

By: Naishtat

H.R. No. 914

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The orchestra and choir from the McCallum High
2 School Fine Arts Academy in Austin have been selected to perform at
3 Carnegie Hall in New York City on June 13, 2009; and

4 WHEREAS, Approximately 400 highly motivated students from
5 across the Capitol City attend the Fine Arts Academy at McCallum
6 High School; these individuals work with faculty and staff at an
7 accelerated level and in a creative and stimulating environment,
8 majoring in music, visual arts, dance, and theatre arts; and

9 WHEREAS, Directed by Malcolm Nelson, the McCallum High School
10 choirs are composed mainly of Fine Arts Academy members, but are
11 open to all McCallum High students; the school's five choirs
12 perform at concerts and productions throughout the school year and
13 regularly participate in UIL competitions; and

14 WHEREAS, The McCallum orchestra has grown to nearly 100
15 students who are involved in three performing orchestras, a double
16 bass ensemble, and additional chamber groups and ensembles that are
17 supported by the Austin Chamber Music Center; Ricky Pringle, the
18 director of orchestras at the Fine Arts Academy, has worked with
19 this program for seven years and is known for creating strong
20 collaborations with other academy students and directors from the
21 dance, theatre, and vocal music strands; the orchestra has
22 presented concerts at the Long Center, at the Paramount Theatre, at
23 Texas State University, and for the Downtown Alliance Christmas
24 Tree Lighting; and

1 WHEREAS, Having previously appeared at Carnegie Hall, the
2 McCallum orchestra was invited once again, along with the McCallum
3 choir, to perform in its Masterworks Series, in which qualified
4 ensembles collaborate on a major work with choirs, professional
5 orchestras, and soloists, under the direction of a nationally
6 recognized conductor; the McCallum students are performing
7 Schubert's Mass No. 2 in G major, a piece composed in 1815, and they
8 will be led by Dr. Andre J. Thomas, a professor of music and
9 director of choral activities at Florida State University; and

10 WHEREAS, Through commitment, hard work, and perseverance,
11 these fine young Texans have earned national recognition for their
12 musical performances, and they may indeed reflect with great pride
13 on their outstanding achievements as they embark on this exciting
14 endeavor; now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
16 Legislature hereby honor the members of the McCallum High School
17 Fine Arts Academy orchestra and choir and extend to them sincere
18 best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

19 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
20 prepared for the McCallum orchestra and choir as an expression of
21 high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.