City of Pittsburgh

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Text File

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WHEREAS, Christopher Hahn has dedicated twenty-six years of vision, artistry, and leadership to Pittsburgh Opera, joining the company as Artistic Director in 2000 and serving as General Director since 2008; and,

WHEREAS, under his stewardship, Pittsburgh Opera has earned national praise as a vibrant, innovative, and sought-after company, recognized for producing thought-provoking opera, nurturing the next generation of artists, and expanding access to opera for audiences of all ages; and,

WHEREAS, during his tenure, Pittsburgh Opera produced its first five world premieres, including The Summer King - the Josh Gibson Story in 2017, Savage Winter in 2018, and In a Grove in 2022, alongside Woman With Eyes Closed in 2025 and Time to Act in 2026, contributing important new works to the American operatic canon; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Hahn developed Pittsburgh Opera's Resident Artist Program into one of the nation's most respected training programs for emerging singers, providing two years of immersive professional development and giving rising artists a meaningful platform on the Pittsburgh stage; and,

WHEREAS, with steady leadership, Mr. Hahn guided Pittsburgh Opera through both the 2008 financial crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic, during which Pittsburgh Opera became one of the first opera companies in the United States to safely resume live indoor performances for in-person audiences; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Hahn's legacy is one of vision, artistry, and community, reflected in the company he leaves stronger, the artists he has championed, and the audiences he has welcomed into the rich and evolving world of opera.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby honor and celebrate Christopher Hahn for twenty-six years of transformative leadership at Pittsburgh Opera, and recognizes the lasting impact of his vision, artistry, and dedication on the cultural life of our city; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh extends to Mr. Hahn its profound gratitude and warmest wishes for a richly deserved next chapter.

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