

CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

IN CITY COUNCIL

November 10, 2018

RESOLUTION HONORING THE NEW BEDFORD FESTIVAL THEATRE ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, The New Bedford Festival Theatre was founded in 1990, when after seven years of successful summer performances, the management of the Zeiterion Theatre announced that they would no longer include summer productions as part of the Theatre's yearly schedule; and

WHEREAS, The New Bedford Festival Theatre has become a true treasure for live theatre in the Greater New Bedford area showcasing a wide range of productions and enhanced the cultural life of the Greater New Bedford Community, developed and encouraged dramatic arts while entertaining audiences and prides itself on providing excellence in theatre; and

WHEREAS, The New Bedford Festival Theatre has staged wonderful theatre productions for the last thirty summer seasons, entertaining an estimated 300,000 theatregoers who have enjoyed productions of the most popular and well-known Broadway shows, earning the prestigious New England Theatre Conference Moss Hart Award for the Best Theatrical Production in New England in 2008, for "Les Miserables" and in 2012, for "Hairspray", and

WHEREAS, Over the past thirty seasons, under the direction of Artistic Director George Charbonneau and Executive Producer Armand Marchand, the New Bedford Festival Theatre has staged a variety of the most beloved, popular and spectacular Broadway productions, appealing to diverse audiences, to include productions such as "Singin' in the Rain", "Hair", "Crazy for You", "Oklahoma", "Cats", "A Chorus Line", "Gypsy", "The Sound of Music", "Mary Poppins", "Grease", "My Fair Lady" and "West Side Story"; and

WHEREAS, The New Bedford Festival Theatre has embraced hundreds of local performers, technical support personnel, local businesses and volunteers, providing them with an opportunity to experience all aspects of producing a successful major theatrical production; and

WHEREAS, For the past twenty two years, the New Bedford Festival Theatre has offered a successful apprentice program, the Summer Theatre Academy, providing opportunities for high school students to be mentored by professional production staff and resulting in so many of the students continuing their education in the field of theatre at the University level; and

WHEREAS, On Saturday, November 10, 2018, the New Bedford Festival Theatre will host a celebration gala, 'Having The Time Of Your Life', to reflect upon the numerous successful accomplishments of the organization and to kick off the New Bedford Festival Theatres' thirtieth season with the announcement of the 2019 summer production of "Mamma Mia" which is certain to be another successful performance:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the New Bedford City Council hereby proudly honors the **NEW BEDFORD FESTIVAL THEATRE ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY**, commends the leadership of this wonderful organization for their creative vision and thanks them for their commitment and dedication to local theatre and the performing arts.