

2015-J3834

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating George Rossi upon the occasion of his induction into the Syracuse Area Music Awards Hall of Fame on March 3, 2016

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to honor and recognize those talented individuals within our midst, who have had a significant impact on the arts and culture of our communities through their outstanding musical entertainment; one such individual is legendary musician, song writer and producer George Rossi; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate George Rossi upon the occasion of his induction into the Syracuse Area Music Awards (SAMMYS) Hall of Fame celebrated at a Ceremony to be held on Thursday, March 3, 2016, at the Dinosaur Bar-B-Que in Syracuse, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Syracuse Area Music Awards were first established in 1993, to annually recognize and honor Syracuse's most prominent musicians and music educators, aiming to bring these individuals to the forefront of public attention; and

WHEREAS, Skaneateles, New York, native George "Little George" Rossi has studied with such luminaries as Cyril Neville, Squirrel Nut Zippers and a host of many others; and

WHEREAS, George Rossi entered the Syracuse music scene as a strong keyboardist, and played with local band The Works before performing with national acts, The Masters of Reality and The Bogeyman, both of which were signed to Def American Records/Delicious Vinyl; and

WHEREAS, George Rossi continued on his own and became the lead vocalist and principal song writer for the group Little Georgie and the Shufflin Hungarians, which has since been the recipient of multiple

SAMMY awards; and

WHEREAS, Under George Rossi's leadership, the New Orleans rhythm and blues inspired Shufflin Hungarians' self-released discs were the most globally successful throughout the history of the Central New York music scene; and

WHEREAS, George Rossi was also recruited to join The Wild Magnolias Mardi Indian Tribe of New Orleans to produce their 25th anniversary recording "Life is a Carnival," on Blue Note Records, and subsequently, he relocated to the Crescent City in 1998, to pursue his interest in New Orleans piano styles; and

WHEREAS, In New Orleans, George Rossi settled down as a featured piano entertainer in the world-famous dueling piano bar, Pat O'Briens; after Hurricane Katrina hit, he returned home to Syracuse, where he has been performing with his Skaneateles childhood mentors and local elder statesmen The Dean Brothers; and

WHEREAS, With deep appreciation, this Legislative Body is pleased to have this opportunity to recognize the spellbinding talent of George Rossi, and to wish him continuing success in all his future endeavors; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate George Rossi upon the occasion of his induction into the Syracuse Area Music Awards Hall of Fame on March 3, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to George Rossi.