

2014 SPECIAL SESSION I

ENROLLED

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 5069

Commending Signature Theatre.

Agreed to by the Senate, September 18, 2014
Agreed to by the House of Delegates, September 18, 2014

WHEREAS, founded in Arlington in 1989, Signature Theatre is a Tony Award-winning, nonprofit professional theater that produces contemporary musicals and plays, reinvents classic musicals, develops new work, and reaches its community through engaging educational and outreach opportunities; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, after many successful years of operating in a renovated auto garage, Signature Theatre moved into an innovative new building that serves as a cultural anchor and economic engine for the vibrant Shirlington Village area in Arlington; and

WHEREAS, Signature Theatre attracts more than 86,000 patrons each season and is recognized as one of the nation's best regional theaters with praise from local and national critics; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of cofounder and artistic director Eric Schaeffer and managing director Maggie Boland, Signature Theatre has produced 38 world premieres and is renowned for presenting Broadway-quality shows in intimate playing spaces; and

WHEREAS, Signature Theatre has received 340 Helen Hayes Award nominations and 90 Hayes Awards for artistic excellence in the Washington, D.C., theater community; and

WHEREAS, Signature Theatre is a national leader in bringing world premiere musicals to life, and in 2007, it launched The American Musical Voices Project, the largest musical theater commissioning program in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Signature Theatre gives back to the community through education and outreach programs that engage the area's increasingly diverse population and target those traditionally underserved by the arts; and

WHEREAS, Signature Theatre's Signature in the Schools program also celebrates its 20th anniversary in 2014; a multifaceted program encompassing workshops for English, social studies, and theatre classes, Signature in Schools has directly enriched the lives of more than 15,000 students since its inception; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Signature Theatre for its ongoing contributions to the community on the occasion of its 25th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Signature Theatre as an expression of the General Assembly's appreciation and admiration for Signature Theatre as a cultural treasure and invaluable asset to the Commonwealth.

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