

2018 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 518

Offered March 5, 2018

Commending Encore Stage & Studio.

Patrons—Lopez, Hope, Levine and Sullivan; Senators: Ebbin, Favola and Howell

WHEREAS, for more than 50 years, Encore Stage & Studio in Arlington has promoted a lifelong love of the performing arts by providing outstanding theatre productions by kids, for kids; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1967 as The Children's Theatre of Arlington, Encore Stage & Studio was supported entirely by generous volunteers until 2010, when it hired its first professional staff members; and

WHEREAS, Encore Stage & Studio has produced more than 213 high-quality, age-appropriate shows in its history, giving young people the opportunity to engage with the performing arts at all levels, including as performers, crew members, and members of the audience; and

WHEREAS, Encore Stage & Studio has helped young people in the community develop their teamwork and leadership skills, creativity, literacy, problem-solving abilities, and self-confidence; more than 8,500 students have served as cast and crew members, and more than 375,000 people have attended their performances; and

WHEREAS, Encore Stage & Studio offers an ever-expanding curriculum of educational classes, workshops, and summer programs, which has benefited more than 20,000 students; and

WHEREAS, Encore Stage & Studio has earned many awards and accolades for its productions and outreach over the years; most recently, in 2017, it received the Best Children's Theatre award from *Northern Virginia Magazine*, Best Enrichment Programs award from *Arlington Magazine*, Twink Lynch Award for Organizational Achievement from the American Association of Community Theatre, and National Volunteer of the Year award from Allstate; and

WHEREAS, Encore Stage & Studio kicked off its 50th anniversary season with a trip to Broadway in New York City and will host special events throughout the season, including a Birthday Bash on April 28, 2018, and a Community Celebration in June 2018; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Encore Stage & Studio on the occasion of its 50th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Encore Stage & Studio as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for its important contributions to cultural life in Arlington.

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