**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR SALUDA RIVER ACADEMY FOR THE ARTS, AND TO CONGRATULATE THEM UPON THE OCCASION OF BEING NAMED A RECIPIENT OF THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS NATIONAL SCHOOLS OF DISTINCTION IN ARTS EDUCATION AWARD FOR THE 2008‑2009 SCHOOL YEAR.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina Senate were pleased to learn that Saluda River Academy for the Arts received the prestigious and coveted John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts National Schools of Distinction in Arts Education Award for the 2008‑2009 school year; and

Whereas, the winners of the award, which recognizes schools that have made the arts an essential part of their students’ education, were selected from the schools nominated by their State Alliance for Arts Education; and

Whereas, an initiative of the Kennedy Center Alliance for Arts Education Network (KCAAEN), the program consists of a coalition of thirty‑three statewide, not‑for‑profit organizations that work with the Kennedy Center; and

Whereas, at the national level, selection criteria included a review of the ways in which arts education is an essential component of the school curriculum; how the program creates and uses imaginative learning environments for teaching and learning in, through, and about the arts; how the arts program provides opportunities for parental involvement in education; how the program provides opportunities for learning about other cultures through the arts; and how the program links arts education to community cultural events; and

Whereas, Saluda River Academy for the Arts, a Title I public elementary school serving locally zoned students from a diverse income and ethnic background, believes the arts provide an excellent avenue for life‑long learning for all students, so the program is not talent based; and

Whereas, the four major components of the imbedded arts‑education program include direct arts instruction, arts integration, the artist‑in‑residence program, and a strong after‑school arts program; and

Whereas, along with integrated arts lessons each week, all students receive standards‑based arts instruction weekly in dance, drama, music, and visual arts, all taught by certified arts teacher specialists; and

Whereas, this deserving school will receive a monetary award from KCAAEN as part of the tribute to support its exceptional arts program in the community; and

Whereas, the members of the Senate of the State of South Carolina take great pride in the accomplishments of Saluda River Academy for the Arts and commend the students, faculty, staff, and parents for the honor and recognition they have brought to their school, their community, and our great State. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, recognize and honor Saluda River Academy for the Arts, and congratulate them upon the occasion of being named a recipient of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts National Schools of Distinction in Arts Education Award for the 2008‑2009 school year.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Principal Tonya Fryer of Saluda River Academy for the Arts.

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