

**WHEREAS,** Community School of Music and Arts (CSMA) at Finn Center is celebrating 40 years of offering quality music and art education opportunities for children and adults of all levels of proficiency and economic means, and is the largest non-profit provider of arts education programs in the Silicon Valley; and

**WHEREAS,** CSMA was founded in 1968 by volunteers and music educators, Natalie Werbner and Joan Van Stone, with \$150 in start-up capital, 28 students and 10 volunteer music teachers in a small house on Bailey Avenue, rented for \$25 per month from the City of Mountain View, and today reaches more than 40,000 people throughout Santa Clara and San Mateo counties with classes, private lessons, camps, free concerts, exhibitions and in-school arts programs (Arts in Action, Music in Action) in more than 25 schools from San Mateo to San Jose; and

**WHEREAS,** CSMA has grown steadily through the years, expanded their community outreach, created unique programs including a Jazz Program, Digital Arts Program, and Preschool Program, and established a generous financial aid policy to ensure accessibility, whereby their tag line ‘Arts for All!’ accurately conveys their mission to provide the arts to everyone; and

**WHEREAS,** CSMA is now housed in a \$11.7 million building on San Antonio Circle in Mountain View and is a driving force in the community, partnering with many organizations, including the Chamber of Commerce, City of Mountain View, Arts Council Silicon Valley, school districts and local schools, FIRST 5 Santa Clara County to provide a free bilingual pre-school program at Castro School, the Los Altos-Mountain View PTA Council and Shoreline Amphitheatre to produce a Choral Fest, and the *San Jose Mercury News* to bring 10 weeks of arts education lessons to thousands of children, classrooms, and the general public throughout the Silicon Valley; and

**WHEREAS,** CSMA strengthens the community through a diverse, multi-cultural curriculum representative of our society, which is reflected in the classroom and in performances and exhibitions in the civic venue and engages students in creative activities requiring problem-solving skills, discipline and commitment, and CSMA has been awarded many prestigious awards, including an international design excellence award from Business Week/Architectural Record;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara, State of California does hereby honor and commend the

## *Community School of Music and Arts (CSMA) at Finn Center*

for 40 years of outstanding and innovative programs in arts education, performances and exhibitions to the residents of Silicon Valley.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this Eleventh Day of March, Two Thousand Eight by unanimous vote.

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Donald F. Gage  
Supervisor, District One

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Pete McHugh, Chair  
Board of Supervisors

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Blanca Alvarado  
Supervisor, District Two

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Attest: Phyllis  
Clerk, Board of Supervisors

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Liz Kniss  
Supervisor, District Five

