

No. R-226. House concurrent resolution congratulating Stephen Rice on winning the 2016 Arthur Williams Award for Meritorious Service to the Arts.

(H.C.R.187)

Offered by: Representatives Toleno of Brattleboro, Burke of Brattleboro, Stuart of Brattleboro, Belaski of Windsor, Deen of Westminster, Gannon of Wilmington, Long of Newfane, Mrowicki of Putney, Olsen of Londonderry, Partridge of Windham, Sibia of Dover, and Trieber of Rockingham

Offered by: Senators Balint and White

Whereas, the Vermont Arts Council (VAC) annually honors a Vermonter or Vermont organization that has a record of meritorious artistic service, and

Whereas, the recipient of this distinguished award must have earned an independently achieved statewide reputation for excellence in an artistic endeavor and have at least one non-VAC-associated nominator, and

Whereas, the 2016 winner of the Arthur Williams Award is Brattleboro music educator Stephen Rice who holds bachelor's and master's degrees in music education from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, and

Whereas, he began his career at Brattleboro Union High School in 1987 as an instrumental music teacher, and in 2004 was deservedly named chair of the school's music department, and

Whereas, another component of his public school teaching tenure was directing middle school bands at the Brattleboro Area Middle School from 1994 to 2000, and

Whereas, Stephen Rice's diverse leadership roles in the Vermont Music Educators Association (VMEA) have included serving on the VMEA Benchmarking Project, managing the All-State Band, and leading various ensembles for VMEA District VI, and

Whereas, he has also been active in the Vermont Alliance for Arts Education, and in 2003, the organization honored him for his leadership in the arts, and

Whereas, in 2009, the Connecticut Valley District Music Festival Association named Stephen Rice as the organization's teacher of the year, and

Whereas, Stephen Rice has served as a guest conductor, adjudicator, and clinician at many regional music festivals, and

Whereas, beyond the educational milieu, Stephen Rice is an accomplished percussionist who has performed with professional and community ensembles, and

Whereas, Stephen Rice is dedicated to making his students part of the Brattleboro area music community and is an excellent choice to be presented this honor, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Stephen Rice on winning the 2016 Arthur Williams Award for Meritorious Service to the Arts, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Stephen Rice.