

2013 SPECIAL SESSION I

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5006

Offered April 3, 2013

Prefiled March 26, 2013

Commending the Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley.

Patron—Rush

WHEREAS, the Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley, located in the Town of Pulaski, will proudly celebrate 35 years of promoting the arts in 2013; and

WHEREAS, the Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley began in 1978 and was initially located in the historic Fairview Home; and

WHEREAS, today, the Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley has a gallery, gift shop, and offices on West Main Street and a second location for dance, gymnastics, and other classes on Fourth Street with plans to renovate the Rutherford Pontiac Building; and

WHEREAS, during its 35-year history, the Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley has had approximately 780,000 patrons visit the gallery and attend classes, performances, and special events; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, the Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley has hosted a combination of 5,200 classes or programs in the visual or performing arts that have involved 25,000 artists; and

WHEREAS, the Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley enjoys the generous support of local individuals, families, corporations, the Town of Pulaski, Pulaski County, the C. E. Richardson Benevolent Foundation, the Virginia Commission for the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Arts; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated staff comprised of an executive director, administrative assistant, full-time volunteer, and two Goodwill Industries' employees, under the guidance of a 19-member board, works diligently to fulfill the Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley's mission; and

WHEREAS, the Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley partners with a host of public and private organizations to promote the arts in the local community; and

WHEREAS, the Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley cosponsors with the Town of Pulaski a free outdoor summer concert series, works with the Pulaski Theatre to cosponsor popular events, and collaborates with Claytor Lake State Park and the County of Pulaski to sponsor the Claytor Lake Festival, which drew 14,000 visitors in 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley is the regional sponsor of the national Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, a program of the Alliance for Young Artists and Writers, which recognizes the nation's emerging young artists and writers; and

WHEREAS, during Youth Art Month in March, the Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley features work by students and holds a special awards ceremony that draws hundreds of students, parents, teachers, and center members; and

WHEREAS, the Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley encourages creativity among all ages, attracts visitors to the area, and provides local artists and artisans with a place to do business; and

WHEREAS, the Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley looks forward to continuing to develop and showcase the talents of Southwest Virginia in the future as it reflects with pride on its many accomplishments; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley on the occasion of its 35th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Judy Ison, the executive director of the Fine Arts Center for the New River Valley, as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and admiration for the center's contributions to the cultural life of the New River Valley and the Commonwealth.

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