ENROLLED SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 25 By: Horner and Williams

A Resolution congratulating the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame upon the occasion of its fifteenth anniversary; honoring the 2003 inductees into the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame in Tulsa, Oklahoma, is celebrating its fifteenth anniversary this year. The event will be highlighted at the Annual Induction Banquet Gala to be held Wednesday, June 18, 2003, at the Doubletree Downtown Hotel's International Ballroom in Tulsa, Oklahoma. At that time the 2003 inductees into the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame will be honored; and

WHEREAS, the 2003 Jay McShann Lifetime Achievement Award winner Marilyn Maye was born in Wichita, Kansas, but moved to Des Moines, Iowa, while a preteen. At the age of 14 she began her musical career singing with local bands and soon had her own radio show on KRNT, singing requests for listeners. After graduating from high school, she went to Kansas City for a two-week engagement that lasted for years. Steve Allen heard her and invited her to sing on his late-night television program. Her performance led to an RCA recording contract producing many albums and 34 singles. Dubbed a "Super Singer" by Johnny Carson, she appeared on "The Tonight Show" a record-holding 75 times, more than any other performer. While residing in the Kansas City area, she still has close ties to Des Moines where in 1999 she performed with their symphony orchestra. As one critic said, "If you can name a song, Marilyn can sing it and sing it well"; and

WHEREAS, the 2003 Living Legend Award winner Henry St. Clair Fredericks was born in Harlem, the son of a jazz pianist/composer/arranger of Jamaican descent and a South Carolina school teacher who was also a gospel singer. His family moved to Springfield, Massachusetts, while he was young. He graduated from the University of Massachusetts with a degree in agriculture. While studying agriculture, he adopted the stage name Taj Mahal and began performing in the Boston area as leader of the Taj Mahal Trio. After graduation, he moved to Los Angeles, California, where he helped form The Rising Sons, which released one album. Taj Mahal then went solo, recording an album "Taj Mahal" and the rest is musical history. Impossible to categorize, he plays music from locales such as Hawaii, India, West Africa, Latin America, and the American South. He performs jazz, blues, reggae, gospel, folk, country, rock, pop, bluegrass, soul and other music styles as well. He plays over 20 instruments, has recorded almost 40 albums, speaks five languages fluently, studies philosophy, and, makes use of his

formal education as an organic farmer. He has composed musical scores for movie soundtracks, television shows, and a Broadway play; written music for children; acted in movies such as "The Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood" and provided the voice of cartoon characters on television. He put to music the work of Langston Hughes in the Broadway production of "Mule Bone". As a musicologist he has played a vital role in the preservation of African-American roots music. He has shared the stage or performed with nearly every well-known personality in the world of music. In 2002, Taj Mahal received an honorable "United States Congressional Recognition Award" for a lifetime of contributions to the history of music and has been nominated for and received many Grammy Awards in addition to being inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, the 2003 Legacy Tribute Award winners, Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey (JFJO), composed of Brian Haas, Jason Smart, and Reed Mathis, was formed in 1994 and perform 200 live appearances each year. They have performed their improvisational music at The Gathering of the Vibes, Berkshire Mountain Music Festival, New Orleans Jazz Festival, High Sierra, South by Southwest, and other music festivals. This jazz trio was recently hailed as the Number One new jazz trio on the national music scene. Playing the freshest jazz in Tulsa, the band maintains the tradition of jazz as an experimental art form. They stretch popular music from the last twenty years beyond normal musical boundaries with on-the-fly improvisations. The Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey was nominated for numerous JamBase Best of 2002 Year End Awards; and

WHEREAS, Jazz Inductee, Tulsa guitarist Pat Kelley, who now resides in Los Angeles, California, has, during the last 20 years, toured more than 30 countries and worked more than 2,000 sessions as a studio guitarist for records, television, and motion pictures. Pat has worked with top recording artists, including George Benson, B.B. King, Jose Feliciano, Melissa Manchester, Olivia Newton John, Burt Bacharach, Donny and Marie Osmond and many others. Pat Kelley's television credits include The Merv Griffin Show, the Pat Sajak Show, The Joan Rivers Late Show, The Carol Burnett Show, The Odd Couple, All My Children, General Hospital, Jeopardy, The Tonight Show, The Emmy Awards, Soul Train and many others. Commercial jingles include Budweiser, Michelob, Ford, Dodge, McDonald's, American Airlines, Taco Bell, Travelodge, Ramada Inns, Disneyland, Banquet Foods, Dow Chemical, the Gap, Denny's, Nescafe, Dominos Pizza, Wal Mart, Southwestern Bell, Carnival Cruise Lines and many others. He founded the Artson Music DC label in 2002 to release quality music without restrictions. Pat also holds a full-time teaching position in the Studio/Jazz Guitar Department at the University of Southern California. Pat Kelley has performed with symphony orchestras from San Francisco, San Diego, Denver, Tulsa, Houston, Atlanta, and San Antonio; and

