

2010 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 459

Offered March 8, 2010

Commending Judy Walker.

Patron—Toscano

WHEREAS, Judy Walker, the director of the Ash Lawn Opera Festival, will retire on April 1, 2010, after 23 years of outstanding service; and

WHEREAS, Judy Walker directs the artistic and administrative components of the Ash Lawn Opera Festival and has led the Festival from its three evenings of one-act operas to six to eight weeks of full-length opera and musical theatre productions; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Judy Walker, the Festival now includes the Opera Guild, Music at Twilight, the Apprentice Program, Artist-in-Residence, Kids Fest, and Opera Connects for Teachers; and

WHEREAS, committed to helping rising opera singers, Judy Walker has always emphasized the Ash Lawn Opera Festival as a venue for young professional singers, many of whom have gone on to perform at the Met, the Chicago Lyric Opera, and the Miami Opera Company; and

WHEREAS, Judy Walker has also worked to provide local schools with educational music programs, as well as productions for the entertainment of children such as Noye's Fludde, which allowed local schoolchildren to participate in the production; and

WHEREAS, Judy Walker generously gives of her time and talents in the community as a member of the Charlottesville Regional Tourism Council; board member of the Piedmont Council for the Arts, who honored her with an Individual Award for her contributions to the arts; and member of the Odyssey and the Contemporary Club; and

WHEREAS, Judy Walker has worked for over two decades to expand the Ash Lawn Opera Festival, allowing top producers to showcase their talents and enriching the lives of community supporters; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend Judy Walker for her remarkable work with the Ash Lawn Opera Festival; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Judy Walker as an expression of the General Assembly's respect for her contributions to her community and the arts.

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