

HOUSE RESOLUTION 62

By Cooper B

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Patrick W. Halloran III upon his receipt of the Governor's Arts Leadership Award.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is pleased to commend those estimable individuals who, through their extraordinary talents and steadfast efforts, have distinguished themselves in the arts, bringing great honor to the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, one such outstanding citizen is Patrick W. Halloran III, the President and Chief Executive Office of the Orpheum Theater, who recently received the prestigious Governor's Arts Leadership Award, given in recognition of his unwavering commitment to the propagation of the performing arts and his pivotal role in transforming the once dilapidated structure into the thriving, cultural edifice it is today; and

WHEREAS, once a celebrated Vaudeville venue, the Orpheum Theater was a victim of the Great Depression, gradually falling into disrepair before it was eventually converted into a simple movie theater; and

WHEREAS, after more than three decades of silence and neglect, the Orpheum was purchased by the Memphis Development Foundation, which entrusted Patrick Halloran III with the formidable task of restoring the Orpheum to its full grandeur; and

WHEREAS, with his business acumen and visionary leadership, Mr. Halloran initiated a \$9 million building expansion endeavor which doubled the size of the stage, equipped the theater with state of the art lighting and sound equipment, and gave Memphians a world-class performing arts facility that truly embodies the heart and soul of West Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, throughout his tenure, Patrick Halloran has expertly guided this regional gem to unparalleled success. Today, more than 280,000 patrons grace her exquisite halls each year, seeking to be entertained and enlightened through a broad range of programs, including

exciting blockbuster musicals straight off the stages of Broadway, concerts, urban theatre, and community events such as Memphis in May and the International Blues Challenge; and

WHEREAS, under Mr. Halloran's astute direction, the Orpheum is hosting seventeen innovative educational programs and making high-quality arts programming available to thousands of Tennesseans with reduced-price and complementary tickets; and

WHEREAS, standing as the only self-sustaining, city-owned building in Memphis, the Orpheum is an integral partner in the revitalization of both downtown Memphis and the Tennessee economy as a whole. It operates without any government assistance while bringing in over \$510,000 in sales tax revenue each year and providing steady, rewarding occupations for 40 full-time employees and 225 part-time employees; and

WHEREAS, a valuable member of the theater production industry, Mr. Halloran has drawn national attention to our Tennessee treasure through his roles as the founding and current president and board member of the Independent Producers Network, member of the Board of Governors of the Broadway League, former chairman of the Memphis Convention and Visitors Bureau Board of Directors, and former board member of the Memphis in May International Festival and the Memphis and Shelby County Music Foundation; and

WHEREAS, a man of tremendous ability and unquestionable integrity, Patrick Halloran is a steadfast supporter of many worthwhile non-profit organizations, including the Church Health Center, Make-a-Wish Foundation, Voices of the South, Ballet of Memphis, Opera Memphis, and the Children's Museum of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, this accomplished professional is also an accomplished artist; he is the author of *The Orpheum: Where Broadway Meets Beale* and expresses his own artistic visions on canvas, often donating his paintings to charitable institutions; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Mr. Halloran has won three highly-coveted Tony Awards as well as the Broadway League's Outstanding Broadway Executive Award; and

WHEREAS, his many professional accomplishments aside, Patrick Halloran is perhaps most grateful for the love and support he shares with his beloved wife, Anne, and their four children: Patrick, Kat, Steve, and David; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hall has left an indelible impression on the artistic legacy of our great state while enhancing the cultural lives of his fellow citizens, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and congratulate Patrick W. Halloran III upon his receipt of the Governor's Arts Leadership Award, commend his extraordinary contributions to the arts, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.