

1 Introduced by Council Member Pittman and Co-Sponsored by Council
2 Members Johnson and Boylan:

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5 **RESOLUTION 2025-667-A**

6 A RESOLUTION HONORING DARRYL RUBEN HALL AND
7 CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF STAGE AURORA
8 THEATRICAL COMPANY FOR ITS OUTSTANDING
9 CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ARTS, CULTURE, AND
10 COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT IN JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA;
11 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

12
13 **WHEREAS**, the City of Jacksonville proudly recognizes the
14 transformative power of the performing arts to unite, educate, and
15 uplift communities; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Darryl Ruben Hall, native son of Jacksonville, has
17 dedicated his life to advancing the arts, cultural equity, and
18 educational opportunity through theater as a nationally recognized
19 actor, director, producer, and visionary arts leader; and

20 **WHEREAS**, in 1998, Darryl Ruben Hall founded Stage Aurora
21 Theatrical Company with the bold and enduring mission to "Bring the
22 Arts to the People", making culturally relevant and professional-
23 quality productions accessible to all, especially in underserved
24 communities; and

25 **WHEREAS**, for 25 years, Stage Aurora has enriched Jacksonville's
26 cultural landscape with more than 200 acclaimed performances,
27 including landmark productions such as *The Color Purple*, *A Raisin in*
28 *the Sun*, *The Amen Corner*, *Mahalia*, *Fences*, *Dreamgirls*, *Miss Evers'*
29 *Boys*, *The Piano Lesson*, and *The Wiz*, showcasing the richness of the
30 African American experience and amplifying the voices of our city's
31 diverse communities; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Hall has not only directed and produced award-
2 winning works but also written and performed powerful original pieces,
3 including *Dinner with Booker T. Washington* and *Ax Handle Sunday*,
4 preserving African American history and using theater as a means of
5 healing, empowerment, and social change; and

6 **WHEREAS**, Stage Aurora has served as a platform for emerging and
7 professional artists alike, mentoring youth, and cultivating the next
8 generation of performers, creators, and leaders, while promoting
9 diversity, inclusion, and community pride throughout Jacksonville and
10 beyond; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the success and longevity of Mr. Hall's artistic vision
12 have been rooted in the unwavering love, support, and spiritual
13 guidance of his parents, Edward Ruben Hall and Dr. Dolores Hall, who
14 have served as the foundation of his journey and a source of enduring
15 inspiration; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the Jacksonville City Council is honored to recognize
17 Darryl Ruben Hall for his extraordinary service, artistic excellence,
18 and enduring legacy, and to commemorate the 25th anniversary of Stage
19 Aurora Theatrical Company, a beacon of cultural celebration and
20 creative empowerment; now, therefore

21 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

22 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and commends
23 Darryl Ruben Hall for his lifelong commitment to the arts, cultural
24 preservation, youth empowerment, and community service, and
25 celebrates the 25th Anniversary of Stage Aurora Theatrical Company,
26 recognizing its powerful contributions to cultural and civic fabric
27 of Jacksonville.

28 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
29 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
30 without the Mayor's signature.
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Form Approved:

/s/Mary E. Staffopoulos

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Brandon Russell, City Council Research

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