WHEREAS, Gospel Inductee Sara Jordan Powell, a fourth generation member of the Church of God in Christ, Inc., serves as its International Executive Director of Fine Arts. She was appointed by President Ronald Reagan as a member of the Committee for "Year of the Bible". She has also served as an academic advisor at Oral Roberts University. Sara Jordan has sung for world leaders and

dignitaries including Presidents Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton, and for spiritual leaders such as Mother Teresa; and

WHEREAS, Maxine Cissel Horner Spirit of Community Excellence Award winner Carmelita Skeeter is recognized as one of Oklahoma's most distinguished First Ladies of Health for native Oklahomans and Native Americans. A member of the Citizen Nation Pottawatomie Tribe, Ms. Skeeter has distinguished herself both locally and nationally with her understanding of critical health care issues for minority and Indian health needs. She began her career in health care more than 30 years ago as a volunteer at Neighbor for Neighbor and then at Project Get Together. Ms. Skeeter was one of the founders of the Indian Health Care Resource Center (IHCRC) 27 years ago as an Oklahoma nonprofit corporation with tax-exempt status. A policy-making volunteer board governs the organization and the bylaws require that the Board membership composition must be Indian controlled. Ms. Skeeter began her employment at IHCRC as the Resource Coordinator, then became the Clinic Administrator, a position she held for 11 years, supervising all clinic operations and personnel. Since 1989, she has served as the agency's Executive Director. After many years working with her Board of Directors, plans were developed to construct a $5 million new clinical facility. The ground was broken for this new facility in 1998 and the health center was completed and opened to patients in June 1999. The move enabled all clinical departments to expand and modernize. IHCRC employs approximately 65 employees and operates with a $4 million annual budget. The organization hires with Indian preference and averages about 75% Indian employees. Local Indian-owned businesses, vendors, and suppliers are used when available and cost effective. IHCRC's comprehensive health center offers an extensive array of services, including medical and prenatal care, WIC nutrition, health education, disease management, lab, x-ray, pharmacy, dental care, optometry, Indian family services, behavioral counseling, and substance abuse treatment. The urban Indian center serves members of over 140 federally recognized tribes; and

WHEREAS, posthumous jazz honoree, composer Howard "Maggie" McGhee, played clarinet and tenor saxophone before taking up the trumpet in 1935. Born in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on March 6, 1918, he worked with area bands in the Midwest during the 1930s before moving to Detroit. He enjoyed major success when he joined Lionel Hampton in 1941. Later McGhee provided compositions and arrangements and was principal soloist for the Andy Kirk Group. During the 1940s he became associated with bebop, playing at the Club Congo in Chicago. He played briefly with Count Basie and Coleman Hawkins and participated in recording sessions with Charlie Parker. In 1945, Howard McGhee led the first modern jazz band on the West Coast, at Los Angeles' Club Finale, thereafter being referred to as "that bop trumpet player from the coast". McGhee joined the Jazz at the Philharmonic touring group in 1947 and thereafter toured and recorded prolifically as leader of his own groups. Howard McGhee was named "best trumpeter" by Downbeat magazine in 1949. During the 1950s he was relatively inactive on the music scene. After 1960, he performed frequently and organized a big band in the mid-1960s. He returned to play with various groups in the second half of the 1970s. A melodic bebop trumpeter, McGee was a major influence on the careers and music of Fats Navarro and Clifford Brown; and

WHEREAS, posthumous jazz honoree and pianist Leslie Sheffield touched and influenced the musical careers of some of jazz's greatest talents and played with some of the great bands of that era, including Count Basie. Born in Muskogee, Leslie Sheffield's Rhythmaires Band played a long residency at the Ritz Ballroom in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, during the mid- and late 1930s. Jazz greats who got their start playing and singing for Leslie Sheffield include guitarist Charlie Christian and singer Charles Waterford.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 49TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate congratulates the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame upon the occasion of its fifteenth anniversary.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate honors the 2003 inductees into the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame, Marilyn Maye, Taj Mahal, the Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey (JFJO), Pat Kelley, Sara Jordan Powell, Carmelita Skeeter, and the families of the late Howard McGhee and Leslie Sheffield.

Adopted by the Senate the 14th day of May, 2003.

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Secretary of the Senate