

City of Pittsburgh

510 City-County Building 414 Grant Street Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Text File

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WHEREAS, WYEP had its humble beginnings as a tiny, all-volunteer radio station in a self-described dusty, dark basement in the Oakland neighborhood of Pittsburgh in 1974, scaling-up to a full-time staff for the first time 4 years later in 1978; and

WHEREAS, since that time, WYEP has developed a regular audience of over 90,000 weekly listeners while adding to the culturally vibrant South Side Historic District by building a 16,000 square foot headquarters that is the first of its kind to be LEED certified; and

WHEREAS, through the station's many years Pittsburghers have been introduced to legendary hosts like Rosemary Welsch, a more than 30 year veteran and the first paid host at WYEP, and the newer, soon-to-be legendary voices such as Cindy Howes and Mike Sauter; and

WHEREAS, WYEP has served as a performance space for nationally renowned artists, from Patty Smith to Jakob Dylan and the Wallflowers, to Chrissy Hynde to the Indigo Girls, as well as Pittsburgh's own Rusted Root and emerging local artists through WYEP's free summer concert series which has been held in various locations for the past 17 years; and

WHEREAS, WYEP has served the community as a non-profit media sponsor, providing a forum for local organizations to share their message over the airwaves, and has developed many community-oriented programs, one of which even allows young adults to produce their own music in professional studios; and

WHEREAS, over their impressive 40 year lifespan, many of the faces and locations have changed and the mission has expanded substantially, yet WYEP remains deeply committed to enriching and engaging the community and creating an appreciation for cultural diversity throughout the Pittsburgh area, just as they planned to do way back in 1974.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby proclaim Tuesday, April 29th, 2014 to be "WYEP 40th Anniversary Day" in the City of Pittsburgh; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh celebrates WYEP's longstanding positive contribution to the City of Pittsburgh and looks forward to another 40 years of independent, community-oriented radio.