

ENROLLED SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 82

By: Horner, Aldridge, Branan,
Brogdon, Cain, Capps,
Coates, Coffee, Corn,
Crutchfield, Dunlap,
Easley (Mary), Fair,
Fisher, Ford, Gumm,
Harrison, Helton, Hobson,
Johnson, Kerr, Laster,
Laughlin, Lawler, Leftwich
(Debbe), Lerblance,
Littlefield, Maddox,
Milacek, Monson, Morgan,
Myers, Nichols, Price,
Pruitt, Rabon, Reynolds,
Riley, Robinson, Rozell,
Shurden, Smith, Snyder,
Taylor, Wilcoxson,
Wilkerson, Williams and
Williamson

A Resolution honoring the 2004 inductees into the
Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame; and directing
distribution.

WHEREAS, Jay McShann Lifetime Achievement Award winner Ramsey Emmanuel Lewis was born in Chicago, Illinois, on May 27, 1935. Thirty years later he was recognized as one of the nation's most successful jazz pianists. Ramsey Lewis has won three Grammy Awards, earned seven gold records, and been awarded with three honorary doctorate degrees. Thirty of his albums made the Billboard Top 200 listing. Ramsey Lewis helped organize the Ravinia Festival's Jazz Mentor Program and now serves as Artistic Director of Jazz at the Ravinia Festival. A radio personality, he hosts WNUA-FM weekday morning drive-time radio show in Chicago and hosts a syndicated "Legends of Jazz with Ramsey Lewis", a two-hour radio program which airs in over 65 cities throughout the U.S. Ramsey Lewis has performed in concerts and played in jazz festivals and summer venues as well as performing with more than 25 symphony orchestras. He has performed throughout the United States, Europe, Japan, Mexico, and the Caribbean. Ramsey Lewis has performed at the White House, been designated "Person of the Week" by ABC Nightly News, and was the subject of a CBS "Sunday Morning" program. Classically trained with experience in gospel music, he loves not only jazz but all musical forms, a fact that has earned him the nickname of "the great performer"; and

WHEREAS, Living Legend Award winner Stanley Jordan, a jazz/jazz fusion guitarist, is best known for developing the touch technique

for playing guitars. Although he is not the first guitarist to have used the tapping technique, he is regarded as the only virtuoso employing this method, enabling him to play two completely independent lines on the guitar as if it were a keyboard. He studied piano but switched to guitar when he was 11 years old. After graduating from Princeton in 1981, he had the opportunity to play with Benny Carter and Dizzy Gillespie. After recording a solo album for his own Tangent label, he signed with Blue Note. Stanley Jordan is recognized as a guitarist who has made major technical and musical contributions to the instrument and has earned a reputation as a significant guitarist; and

WHEREAS, Legacy Tribute Award winner and saxophone player Grady Nichols personifies today's hip Smooth Jazz/Instrumental Pop scene. Grady Nichols grew up in Siloam Springs, Arkansas. He fell in love with the saxophone in sixth grade and studied under Joe Davis in high school. Graduating from John Brown University, he moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he was recognized for mixing jazz and gospel. His first two CDs, "Between You and Me" and "Mysterious Intentions", are played on both smooth jazz and adult contemporary radio stations across the nation. His release, "In the Fullness of Time", is a spiritual CD including a 50-voice choir. It aired on television as "Grady Nichols Live". Coinciding with the CD release, Grady appeared before 30,000 at the World Pulse Festival in South Bend, Indiana. Grady has completed his fourth CD, "Sophistication", and performed for the soundtrack of the Muppet movie, "Muppets in Space". Norwegian Cruise Lines chose him to perform on their annual Smooth Jazz Cruise on board the SS Norway. He initiated an annual musical event in Tulsa featuring acts from all genres of music to raise money for charity. Grady Nichols' best-known performance is probably his interpretation of the theme from "Star Trek: First Contact", although he is also renowned for his signature interpretation of "Amazing Grace"; and

WHEREAS, Jazz Inductee Tommy Crook, an Oklahoma native, began playing guitar at the age of four. By the age of 11 he was a featured solo act on Porter Wagoner's touring show and soon became a regular on the television shows of Hank Thompson and Leon McAuliffe. During the 1960s and 1970s, he played in USO tours in Southeast Asia. Tommy Crook is recognized as the best guitar player in the world by the world's best guitar players. When Chet Atkins, who was appearing on the "Tonight" show, was asked by Johnny Carson if anyone played the guitar better than he did, Atkins responded, "Tommy Crook in Tulsa, Oklahoma"; and

WHEREAS, Jazz Inductee Louie Spears, an Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, native, was born into a musical family which includes his brother, Maurice. He became interested in the bass after joining the U.S. Army. He studied with the Dallas Philharmonic Orchestra's principal bassist and co-principal bassist while playing in bands with James Clay, Ted Dunbar, Red Garland, and Billy Harper. Relocating to Los Angeles, California, he broadened his career by studying Latin bass rhythms and learning to play jazz on the cello. Louie Spears formed his own group, "Spearmint", which performed throughout the Los Angeles area. Louie Spears has received Certificates of Appreciation from the California Legislature, the Los Angeles Unified School District Volunteer Program, the Charles Duolo Coker

