

1 A RESOLUTION honoring the Louisville Academy of Music for winning the
2 Governor's Award in the Arts for Education.

3 WHEREAS, the Louisville Academy of Music was founded in 1954 by Robert
4 French, offering vocal and instrumental lessons in an apartment on Bardstown Road; and

5 WHEREAS, in 1957, the Academy moved to South Fifth Street, and then into the
6 home of philanthropist James Breckinridge Speed on West Ornsby Avenue, where
7 enrollment peaked at 450 students; and

8 WHEREAS, Robert French founded the Louisville Youth Orchestra, which
9 accomplished significant growth and became a vital member of the Louisville art
10 community; and

11 WHEREAS, Robert French's wife, Ruth, has remained connected to the Louisville
12 Academy of Music with unwavering commitment through education and endowment;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Ruth French's dedication to music education and her profound
15 influence on her students have left an indelible mark on the community; and

16 WHEREAS, over the past 64 years the Louisville Academy of Music has educated
17 approximately 11,000 students while performing with prestigious musical ensembles,
18 including the New York Philharmonic; and

19 WHEREAS, the Louisville Academy of Music annually teaches more than 600
20 students and reaches over 5,000 individuals through community programs; and

21 WHEREAS, students learn the importance of persistence toward long-term goals,
22 improved focus, and resilience, and the academic programs are accessible to all through
23 financial aid, off-site residences, and community partnerships; and

24 WHEREAS, in November 2024, the Louisville Academy of Music won the
25 Governor's Award in the Arts for Education;

26 NOW, THEREFORE,

27 ***Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of***

1 ***Kentucky:***

2 ➔Section 1. The Senate does hereby congratulate the Louisville Academy of
3 Music for winning the Governor's Award in the Arts for Education.

4 ➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor and
5 recognition of the Louisville Academy of Music's achievements and welcomes the
6 students of the Louisville Academy of Music who performed at the Kentucky Arts Day
7 reception in the capitol today.

8 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
9 Resolution to Senator Karen Berg for presentation to the Louisville Academy of Music.