

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF
FREMONT/LOPEZ ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL'S MARIACHI LOS
TORITOS

HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 21, 2018

Mr. McNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a group of talented young musicians from my district who recently traveled to Washington, D.C. as part of a select group of students, and performed at the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts.

Fremont/Lopez Elementary School in Stockton is one of twenty-seven schools in the State of California to partner with the Kennedy Center's Turnaround Arts program, which aims to boost arts education, increasing opportunities for student success. Thanks to the Turnaround Arts program, in 2014, Fremont/Lopez Elementary School offered visual arts, music, dance, and drama classes to its students, and even started a mariachi band.

The Mariachi Los Toritos band was one of four California partners invited to perform at the Turnaround Arts Talent Show at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. However, this isn't the band's first performance in our Nation's Capital. In 2016, Mariachi Los Toritos was invited to the White House for a special workshop hosted by former First Lady Michelle Obama before going on to perform at the talent show.

Through the Turnaround Arts program, Mariachi Los Toritos has also had the opportunity to receive mentorship from successful musical artists, including Smokey Robinson and Russell Simmons.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and congratulating Fremont/Lopez Elementary School Mariachi Los Toritos for highlighting the importance of arts education and showcasing their impressive musical talents in our Nation's Capital.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NATIVE
DAUGHTERS OF THE GOLDEN
WEST

HON. DOUG LaMALFA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 21, 2018

Mr. LaMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Native Daughters of the Golden West as they celebrate their 132nd year of existence.

In 1886, in the historic mining city of Jackson, California, 20 women met in Pioneer Hall, lead by Lilly O'Reichling, to form an Order of California-born women, united in their love for the Golden State.

Founded under the principles of love of their home, veneration of the pioneers of California,

and a deep faith in the existence of God, the Native Daughters of the Golden West is one of the oldest associations of California born leaders. Their mission is centered on preserving our State's rich history and improving the quality of life through education and community service.

The organization has since grown to over 4,500 members, with 80 parlors throughout the State. Their work continues to leave a strong legacy of charity and community building, through providing assistance in areas included, but not limited to, children's health and education, veteran welfare projects, community and church events, mission restoration, and the protection of our diverse natural resources.

Mr. Speaker, please join with me in honoring the Native Daughters of the Golden West on this impressive milestone and for their dedication to preserving and improving our way of life in California.

RECOGNIZING SEAN O'GORMAN

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 21, 2018

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the selfless actions of Sean O'Gorman, a firefighter from Oswego, New York whose quick actions saved the lives of three girls in North Carolina.

On April 26, 2018, while on vacation with his family in North Carolina, Mr. O'Gorman witnessed three girls in distress after being caught in a rip current. The girls' father tried to reach them on a surfboard, but the rip current was too strong, and he was not able to make it. Luckily, Mr. O'Gorman immediately leaped into action.

Exhibiting consummate professionalism, Mr. O'Gorman entered the water to save the girls in distress. Mr. O'Gorman had recently attended Swift Water Rescue training in Auburn New York, where he had received training to prepare for this type of emergency. Using the aggressive swim, forceful crawl stroke he learned in training, O'Gorman managed to reach the girls in the rip current, where the father had been unable to reach. He managed to successfully retrieve the girls from the water, saving their lives. By the time the Emerald Isle Fire Department arrived, Mr. O'Gorman already had everyone out of the water and safe.

Mr. O'Gorman, a firefighter with the Oswego Fire Department, heroically saved the lives of three girls from a deadly rip current at Emerald Isle. His quick thinking and heroic actions stem from his training as a first responder. Our first responders are often called to dangerous and dire situations that threaten life. Just as he does every single day, Mr. O'Gorman did everything in his power to help those in need. It is my honor to recognize him and to offer thanks, praise, and a deep debt of gratitude for his tireless efforts.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 21, 2018

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, during the votes held on May 17, 2018, I unintentionally voted No on the Foxx amendment to H.R. 2. I am fully committed to reforming the sugar program and increasing access to the world market for our food manufacturers and lowering food costs for all Americans.

HONORING THE 28TH ANNUAL D.C.
BLACK PRIDE CELEBRATION

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 21, 2018

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, this Memorial Day Week, May 22nd to 28th, the District of Columbia celebrates the 28th annual D.C. Black Pride with its theme, "Communities Together Building Communities."

The multi-day festival begins May 22nd with the D.C. Black Pride Awards Reception at The Park at 14th Street and concludes May 28th with a Legendary Meatloaf Apocalypse Chapter X at the Stadium Club. In between, D.C. Black Pride includes community town halls, educational workshops, a poetry slam hosted by Mary Bowman, an interfaith worship service and various social events, including breakfast, brunch, dinner and happy hours. Various performances by musicians, dancers and artists enliven the festival. Monday, the festival's penultimate day, culminates in the main event, a Cultural Arts and Wellness Exposition, sponsored by Daryl Wilson Promotions and D.C. Black Pride at Fort Dupont Park.

The D.C. Black Pride festival commenced my first year in Congress on Sunday, May 26, 1991, at Banneker Field on Georgia Avenue, across the street from Howard University. I have watched it mature from an ad hoc event to what is now widely considered to be one of the world's preeminent Black Pride celebrations. It now draws more than 42,000 participants from the United States, Africa, Europe and the Americas to our nation's capital.

D.C. Black Pride fostered the beginning of the Center for Black Equity (formerly known as the International Federation of Black Prides, Inc.) and the "Black Pride Movement," which now consists of 40 Black Prides on four continents. I commend Paloma Afework, Ralph Ferguson, Shannon Garcon, Gladece Knight, and Reginald Shaw-Richardson, the volunteer Advisory Board that assists Earl D. Fowlkes, Jr., C. Hawkins, Genise Chambers-Woods and Kenya Hutton with the coordination, planning, and execution of D.C. Black Pride. I also take pride in noting that this year, Earl continues his service into a third decade of involvement with both D.C. Black Pride and the Black Pride Movement around the globe.

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