

## RESOLUTION 2023 – 1

### RECOGNIZING MASON COMMUNITY PLAYERS' 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

**WHEREAS**, the Mason Community Players began as a result of a challenge from Mason High School Social Studies Teacher John Hopkins, who dared his students to find a need in the Mason community and fill it; and

**WHEREAS**, five students determined that the town needed a community theatre and approached Councilmember Cay Steinhauer who helped to develop a proposal for City Council consideration on June 25, 1973. The proposal requested financial backing in the amount of \$1,000 with the City of Mason to be reimbursed after their first production. The motion from Councilmember Cay Steinhauer carried unanimously and the Mason Community Players were officially established; and

**WHEREAS**, since the organization's first production, *The Music Man*, in September 1973, the troupe continued to maintain an association with the City of Mason whereby the City would front the money for shows and the Mason Community Players would return all profits to the City until 1979. In July 1978, the Community Players became a 501C3 incorporated entity and began to gain financial independence from the City, funding its own productions beginning in 1979; and

**WHEREAS**, since its inception, the Community Players have staged more than 150 productions and revues in more than 30 different locations in Mason and currently has their own venue within the City limits; and

**WHEREAS**, over the past 50 years, the group has participated in many Mason community initiatives such as Bicycle Days/Community Unity Days/ Heritage Festival, Christmas in Mason, partnered with Mason Historical Society to present the Cemetery Walk, created and provided entertainment for the Annual Haunted Hayride as well as helped organize and provide entertainment for the initial Autumn Festival; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mason Community Players produced *Imagine, Mason!* the unique and world premiere of the life of founder William Mason as part of the City's Bicentennial celebration in April 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, Mason Community Players have had a significant impact on the Mason community since 1973, partnering with the City on many holiday and civic events as well as supporting the City's mission to build a culture of wellness by enhancing the quality of life offered in Mason; and

**WHEREAS**, Mason City Council is grateful for past and present members of the Mason Community Players and all their efforts over the past 50 years to bring the community together to experience theatre and wishes the organization continued success.

**NOW THEREFORE**, BE IT UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Mason, Ohio:

Section 1. That the Mason Community Players is hereby given the commendation of the Council of the City of Mason for their impact over the last 50 years in the Mason Community.

Section 2. That the Clerk of Council is hereby directed to certify a copy of this Resolution to the Mason Community Players.

Section 3. That this Resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed this 9<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2023.

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Mayor

Attest:

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Clerk of Council