

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 58

BY REPRESENTATIVE CARPENTER AND SENATOR BARROW

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend the Baker High School Symphonic Band for its many achievements and awards and for its participation, on March 4, 2018, in the Conductor-Composer Clinic at Carnegie Hall in New York.

WHEREAS, the Baker High School Symphonic Band students, under the leadership of Director William Earvin, have practiced their individual musical instruments to perfection, and their melodious sounds have resulted in performances in 2018 that surpassed those of 2017 when they achieved the coveted Superior performance rating from the Louisiana Music Educators Association at the District IV Festival and at the State/Region Festival; that was the first Superior rating for the Baker High School Symphonic Band since the city of Baker became an independent school district; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, the band earned two Grand Championship awards in marching band competitions, six first place awards and a second place award for marching band performances, a Superior rating at the Southern University Concert Band Festival, the Louisiana Music Educators Association District IV Festival Sweepstakes Award, and a Highly Effective rating at the Music for All Affiliate–Louisiana Concert Band Invitational in Lafayette, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, fifty Baker High School student musicians and an entourage of chaperones and supporters which included school administrators, board members, teachers, and family members, traveled to New York City in March for the WorldStrides OnStage National Band and Orchestra Festival; the group spent four days in a Manhattan luxury hotel, attended the Broadway Musical "Carousel", and visited the 9/11 Museum as an adjunct to the primary purpose of their visit; and

WHEREAS, the Baker High School Symphonic Band was privileged to premier "Heroes", composed by Ayatey Shabazz; Mr. Shabazz worked with the band for three days prior to their departure to New York and participated with them in a conductor-composer

clinic, along with famed composer Robert Sheldon who is well known as one of the most performed composers of wind band music; and

WHEREAS, for their amazing achievements in 2018 and their performance in New York at the WorldStrides OnStage festival, each band member received the Superintendent's Award at the April Baker School Board meeting; the band program and director were recognized at the LSU Stately Oaks Band Festival, and they also were honored at the Southern University President-Chancellor's Spring Concert; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Director Earvin and Principal Traci Morgan, and with the support of the city of Baker school board and district and local administrators, the hard work and discipline of the cadre of talented young musicians at Baker High School have resulted in achievements that merit hearty recognition and praise; and

WHEREAS, with an unwavering commitment to excellence, these student musicians and Director Earvin reflect immense credit upon Baker High School, their families, and the entire community, and they are truly deserving of special commendation.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Baker High School Symphonic Band for a superior 2018 performance season; does hereby congratulate them on their debut of the composition by Ayatey Shabazz in the WorldStrides OnStage National Band and Orchestra Festival in New York City; and does hereby express sincere and best wishes for continued individual and group successes for band members and Director William Earvin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to William Earvin, Baker High School Symphonic Band director.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE