

1 Introduced by Council Member Pittman:
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4 **RESOLUTION 2025-667**

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

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

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

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

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

31 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Hall has not only directed and produced award-

1 winning works but also written and performed powerful original pieces,
2 including *Dinner with Booker T. Washington* and *Ax Handle Sunday*,
3 preserving African American history and using theater as a means of
4 healing, empowerment, and social change; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

/s/ Shannon MacGillis

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Brandon Russell, City Council Research

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