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By:  Ellzey H.R. No. 1154

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The cast and crew of the Waxahachie High School drama department have been nominated for nine Dallas Summer Musicals awards; and

WHEREAS, Winners of the 2021 DSM High School Musical Theatre Awards will be announced on June 11 at a virtual ceremony; a total of 41 performances from 39 high schools were evaluated for the annual event, which recognizes the achievements of students and programs from across the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex; DSM supports musical theater and arts education with year-round live performances and community outreach initiatives that enrich the cultural landscape of the North Texas region; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of its outstanding production of the play *Matilda The Musical* this past January, the Waxahachie theater ensemble earned a wide range of DSM nominations, including Best Musical, Best Orchestra, Best Ensemble, Best Scenic Design, Best Music Direction, and Best Direction; the individual WHS nominees are Anthony Gallo for Best Actor, Belle Winn for Best Actress, and Noah Reynolds for Best Supporting Actor; and

WHEREAS, The Waxahachie theater program benefits from the able leadership of Andy Reynolds, the inaugural recipient of the DSM Outstanding Educator Award who is in his 18th year as head drama director of the Waxahachie Independent School District; he has directed more than 70 productions at WHS, overseeing multiple district, area, and regional championship casts and state meet performances; the department also receives valuable support from Ryan Mullican, assistant and technical theatre arts director, and from assistant director Paula Myers, who is the artistic director for many shows; and

WHEREAS, Demonstrating exceptional talent and a commitment to the arts, the members of the Waxahachie drama department have earned the admiration of their fellow students and community supporters, and they may indeed reflect with great pride on their many accomplishments; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby congratulate the Waxahachie High School drama department on its Dallas Summer Musicals award nominations and extend to all those associated with the department sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be prepared for the department as an expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.