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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 397

Offered March 1, 2016

Commending Rock Ridge Performing Arts.

Patrons—Bell, John J., Boysko, Campbell, Cole, Davis, Fariss, Hope, Kory, Krizek, Minchew, Plum, Rasoul, Simon, Spruill, Ware and Watts; Senators: Favola, Wagner and Wexton

WHEREAS, Rock Ridge Performing Arts, the theater program of Rock Ridge High School, was named the 2015 - 2016 state champion at the Virginia Theatre Association's High School Theatre Festival, which was held in Norfolk in October 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Rock Ridge High School troupe won the title for its performance of the enthralling one-act play, *Ernest and the Pale Moon*; it was the first time the Loudoun County school had entered the festival, which featured 54 schools from across the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the members of Rock Ridge Performing Arts also won top awards in two other categories at the High School Theatre Festival; the talented and hardworking cast and crew received the top prize for Best Costumes and Best Technical Merit; and

WHEREAS, as state champions, Rock Ridge Performing Arts will represent the Commonwealth at the Southeastern Theatre Conference in March in Greensboro, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Rock Ridge Performing Arts has won two additional awards for its exceptional work; in late 2015, the troupe won the Virginia High School League Conference 21B theater competition; and

WHEREAS, the talented group from Rock Ridge High School in Ashburn also earned Chapter Select recognition at the Virginia State Thespian Conference, held in February 2016 at Radford University, and will represent the Commonwealth at the International Thespian Festival in Lincoln, Nebraska, in June 2016; and

WHEREAS, Tony Cimino-Johnson, who teaches drama at Rock Ridge High School, directed *Ernest and the Pale Moon*; he attributed the students' success to their hard work, dedication, and theater aesthetic, and he is proud that the school's drama program is helping create the next generation of actors, theater professionals, and supporters of live performance; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Rock Ridge Performing Arts, the theater program of Rock Ridge High School, for being honored as the 2015 - 2016 state champion at the Virginia Theatre Association's High School Theatre Festival; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Tony Cimino-Johnson, drama teacher at Rock Ridge High School and director of *Ernest and the Pale Moon*, as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and admiration for the outstanding work and stellar achievements of the young men and women of Rock Ridge Performing Arts.

INTRODUCED

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