

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 51

Commending the Garth Newel Music Center.

Agreed to by the Senate, January 9, 2014
 Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 17, 2014

WHEREAS, the Garth Newel Music Center, a Virginia home for the study and performance of classical chamber music, proudly celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2013; and

WHEREAS, the Garth Newel Music Center received its rich cultural heritage from Christine and Sergeant Kendall, both celebrated artists and accomplished musicians, whose Bath County estate, Garth Newel, Welsh for "new hearth," has been a home to the fine and performing arts since 1924; and

WHEREAS, Christine Kendall developed a close friendship with Luca and Arlene Di Cecco, founding members of the Rowe String Quartet, with whom she established the Garth Newel Music Center in 1973; and

WHEREAS, Christine Kendall, upon her death in 1981 at the age of 91, bequeathed the estate and an endowment to the Garth Newel Music Center Foundation to support an expanded concert season; and

WHEREAS, Luca and Arlene Di Cecco, after 25 years of dedicated leadership and uncompromising artistry, retired; vibrant programming and performances by the Garth Newel Music Center's next generation of resident artists further extend its reputation for musical excellence; and

WHEREAS, Garth Newel Music Center is the proud recipient of a 2012 Chamber Music America's Acclaim Award, given in recognition of its contributions to the cultural life of the Allegheny Highlands and its outreach to music students of all ages through the Allegheny Mountain String Project, the Adult Amateur Chamber Music Retreat, and the Young Artists Fellowship Study Program; and

WHEREAS, the Garth Newel Piano Quartet performs more than 60 concerts annually in Herter Hall at the Garth Newel Music Center and is heard in concert across the Commonwealth, throughout the United States, and around the world; and

WHEREAS, Christine Kendall's vision, the leadership provided by Luca and Arlene Di Cecco, and the virtuosity of the Garth Newel Piano Quartet have established Garth Newel Music Center as a home for the performing arts in a setting of natural beauty; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the Garth Newel Music Center on the occasion of its 40th anniversary as it carries the Garth Newel story into the Music Center's fifth decade and beyond; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Garth Newel Music Center as an expression of the General Assembly's congratulations and admiration for the Music Center's contributions to the cultural landscape of the Commonwealth.

ENROLLED

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