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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 261

Offered February 8, 2019

Commending Educational Theatre Company.

Patron—Lopez

WHEREAS, Educational Theatre Company, an Arlington-based nonprofit arts organization with a mission to unlock the potential of children and adults through immersion in theatre arts, celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2018; and

WHEREAS, Educational Theatre Company (ETC) is committed to bringing the arts to underserved communities and works to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to pursue dreams of artistic expression; and

WHEREAS, ETC serves almost 7,000 students of all ages in Northern Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia through student-centered programs that give aspiring performers, writers, and directors opportunities to create their own characters, write their own dialogue, and tell their own stories; and

WHEREAS, ETC trains elementary school students in writing, performing, and designing their own plays through the Main Stage Residency program, supplementing their Standards of Learning curriculum; and

WHEREAS, through its Shakespeare in the Schools program, ETC offers performances and workshops where students make direct connections to the universal themes of the works of William Shakespeare; and

WHEREAS, ETC strives to help students achieve success in the classroom through its STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) afterschool programs, which employ a variety of theatre techniques to help students better process science and math concepts; and

WHEREAS, ETC hosts 26 summer camps covering a broad spectrum of theatrical interests and disciplines; participants stage and film their own creative works, practicing skills such as acting, script writing, directing, choreography, comedy, improvisation, and filmmaking; and

WHEREAS, placing a high value on community engagement and philanthropy, ETC runs specialized programming such as Devising Hope, which pairs high school students with men and women who are experiencing homelessness to share their stories and create performance pieces; and

WHEREAS, ETC commemorated its 20th anniversary with a birthday party on November 17, 2018; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That Educational Theatre Company hereby be commended on the occasion of its 20th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Educational Theatre Company as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the organization's mission to strengthen the community by giving adults and children opportunities for self-expression through the arts.