

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Ballet Lubbock is celebrating its 40th anniversary
2 throughout the 2009-2010 season, which commences on May 5, 2009;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, The only pre-professional performing company on the
5 South Plains, Ballet Lubbock was founded in 1969 by Suzanne Aker,
6 who served as its first artistic director and choreographer; Ms.
7 Aker earned teacher certification from the Royal Academy of Dance
8 in London and taught professionally for more than a half-century
9 before her retirement in 2000; Yvonne Racz, one of her former
10 students, has served as artistic director since 1997; and

11 WHEREAS, A graduate of the University of Utah, Ms. Racz has
12 performed with a number of professional dance companies, as well as
13 in Cirque du Soleil's *Mystere*, and has extensive experience as a
14 teacher and choreographer; she currently serves as an adjunct
15 professor of dance at Texas Tech University; the recipient of a
16 Dynamic Force/ACE Award from the Lubbock Arts Alliance, she was
17 recognized in 2008 by *The Lubbock Avalanche-Journal* as one of the
18 100 most influential people in the city; under her able leadership,
19 the Ballet Lubbock School has grown tenfold; and

20 WHEREAS, Ballet Lubbock teaches nearly 200 students
21 annually, and over the years, more than 50 alumni have gone on to
22 professional performing, choreography, and teaching careers in the
23 United States and abroad; in addition to nurturing love and respect
24 for the art of classical dance, the school's classes emphasize

1 strong discipline and correct technique, and students are
2 consistently accepted into top-ranked summer ballet programs and
3 intensives across the country; and

4 WHEREAS, Each year, Ballet Lubbock presents holiday
5 performances of *The Nutcracker* and a spring ballet such as *The*
6 *Firebird*, the 2009 selection; the organization fosters
7 appreciation of classical dance through both performance and
8 educational outreaches, offering classes at three community
9 centers and providing scholarships to talented dancers in need; it
10 has donated numerous tickets for performances to senior centers,
11 the Buckner Children's Home, and other social service agencies, and
12 since 2006, Ballet Lubbock has partnered with Lubbock Independent
13 School District to bring more than 2,000 children to free
14 performances of *The Nutcracker*; Ms. Racz also makes personal school
15 appearances to teach students basic ballet and to prepare them for
16 their first experience of Tchaikovsky's timeless musical tale; and

17 WHEREAS, Ballet Lubbock has introduced children to classical
18 dance over the past four decades and has increased access to a great
19 art form through its annual performances and generous outreaches;
20 as the company commences its 2009-2010 season, it is indeed fitting
21 to recognize its contributions to the West Texas arts scene; now,
22 therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
24 Legislature hereby congratulate all those associated with Ballet
25 Lubbock on the 40th anniversary of this noteworthy organization and
26 extend to them best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

27 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be

H.R. No. 1419

1 prepared for the company as an expression of high regard by the
2 Texas House of Representatives.

Jones

Straus	Gattis	Menendez
Allen	Geren	Merritt
Alonzo	Giddings	Miklos
Alvarado	Gonzales	Miller of Comal
Anchia	Gonzalez Toureilles	Miller of Erath
Anderson	Guillen	Moody
Aycock	Gutierrez	Morrison
Berman	Hamilton	Naishtat
Bohac	Hancock	Oliveira
Bolton	Hardcastle	Olivo
Bonnen	Harless	Orr
Branch	Harper-Brown	Ortiz, Jr.
Brown of Kaufman	Hartnett	Otto
Brown of Brazos	Heflin	Parker
Burnam	Hernandez	Patrick
Button	Herrero	Paxton
Callegari	Hilderbran	Peña
Castro	Hochberg	Phillips
Chavez	Hodge	Pickett
Chisum	Homer	Pierson
Christian	Hopson	Pitts
Cohen	Howard of Fort Bend	Quintanilla
Coleman	Howard of Travis	Raymond
Cook	Hughes	Riddle
Corte	Hunter	Rios Ybarra
Crabb	Isett	Ritter
Craddick	Jackson	Rodriguez
Creighton	Jones	Rose
Crownover	Keffer	Sheffield
Darby	Kent	Shelton
Davis of Harris	King of Parker	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Dallas	King of Taylor	Smith of Harris
Deshotel	King of Zavala	Smithee
Driver	Kleinschmidt	Solomons
Dukes	Kolkhorst	Strama
Dunnam	Kuempel	Swinford
Dutton	Laubenberg	Taylor
Edwards	Legler	Thibaut
Eiland	Leibowitz	Thompson
Eissler	Lewis	Truitt
Elkins	Lucio III	Turner of Tarrant
England	Madden	Turner of Harris
Farabee	Maldonado	Vaught
Farias	Mallory Caraway	Veasey
Farrar	Marquez	Villarreal
Fletcher	Martinez	Vo
Flores	Martinez Fischer	Walle
Flynn	McCall	Weber
Frost	McClendon	Woolley
Gallego	McReynolds	Zerwas

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 1419 was adopted by the House on April 20, 2009, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House