

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

23-235

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

February 4, 2020

To recognize and celebrate Victor Shargai’s life and his contributions to the cultural and artistic development of the District of Columbia and to declare Friday, February 14, 2020, as “Victor Shargai Day” in the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, Mr. Shargai was a resident of the District of Columbia for 6 decades;

WHEREAS, Mr. Shargai was a local business owner and world-renowned interior designer whose creativity brought spaces to life including the South Opera Lounge of the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, embassy homes, federal offices, and private residences in the District of Columbia, across the nation, and around the world;

WHEREAS, Mr. Shargai was a tireless supporter, promoter, and advocate for live theater in the District of Columbia for over 40 years and helped transform the D.C. area into a leading arts and cultural center;

WHEREAS, Mr. Shargai was a respected member of the Washington, D.C. theater community and served as a board member and chairman of Theatre Washington and on the boards of several other cultural institutions and organizations including the Washington Ballet, Studio Theatre, and Signature Theatre;

WHEREAS, Mr. Shargai’s dedication to the artistic and cultural vibrancy of the District of Columbia contributed to the exponential growth of professional theaters in the region that now support more than 200 productions annually, with a majority in the District of Columbia;

WHEREAS, Mr. Shargai helped establish the Helen Hayes Awards to recognize excellence in the District of Columbia theater and through his leadership the award became a nationally recognized honor to theater artists and institutions;

WHEREAS, Mr. Shargai was named Washingtonian of the Year in 1994 by Washingtonian Magazine and received the Helen Hayes Tribute Award in 2014;

WHEREAS, Mr. Shargai died on December 24, 2019 at the age of 83 at his home in the District of Columbia and is survived by his husband Craig Pascal; and

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WHEREAS, Mr. Shargai's unforgettable legacy will live on through his artistic and creative contributions to the cultural vibrancy of the District of Columbia.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Victor Shargai Recognition Resolution of 2020".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes the contributions of Victor Shargai to the District of Columbia's arts, theater, and creative economy, and declares Friday, February 14, 2020, as "Victor Shargai 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.