Scholarships Foundation, and the University of California Continuing Education program. He has received the Los Angeles Mayor's Adult Committee with Youth Performing Arts Award of Excellence, Watts Labor Community Action Committee's Outstanding Voluntary Service Award, the Sisters of Jazz Larry Gales' Music Achievement Award, and an award from the Black Caucus of Jazz Educators. Louie Spears has performed and recorded with an array of artists in motion pictures, stage, audio and video recordings, live orchestras, jazz and pop groups, and vocalists. With his brother Maurice, Louie Spears is a member of "BoneSoir", a jazz group that will be recognized in Washington, D.C., in the fall of this year. Maurice Spears has played not only with BoneSoir but also with the Plastic Theatre Art Band, Donald Dean and Company, and the Billy Harper Quintet. He also played at the Coleman Hawkins Neighborhood Festival; and

WHEREAS, Jazz Inductee Maurice Spears was born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, to a family that was surrounded by jazz. His parents owned a café and hosted many jazz bands and artists who came to the city to perform. Maurice Spears, who selected the trombone as his instrument of choice at age 12, graduated cum laude from Langston University with an undergraduate degree in Music Education and did graduate work at the University of Oklahoma. He received musical training at the Army Element of the Navy School of Music in Washington, D.C., and later served in the 62nd Army Band. At the age of 27, Maurice Spears led his own big band and various-sized combos, playing social engagements and providing pick-up for stars who came through Oklahoma City, such as Lou Rawls and Jackie Wilson. In 1966, he traveled to Los Angeles, California, to visit his parents and decided to live there. Maurice Spears became a world traveler as a member of the Ray Charles Orchestra. He was also a "first-call" bass trombonist on the West Coast as a studio musician and sideman in big bands in the 1970s and 1980s. He taught in the Los Angeles Unified School District and in the public school system in Oklahoma City. Maurice Spears is a mentor to young trombonists, including candidates and recipients of the Thurman Green Memorial Scholarship Foundation, an organization that awards scholarships to college-level trombone students. In the 1990s Spears collaborated with fellow trombonists to form "BoneSoir" to introduce audiences to the versatility of the trombone and to spotlight the varied styles of the featured players. The group Bonesoir performed in numerous music programs, including the Playboy Jazz Festival. Currently Maurice Spears is a member of the Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra where he serves as bass trombonist, librarian, and music copyist. Spears is also an internationally known music copyist whose client roster has included Lena Horne and Peggy Lee. His career spans a wide spectrum of entertainment, including motion picture soundtracks, Broadway shows, television series, commercials, recordings and videos, and live performances. Maurice Spears has recorded and performed with a vast array of internationally acclaimed musicians in several genres, including rock and roll, pop, rhythm and blues, Latin, blues and fusion, and jazz; and

WHEREAS, Jazz Inductee, the late Frank Mantooth, was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma, on April 11, 1947. His mother played piano and his uncle was a violinist, so Mantooth grew up with music. Although he played some guitar while growing up, Mantooth eventually became a talented pianist. He earned a degree in music from North Texas

State University and contributed arrangements as a member of the Air Force Academy Falconaires. He earned his piano degree from the Vienna Hochschule fuer Musik in Austria. Returning to the United States, he received music writing commissions from Doc Severinsen, the Kansas City Symphony, the Madison Symphony Orchestra, Pete Christlieb, Louie Bellson, and the USAF Airmen of Note. He served on the adjunct faculty of DePaul University. For the last eight years of his life Frank Mantooth lived in Garden City, Kansas, where he was a regular performer at the Garden City Jazz Festival and was associated with Garden City Community College. He published five volumes of "The Best Chord Changes for the World's Greatest Standards" as well as 165 works for combo and jazz ensembles. An 11-time Grammy nominee, Frank Mantooth passed away on January 30, 2004. Personally popular as well as famous in the community, he had a quirky sense of humor, no pretensions, and a reputation as an outstanding musician in addition to that of a great man; and

WHEREAS, Blues Inductee Glenn R. Townsend was born in Sulphur, Oklahoma, on June 17, 1948. He moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma, at the age of four and began his musical career at the age of 13. With only two weeks' practice, he played his first gig with "The Ram Rods" as a rhythm guitarist. In the following years he played with several other local bands. Glenn played with the Dick Clark Caravan of Stars Tour during this time. After serving in the U.S. Army, Glenn began performing with Tommy Harris' band, "Standing Room Only", as the band toured the Midwest. Glenn later left "Standing Room Only" to become lead guitarist for "No Large Trucks". Music took the band to California where it was signed by Columbia Records. Glenn then became a studio-recording artist doing sessions for Warner Brothers Records. He also did guitar work for movies, the most famous being "The Crooked Mile" starring Kirk Douglas. In the 1970s, Columbia Records changed the name of the band to "TRUK" and released the record "Truk Tracks". The band toured with many famous acts including Lee Michaels, Chicago, The Grass Roots, the Leon Russell Redbone Tour, and Grand Funk Railroad. Glenn also played with Johnny Rivers. Tiring of the California pace, he moved to Wichita and finally settled in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he temporarily abandoned music and raised his family. In the 1980s, he created "The Glenn R. Townsend Band", playing blues-rock. The band played the five-state area and released seven albums and three CDs; and

