

## 1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Pegasus Players has been bringing quality  
3 theatre to the people of Chicago for 25 years; and

4 WHEREAS, Pegasus is committed to providing theatre to  
5 those who have limited access to the arts: the young, the  
6 elderly, the disabled, and the disenfranchised; and

7 WHEREAS, The theatre consistently premieres plays that  
8 ask its audiences to take a hard and sometimes painful look  
9 at some of society's most pressing social issues; and

10 WHEREAS, The theatre's Young Playwrights Festival builds  
11 writing skills and self-esteem among thousands of Chicago's  
12 high school students each year; and

13 WHEREAS, Pegasus made theatrical history, and a  
14 significant contribution to African-American culture, by  
15 reviving the "lost" Duke Ellington review, "Jump for Joy", in  
16 1991; and

17 WHEREAS, Pegasus has consistently been singled out by  
18 composer Steven Sondheim, who chose the theatre for the  
19 American premiere of his first musical, "Saturday Night", in  
20 1999 and who awarded Pegasus the rights to be the first  
21 theatre in Chicago to produce "The Frogs", "Passion",  
22 "Assassins", "Anyone Can Whistle", "Pacific Overtures", and  
23 "Merrily We Roll Along"; and

24 WHEREAS, The U.S. Information Agency asked Pegasus to be  
25 the first American theatre to present musical theatre in West  
26 Africa (the theatre's 1992 production of "Bubbling Brown  
27 Sugar"); and

28 WHEREAS, Pegasus has sought to overcome barriers of  
29 culture and language by reaching out to audiences in the  
30 Middle East, bringing its productions of "Side by Side by

1     Sondheim" and "The Fantasticks" to more than 15,000 people in  
2     Egypt, Jordan, Turkey, and Morocco; and

3             WHEREAS, The theatre's work with inner-city educators has  
4     touched the hearts, minds, and futures of thousands of  
5     Chicago youth; and

6             WHEREAS, Pegasus has received more awards, including 67  
7     Jefferson Citations, than any other non-equity theatre in  
8     Chicago; and

9             WHEREAS, Artistic Director Arlene Crewdson has twice been  
10    named by the Chicago Tribune as one of the top Chicago  
11    artists who has made lasting and memorable contributions to  
12    the arts during the year; therefore, be it

13            RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
14    NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
15    we congratulate Pegasus Players on the occasion of its 25th  
16    anniversary and commend Pegasus for its continuing commitment  
17    to quality theatre and to the people of Chicago and beyond;  
18    and be it further

19            RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
20    presented to the Pegasus Players Board of Directors as a  
21    token of our respect and esteem.