

No. R-191. Senate concurrent resolution congratulating the Vermont Studio Center on its 25th anniversary.

(S.C.R.26)

By Senators Bartlett and Snelling,

By Representative Nease of Johnson,

Whereas, studio residency programs afford artists a coveted opportunity to focus their creative energies without any disruptions, and

Whereas, in 1984, painters Louise von Weise and Jon Gregg founded the Vermont Studio Center with a mission “to support artists and writers by providing studio residencies in a non-competitive international community, honoring creative work as the communication of spirit through form,” and

Whereas, located in Johnson alongside the Gihon River, the Vermont Studio Center’s campus encompasses 30 historic buildings serving as studios, residences, library, dining room, lounge, gallery, meditation house, conference rooms and offices, and

Whereas, these facilities can accommodate 50 visual artists and writers each month, including 24 painters, 12 sculptors, two printmakers, two photographers and 12 writers, and

Whereas, Johnson State College, in collaboration with the Vermont Studio Center, offers a master’s degree in fine arts for visual artists that is unique in its field, and

Whereas, the international artists in residence are eligible to apply for travel stipends from the UNESCO-Aschberg Bursaries for Artists Programme for

emerging artists (ages 25–35), and this funding enhances the worldwide demographic composition of the artists in residence, and

Whereas, for three years, starting in 2008, the Rona Jaffe Foundation Fellowships Program is awarding one-month residency fellowships to promising women writers, and

Whereas, on May 2, 2009, the Vermont Studio Center will hold a 25th anniversary commemorative celebration that will feature open studios and other special events, and

Whereas, the Vermont Studio Center, now the largest international artists' and writers' residency program in the United States, has enabled many individuals specializing in the creation of diverse media to pursue innovative ideas in an artistically conducive and nurturing environment, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Vermont Studio Center on its 25th anniversary, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Vermont Studio Center presidents Louise von Weise and Jon Gregg.