

2019 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 348

Commending the Richmond Shakespeare Festival.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 20, 2019

WHEREAS, for 20 years, the Richmond Shakespeare Festival, an annual summer festival held at the historic Agecroft Hall, has delighted Richmond audiences with the works of William Shakespeare, one of the most influential and widely known poets and playwrights of all time; and

WHEREAS, the first Richmond Shakespeare Festival was hosted by the Encore! Theatre in 1998 with performances held in the bandshell at The Boulders; the festival moved to its permanent home in Agecroft Hall the following year; and

WHEREAS, responding to a greater desire for the works of William Shakespeare and other classics in the community, Encore! changed its name to Richmond Shakespeare in 2006; and

WHEREAS, Richmond Shakespeare subsequently merged with the Henley Street Theatre in 2013, forming the Quill Theatre to better serve the Richmond community by producing intelligent, passionate works of theatre that celebrate the power of language; and

WHEREAS, the Richmond Shakespeare Festival now produces three shows each summer, hiring 30 to 40 actors from the Richmond area to perform the works of William Shakespeare, which are world-renowned for their exceptional characterization, plot, artistry of language, and sheer spectacle; and

WHEREAS, the Richmond Shakespeare Festival offers a Festival Young Company program, which gives students the opportunity to study the text, history, rhetoric, music, and acting techniques of William Shakespeare's works; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Richmond Shakespeare Festival hereby be commended; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Quill Theatre as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the Richmond Shakespeare Festival's contributions to cultural life in the Commonwealth.

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