**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO CELEBRATE COLUMBIA’S MARK RAPP, MASTER JAZZ MUSICIAN, COMPOSER/ARRANGER, AND TEACHER, FOR HIS MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND TO SALUTE HIM AS A TIRELESS AMBASSADOR OF JAZZ FOR THE CITY OF COLUMBIA AND THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, over the past three years, trumpeter, composer/arranger, didgeridoo player, and teacher Mark Rapp of Columbia has built the jazz scene in the Midlands from catch‑as‑catch‑can into a thriving community of accomplished jazz artists and avid listeners. Thanks to Mark, Columbia is indeed Jazz City. Thanks to his *colajazz.com* and the event calendar he maintains, information on all jazz events is easy to find. To encourage interested youthful musicians, this past summer Mark launched a jazz camp in partnership with the University of South Carolina (USC) jazz program. This winter, he’ll co‑produce the inaugural ColaJazz Festival; and

Whereas, Mark’s resume is impressive. He is a featured performer at major jazz festivals around the world, having performed at the Savannah Jazz Festival, South Carolina Jazz Festival, Gravata Jazz Festival (Brazil), New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival, and JazzTime Festival (Croatia). Also a featured performer at major jazz clubs, he played four sold‑out shows at Jazz at Lincoln Center’s Dizzy’s Club Coca‑Cola with Warmdaddy Anderson (where they presented their 2017 CD, recorded in Columbia at High Fidelity Records and released on local Columbia label Jangly Records). He has played at such major venues as the Blue Note and Jazz Standard (New York City), Blues Alley (D.C.), Sculler’s (Boston), Snug Harbor (New Orleans), and Jazzland (Vienna); and

Whereas, in addition to the various concerts and jazz workshops he gives around the world, Mark has held such concerts and workshops at schools throughout South Carolina. With fellow artists, he maintains two ongoing weekly performances at Pearlz Upstairz, playing original, modern, and New Orleans‑style jazz; and

Whereas, other artists he has performed with include Branford Marsalis, Hootie and the Blowfish, Darius Rucker, Edwin McCain, Wycliffe Gordon, Don Braden, Gerald Clayton, Sachal Vasandani, Walter Blanding, Jr., James Genus, Nate Smith, and more; and

Whereas, among his extensive recordings are *ColaJazz*, Vol. 1, and *ColaJazz*, Vol. 2, which he produced to highlight the high level of musical talent Columbia has, and Disney’s international release “Everybody Wants to Be a Cat”; and

Whereas, among many other jazz‑promoting endeavors, Mark performed at the BlueCross BlueShield fundraiser for flood victims and at a Farm Bureau fundraiser. He presented his jazz ballet *Woven: Life in Notes and Steps* with choreographer Stephanie Wilkins at the North Carolina Presenters Conference and presented ballet excerpts at a Columbia Museum of Art gala. Mark hosted a free brass masterclass, bringing in USC trumpet professor James Ackley, trombone great Dr. Mitch Butler, and up‑and‑coming trombonist Andrew Douglas. Further, Mark recorded the jazz etudes for the South Carolina Band Directors Association, which students use as a reference to prepare for their All‑State auditions; and

Whereas, unquestionably a selfless and persistent promoter of all things jazz in South Carolina and of South Carolina jazz in general, Mark Rapp demonstrates an inspiring dedication to his music and a passion for sharing his knowledge and skills. The House of Representatives, proud of Mark’s achievements and goals, takes great pleasure in honoring him and wishing him much continued success in the days ahead. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, celebrate Columbia’s Mark Rapp, master jazz musician, composer/arranger, and teacher, for his many accomplishments and salute him as a tireless ambassador of jazz for the City of Columbia and the State of South Carolina.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mark Rapp.

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