



Text File

Introduced: 10/29/2019

Bill No: 2019-2238, **Version:** 1

Committee: City Council

Status: Adopted

WHEREAS, Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) has earned a global reputation as a premier private research university, at which art and technology uniquely intersect, cross-disciplinary curricula are encouraged, lifelong foundations are formed, and diversity and inclusion are celebrated and embraced; and,

WHEREAS, CMU's College of Fine Arts in 1914 introduced the first degree-granting drama program in the United States of America, and contemporary students are prepared intellectually, artistically and practically to be leaders on stage, film, television, or within the expanding realm of new media; and,

WHEREAS, the Antoinette Perry "Tony" Award, which was founded by the American Theatre Wing in 1947, is bestowed annually on theatre professionals for distinguished achievement on Broadway; and,

WHEREAS, CMU alumni to date have earned hundreds of Tony Award nominations and 50 Tony Awards—including luminaries such as Judith Light, Billy Porter, Renée Elise Goldsberry, Leslie Odom Jr., Cherry Jones, Stephen Schwartz, Patina Miller, Jamie deRoy, Christian Borle, Jules Fisher, Peggy Eisenhauer and Ann Roth, to name only a few; and,

WHEREAS, The Broadway League and the American Theatre Wing, joint producers of the Tony Awards, in 2014 named Carnegie Mellon University the first, exclusive higher education partner of the Tony Awards, in recognition of a shared mission to promote the importance of arts education; and,

WHEREAS, The Tony Awards and CMU co-founded and annually co-present the Excellence in Theatre Education Award to a K-12 drama teacher from anywhere in the U.S. following a rigorous nationwide selection process; and,

WHEREAS, the next Excellence in Theatre Education Award winner will be announced at the 74th annual Tony Awards at Radio City Music Hall in New York City on Sunday, June 7, 2020, which will broadcast live on CBS; and,

WHEREAS, in ongoing support of arts and theatre education and its Tony Awards partnership with CMU, President of The Broadway League Charlotte St. Martin and President & CEO of the American Theatre Wing Heather Hitchens make their first joint visit to Pittsburgh; and,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby honor the significant impact of Carnegie Mellon University on arts and theatre education in Pittsburgh, on Broadway and worldwide, and applauds the Tony Awards and its leadership for promoting the critical importance of arts and theatre education; and,

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare Thursday, October 31, 2019 to be “**Tony Awards Day**” in the City of Pittsburgh.