SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 327

WHEREAS, For nearly a quarter of a century, the Young Texas Artists Music Competition in Conroe has contributed to the development of gifted young musicians, while also offering area citizens a remarkable opportunity to enjoy a host of memorable performances; and

WHEREAS, Created in 1983 by the Montgomery County Performing Arts Society, the competition is designed for vocal and instrumental musicians from 18 to 30 years of age who are either residents of Texas or who attend Texas music schools; this event draws a stunning array of talent for competition in one of four divisions—piano, voice, string, and orchestral instruments; contestants are evaluated by a panel of distinguished judges, men and women who have won national and international acclaim in their respective disciplines; and

WHEREAS, The first three days of competition are free and open to the public, while the final round, which takes place in the historic Crighton Theatre in Conroe, forms part of the Montgomery County Performing Arts Society regular season; and

WHEREAS, In addition to vying for the title of Young Texas Artist, contestants compete for cash prizes, which in 2007 totaled more than \$16,000; they also compete for opportunities to perform with the Conroe Symphony Orchestra, the Montgomery County Choral Society, and The Living Opera of Dallas, as well as an opportunity to perform in a recital in Zilkha Hall at the Hobby Center for the Performing Arts in Houston; and

WHEREAS, Participants in the competition have gone on to achieve notable success; they have secured places in symphonies and opera companies and have taken teaching positions around the world; they have performed on stages from the El Paso Opera and Laredo Philharmonic to the Houston Grand Opera and Broadway and at opera houses in Chicago and New York; former participants have also earned the Sir Georg Solti Foundation scholarship and numerous other grants, have won the Jacques Samuel Intercollegiate Piano Competition, and have been nominated for three Grammy awards; and

WHEREAS, The Young Texas Artists Music Competition enjoys a long tradition of encouraging excellence in young musicians and fostering high artistic standards among area citizens, and it is fitting that it be accorded legislative recognition for its significant contributions to the cultural vitality of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 80th Legislature, hereby designate the Young Texas Artists Music

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Competition in Conroe as an official Texas State music competition; and, be it further $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) +\left(1\right) +\left($

 $\ensuremath{\mathtt{RESOLVED}}$, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared in honor of this competition.

Nichols

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 26, 2007.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate