



Allegheny County Council

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Title: Proclamation congratulating Mr. Van Kaplan upon the occasion of his 20th anniversary as Executive Producer of the Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera.

Sponsors: Tom Baker, Sam DeMarco

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Title...

Proclamation congratulating Mr. Van Kaplan upon the occasion of his 20th anniversary as Executive Producer of the Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera.

Body...

WHEREAS, Van Kaplan joined the Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera (CLO) in 1997, and this year, marks his 20th anniversary as the Executive Producer of the Pittsburgh CLO; and

WHEREAS, Van Kaplan has produced or co-produced the Broadway productions of *Evita*, *Catch Me If You Can*, *Come Fly Away*, *The Addams Family*, and *An American in Paris*, together garnering more than 20 Tony Awards®. He has also produced more than 10 National Touring productions; and

WHEREAS, An American in Paris is the first new musical **Van Kaplan** and the Pittsburgh CLO has originated for Broadway. After debuting in Paris, France on December 10, 2014, the Broadway production opened at the Palace Theatre in New York on April 12, 2015. It garnered four Tony Awards® and ran for over 600 performances. The National tour launched in Boston in October 2016 and the London production opened March 2017 at the Dominion Theatre; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, Van Kaplan co-founded the National High School Musical Theatre Awards/The Jimmy Awards™, which he directs annually at the Minskoff Theatre. These awards were the subject of the 2012 nationally televised series “Broadway or Bust,” which he co-produced with PBS. Prior to The Jimmy Awards™, Mr. Kaplan produced the acclaimed Pittsburgh CLO’s Gene Kelly Awards for Excellence in High School Musical Theater for 12 years; and

WHEREAS, Van Kaplan has consulted for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and has served as adjunct professor for Carnegie Mellon University’s Masters of Arts Management Program. He is on the Board of The Broadway League, serves on the Investment Committee of the Independent Presenters Network (IPN)

and is a past president of The National Alliance for Musical Theatre (NAMT) and currently serves on the Board. He has been a Tony Awards® voter for more than 20 years;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Allegheny County Council does hereby congratulate ***Van Kaplan*** upon the occasion of his 20th Anniversary as Executive Producer of the Pittsburgh CLO, and we thank him for enhancing the quality of life in Pittsburgh and Allegheny County.