

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 43

Honoring the important contributions to the Nation of the Academy of Music
in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on its 150th Anniversary.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 25, 2007

Mr. SPECTER (for himself and Mr. CASEY) submitted the following resolution;
which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Honoring the important contributions to the Nation of the
Academy of Music in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on its
150th Anniversary.

Whereas the Academy of Music opened in 1857 in Philadel-
phia, Pennsylvania and quickly became the most pres-
tigious opera house in the United States;

Whereas the Academy of Music is the oldest grand opera
house in the United States that is still used for its origi-
nal purpose;

Whereas, in 1963, the Academy of Music was designated a
National Historic Landmark;

Whereas, over the years, the Academy of Music served not
only as a venue for the performing arts community, but
has also hosted many graduation ceremonies, along with

several Presidential conventions and other important public events;

Whereas the Academy of Music served as the Philadelphia Orchestra's main concert hall for more than a century, and the Orchestra purchased the Academy in 1957 and performs each year for the Academy's anniversary;

Whereas the Academy of Music has had a host of legendary artists grace its stage, from the disciplines of classical to popular music, dance, and drama, including Maria Callas, Joan Sutherland, Marian Anderson, Frank Sinatra, George Gershwin, Duke Ellington, Anna Pavlova, Ruth St. Denis, Ted Shawn, and Margot Fonteyn;

Whereas the Academy of Music has also hosted several sporting events, was turned into an indoor skating rink in 1866, had a wooden floor installed over the parquet level in 1889 to create space for an indoor football game between the University of Pennsylvania and the Riverton Club of Princeton, and had a wooden floor installed again in 1892 for the University of Pennsylvania for a track meet; and

Whereas the Academy of Music has also been a part of other historical and cultural events, such as a demonstration of the telephone by Alexander Graham Bell in 1877, the first ever concert in stereophonic sound in 1933 performed by Leopold Stokowski and the Philadelphia Orchestra, the filming of "One Hundred Men and a Girl" in 1937, and the recording of the soundtrack of the Disney classic "Fantasia" by the Philadelphia Orchestra in 1939: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

1 (1) congratulates the Academy of Music in
2 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on its 150th anniver-
3 sary;

4 (2) honors the important contributions of the
5 Academy of Music to the Nation; and

6 (3) directs the Secretary of the Senate to trans-
7 mit a copy of this resolution to the Academy of
8 Music.

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