WHEREAS, Blues Inductee the late Jimmy "Cry Cry" Hawkins was born in Beggs, Oklahoma. His plans to become a football star were derailed due to an injury and several operations. It was after the injury that he began to show an interest in music. He listened to Frank Berry on the radio and sang along with the music. When he finally met Frank Berry, Berry encouraged Hawkins to share his singing talents. Jimmy Hawkins formed his first band during the 1940s and played at the Flamingo Club and Berry Park in Tulsa, Oklahoma. In the 1950s, Hawkins' band, "The After Hour Boys", played after dances from 2:00 a.m. until 6:00 a.m. every weekend. The group played in Wichita, Oklahoma City, and Tulsa, as well as in surrounding towns. In 1953 the band changed its name to "Jimmy 'Cry Cry' Hawkins and the Teardrops". "Cry Cry" got his nickname from a fan who said, "His voice makes a woman want to cry". In 1954 the band went to Georgia with one of the top recording groups of that

time, "The Midnighters". Jimmy "Cry Cry" Hawkins continued singing the blues until the 1960s. He died in 1976; and

WHEREAS, Maxine Cissel Horner Spirit of Community Excellence Award Winner Kenneth J. Levit graduated from Holland Hall in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He received his BA degree from Brown University, graduating magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa with degrees in Public Policy and Russian Studies. He worked for U.S. Senator David Boren from 1987 to 1990, serving as Press Secretary and Campaign Manager for Senator Boren's successful 1990 reelection bid. Mr. Levit earned his law degree from Yale Law School and was Senior Editor of the "Yale Law Journal". He then served as a law clerk for United States District Judge Terry C. Kern before joining the law firm of Crow & Dunlevy in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Mr. Levit served as Senior Counsel and Director of Business Development at Williams Communications, Inc. He also served as Special Counsel to the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) where he advised Director George Tenet on various matters, including technology policy, declassification of historical records, and developments related to the Middle East. Mr. Levit is currently a Term Member of the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR). He chaired the Homeland Security Task Force for the State of Oklahoma in 2001-2002. He serves on the Board of Directors for Holland Hall Preparatory School and the Tulsa National Conference of Christians and Jews (NCCJ). He also serves as an Advisory Director for the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma and on the Oklahoma City National Memorial Education and Outreach Committee. A member of the Young Presidents Organization and the Committee of 100-Tulsa, Mr. Levit served on Governor Brad Henry's transition team. Kenneth J. Levit was named President of the University of Oklahoma-Tulsa on September 1, 2001. He also serves the University of Oklahoma system as Senior Vice President; and

WHEREAS, Maxine Cissel Horner Spirit of Community Excellence Award Winner Dr. Bonnie Sanders Polin received her BA degree from the University of Pennsylvania and her PhD from American University. She worked as a family therapist at Hillcrest Hospital Substance Abuse Unit; at the Psychiatric Institute of Living in Richmond, Virginia; at the Virginia Treatment Center for Children; and in the Chesterfield County School District. Dr. Polin cofounded Children's Developmental Clinic and the Diabetes Clinic at Project Get Together. She is a member of the American Diabetes Association, Children's Services Leadership Board of Tulsa County, Dillon International, Interim Health Care, Project Get Together, Advisory Board for Community Action Project, Central Park Homeowners Association, and Parent Child Center. Dr. Polin has published and co-authored "The Joslin Diabetes Gourmet Cookbook", "The Joslin Diabetes Quick and Easy Cookbook", "The Joslin Diabetes Healthy Carbohydrate Cookbook", and "The Joslin Diabetes Great Chefs Cook Healthy Cookbook". Her publications for diabetics also include monthly e-magazines "Diabetic-Lifestyle.com" and "Diabetic-recipes.com", containing more than 800 heart-healthy recipes and 200 menus for diabetics, on the Internet.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 49TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate honors the 2004 inductees into the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Ramsey Lewis, Stanley Jordan, Grady Nichols, Tommy Crook, Louie Spears, Maurice Spears, the family of Frank Mantooth, Glenn R. Townsend, the family of Jimmy "Cry Cry" Hawkins, Kenneth J. Levit, and Dr. Bonnie Sanders Polin.

Adopted by the Senate the 27th day of May, 2004.

Presiding Officer of the Senate