

2021 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 265

Commending the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 8, 2021

WHEREAS, since opening in 1936, the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts has been a state-supported educational institution that fulfills its mandate to enrich the lives of all Virginians by collecting, preserving, interpreting, and encouraging the study of art; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts (VMFA) traces its roots to 1919 when the Honorable John Barton Payne, a prominent judge, donated a collection of 50 paintings to establish a museum; the VMFA's collection has grown to more than 50,000 works of art from around the globe, representing more than 6,000 years of creativity; and

WHEREAS, the VMFA hosts a wide range of blockbuster exhibitions from prestigious international institutions and organizes original exhibitions that feature art from its own collection and scholarship by museum curators that travel around the world; and

WHEREAS, the VMFA's educational programs include lectures, workshops, classes, programs, symposia, conferences, and events, many of which are provided at no cost to Virginians of all ages; and

WHEREAS, the VMFA further enriches the learning process by offering valuable resources to schools and educators throughout the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the VMFA provides more than 1,400 other institutions with exhibitions, educational resources, and technical support through its Statewide Partnership Program and through VMFA on the Road: An Artmobile for the 21st Century, which travels to every corner of the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the VMFA has dedicated itself to inclusivity by expanding its collection and programming to include a diverse range of art and artists from many cultures; and

WHEREAS, after a transformative expansion in 2010, the VMFA has become a dynamic urban center for the Richmond community and is one of the only museums in the country that is accessible to the public 365 days a year; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts hereby be commended on the occasion of its 85th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the institution's role as the premier art museum of the Commonwealth.

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