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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to recognize the members of the
4 Dorolyn Academy of Music for their work in the Oak Park
5 community; and

6 WHEREAS, The Dorolyn Academy of Music was created by Dr.
7 Dorothy L. Story-Bounds, who had a vision to insure the
8 development of music as a basic means of expression for all
9 people, especially children and youth, by providing a base of
10 excellence through professional training at low cost and to
11 provide a positive environment geared toward promoting
12 self-expression, positive self-esteem, and self-discipline; on
13 September 24, 1982, she opened the Dorolyn Academy's original
14 facility, a 1,500 square-foot facility with 5 instruction
15 studios, and began teaching her first 13 students under the
16 watchful eye of 5 instructors; to ensure that the Academy would
17 be an all-inclusive organization for the underserved of the
18 community, she set the tuition to be only \$5.00 per week; and

19 WHEREAS, As the Academy was not receiving federal or
20 corporate funding, Dorolyn Academy has had to resort to
21 creative fundraising methods, such as the "Pennies-from-Heaven
22 Fund", which was spearheaded by Dr. Bounds, with the support of
23 faculty, students, parents, and friends who contributed their

1 savings of pennies to offset the Academy's overhead; and

2 WHEREAS, The Dorolyn Academy is most proud of the
3 importance it places on giving back to the community; since
4 1990, the Academy has awarded numerous scholarships to
5 outstanding students in instrumental and vocal performance,
6 enabling them to pursue their music aspirations beyond Dorolyn;
7 some of Dorolyn's outstanding students have performed in
8 numerous musicals, including The Lion King, Showboat, Joseph
9 and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, and The Color Purple, as
10 well as the television show 7th Heaven and the movie The Little
11 Rascals; and

12 WHEREAS, For many years, the Dorolyn Academy has given back
13 to the community through the Broadway for Christ Youth Choir
14 and Broadway for Christ Productions, which provided training in
15 vocal and instrumental performance, technique, and decorum, as
16 well as an avenue for positive self-expression, all at no cost;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Dorolyn Academy is the recipient of the State of
19 Illinois Treasurer's Award in recognition of Outstanding
20 Dedication and Commitment to the African-American Communities
21 of Illinois, the Village of Oak Park's Nicholas Award for
22 Community Commitment, and The Oak Park Area Arts Council's
23 "Best of the Class" Award for Community Outreach; and

1 WHEREAS, The Dorolyn Academy continues to share its gifts
2 with thousands from the communities of Oak Park, River Forest,
3 Forest Park, Austin, Garfield Park, Humboldt Park, and the
4 entire Chicago metropolitan area; and

5 WHEREAS, Dorolyn Academy of Music has always recognized the
6 importance of having a multi-cultural Board of Directors,
7 faculty, and staff, in order to properly serve the
8 multi-cultural communities it represents; and

9 WHEREAS, The members of the Dorolyn Academy of Music serve
10 as models of hard work, integrity, and dedication for the
11 people of the State of Illinois; therefore, be it

12 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
13 NINETY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
14 we recognize the members of the Dorolyn Academy of Music for
15 their work in the Oak Park community and their commitment to
16 giving back to their community; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
18 presented to the Dorolyn Academy of Music as a symbol of our
19 esteem and respect.