

By: Darby

H.R. No. 1459

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Austin Symphony Orchestra's Be at the Symphony  
2 (BATS) organization is celebrating its 25th anniversary during the  
3 2024-2025 season; and

4 WHEREAS, Established in 1999, BATS inspires young  
5 professionals to engage with and support the orchestral community  
6 in Austin; the idea for the organization was conceived by Tom  
7 Sellers, a longtime patron of the Austin Symphony Orchestra, who  
8 sought to cultivate a new generation of patrons dedicated to  
9 exploring and advocating for the arts; and

10 WHEREAS, Many of the founding members of BATS continue to  
11 play an active role in the program, contributing meaningfully to  
12 its ongoing development and success; the initiative has thrived  
13 under the guidance of numerous distinguished leaders throughout its  
14 history, including its current president, Laramie Stroud, current  
15 board of directors, Alicia Adkins, Kurtis Friesen, David Glenn,  
16 Ellen Gouws, Benjamin Hartman, Sylvia Mayer, Asha McElfish,  
17 Elizabeth Michael, Sarah Oncken, George Ramon, Kevin Regan,  
18 Jennifer Soto, Ash Williams, and Lola Wilson, and countless past  
19 board members; and

20 WHEREAS, The BATS program offers its members unique access to  
21 live symphonic performances, including attendance at select  
22 Masterworks Series concerts during the Austin Symphony Orchestra's  
23 performance season; members also participate in a wide range of  
24 enriching experiences, including exclusive social gatherings,

1 opportunities to meet world-renowned guest artists, conversations  
2 with Maestro Peter Bay, volunteer service at symphony events, and  
3 the chance to connect with a community of music enthusiasts; and

4 WHEREAS, Over the past two and a half decades, BATS has played  
5 a vital role in promoting Austin's vibrant arts scene and culture,  
6 and it is a pleasure to join in recognizing the organization for its  
7 many contributions; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 89th Texas  
9 Legislature hereby commemorate the 25th season of the Austin  
10 Symphony Orchestra's Be at the Symphony program and extend to all  
11 those associated with the organization sincere best wishes for the  
12 future; and, be it further

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