

# City of Philadelphia



Council of the City of Philadelphia  
Office of the Chief Clerk  
Room 402, City Hall  
Philadelphia

(Resolution No. 100040)

## RESOLUTION

Recognizing, Honoring, Celebrating, and Thanking Robert Capanna on the Occasion of his Retirement as Executive Director of Settlement Music School.

**WHEREAS**, Robert Capanna was born in 1952 in Camden, New Jersey, spent his early musical life commuting to Philadelphia for music lessons, and ultimately received his Bachelor and Master of Music degrees in composition from the Philadelphia Music Academy; and

**WHEREAS**, In 1974, he was the Bruno Maderna Fellow in Composition at the Berkshire Music Center at Tanglewood where he worked with Jacob Druckman and was awarded the Koussevitsky Prize in composition; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Capanna is an active, widely respected, award-winning composer whose works have been performed by the Philadelphia Orchestra, Milwaukee Symphony, Concerto Soloists, Penn Contemporary Players, Orchestra 2001, Orchestra Society of Philadelphia, among others, as well as in numerous chamber music and broadcast series, and is president of the Presser Foundation Board of Directors as well as a member of the Board of Directors for New Sounds Music; and

**WHEREAS**, In 1976, Mr. Capanna came to Settlement Music School, a community school of the arts, as director of the School's Kardon-Northeast Branch, and, in 1982, was named executive director, a position he held for twenty-seven years before retiring on December 31, 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, During his tenure, the Jenkintown, West Philadelphia, and Camden Settlement branches opened, and, between 1982 and 2008, enrollment rose from 2,700 to 15,000 as the school's endowment grew from \$1 million to \$10 million; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Capanna launched the school's Kaleidoscope Preschool Arts Enrichment Program, a daily arts-based experience for low-income children, greatly expanded a program for advanced students, and started a chamber-music program for adults; and

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**WHEREAS**, Founded in 1908 and attended since then by close to 300,000 students, Settlement, the largest employer of musicians in the region, with 325 dedicated faculty members, most of whom hold advanced degrees, is also the largest community-based school of the arts in the United States, awarding nearly \$2 million a year in financial aid and enabling people of all abilities, age, race and financial means to participate in programs in music and dance to help them fulfill their greatest potential.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA**, That it recognizes, honors, celebrates, and thanks Robert Capanna on the occasion of his retirement as Executive Director of Settlement Music School.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That an Engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to Robert Capanna, further evidencing the sincere admiration and gratitude of this legislative body.

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CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the twenty-eighth of January 2010.

Anna C. Verna  
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Michael A. Decker  
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmembers Rizzo, DiCicco and Miller

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Rizzo, DiCicco, Miller, Greenlee, Jones, Goode, Tasco, Kelly, Council President Verna, Councilmembers Blackwell, Clarke, Green, Reynolds Brown, Sanchez, Krajewski and O'Neill