jazz Night in D.C. to be intergenerational and there have been moments where 15- and 70-year-olds share the dance floor;

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WHEREAS, a great many sacrifices have been made to maintain the \$5 admission level throughout all these years; and

WHEREAS, Jazz Night in D.C. has won numerous awards and been recognized by arts institutions and organizations for excellence in support of jazz.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “20th Anniversary Celebration of Jazz Night in D.C. at Westminster Presbyterian Church Recognition Resolution of 2019”.

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia acknowledges and honors the 20th Anniversary Celebration of Jazz Night in D.C. at Westminster Presbyterian Church.

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