

2015-J6210

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the Cardinal O'Hara High School Wind Ensemble and Song Corps upon the occasion of receiving top honors at the Darien Lake Music Festival on May 20, 2016

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize the dedication and commitment of our young people who distinguish themselves through excellence in musical competition; and

WHEREAS, Music competition provides an opportunity for students to exhibit their practical skills to an audience, thereby giving them a sense of pride in their hard work and efforts; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Cardinal O'Hara High School Wind Ensemble and Song Corps upon the occasion of receiving top honors at the Darien Lake Music Festival on Friday, May 20, 2016; and

WHEREAS, The Annual Darien Lake Music Festival was established to offer school bands, choirs, and orchestras a friendly and supportive platform for musicians to share in the excitement of making music and an opportunity for participants to learn from one another, fostering a lifetime of music appreciation and creating memories which last forever; and

WHEREAS, On May 20, 2016, the directors and members of the Wind Ensemble and Song Corps from Cardinal O'Hara High School in Tonawanda, New York, traveled to Darien Center, New York, to compete in the Annual Darien Lake Music Festival; and

WHEREAS, The Wind Ensemble, conducted by Jill DeSantis, captured first place in the Concert Band AAA Division and finished third out of a total of 75 ensembles; the Song Corps, directed by Erik Kenmitzer, placed first out of 14 ensembles at its adjudication site and won the Grand

Judges Award; in addition, the Corps placed second in the High School Mixed Chorus Division and finished second out of 75 ensembles; and WHEREAS, Instrumental Director, Jill DeSantis, and Choral Arts Director, Erik Kenmitzer, have truly distinguished themselves through their ability to inspire their students to achieve excellence in musical performance; and

WHEREAS, In achieving these high musical honors, the Cardinal O'Hara High School Wind Ensemble and Song Corps may take just pride in the inspiration and contribution to the spirit of excellence they bring to their family, friends, community and school; and

WHEREAS, It is most fitting that we take time to celebrate the arts of our Nation, to honor our musicians, and to express our appreciation to everyone who patronizes the arts; and as we celebrate the arts, we celebrate and give thanks to our American freedom, the only atmosphere in which musicians can truly perform and in which music is truly the expression of the soul; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Cardinal O'Hara High School Wind Ensemble and Song Corps upon the occasion of receiving top honors at the Darien Lake Music Festival; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the members of the Cardinal O'Hara High School Wind Ensemble and Song Corps, and to Jill DeSantis, Instrumental Director, and Erik Kenmitzer, Choral Arts Director.