

No. R-25. House concurrent resolution honoring the Vermonters who created the Tony Award-winning musical *Hadestown* and Montpelier High School's role in the Washington County teen performances.

(H.C.R.20)

Offered by Representatives McCann of Montpelier, Casey of Montpelier, and Chapin of East Montpelier

Offered by Senators Watson, Cummings, and Perchlik

Whereas, shortly after New Haven's Anaïs Mitchell graduated from Middlebury College in 2004, she completed the original minimalist version of the future Tony Award-winning Broadway musical *Hadestown*, a modern rendition of the Greek legend of Orpheus's ultimately futile journey into the underworld, and

Whereas, in 2006, Anaïs Mitchell; Lincoln's Michael Chorney, orchestrator; Montpelier's Ben T. Matchstick, co-creator; and other theatrically talented Vermonters premiered *Hadestown* at the Old Labor Hall in Barre, and in 2013, Anaïs Mitchell, in collaboration with Broadway director Rachel Chavkin, Michael Chorney, and others, began revising *Hadestown* for greater theatrical glory, and East Montpelier's Robinson Morse has been an on-stage performing musician with the show since at least 2019, and

Whereas, on April 17, 2019, the dream became a reality when *Hadestown* debuted to rave reviews at Broadway's Walter Kerr Theater, and in June of 2019, the creators' unusual perseverance was recognized when *Hadestown* received eight Tony Awards (Broadway's highest accolade), and

Whereas, in 2024–2025, young thespians in several Vermont communities delighted in presenting a new teen version of *Hadestown* to enthusiastic audiences, and

Whereas, one of these productions is a dual school project combining the student and faculty resources of Montpelier High School and U-32 Middle and High School, where it was staged, with the talented faculty leadership team of Montpelier High School Theater Director Maren Langdon Spillane and U-32 Middle and High School Performing Arts Director Erin Galligan-Baldwin and with the special guidance of Anaïs Mitchell and Ben T. Matchstick, and

Whereas, the Montpelier High School students and Maren Langdon Spillane were thrilled to be essential partners with U-32 Middle and High School in this memorable theatrical event, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors the Vermonters who created the Tony Award-winning musical *Hadestown* and Montpelier High School's role in the Washington County teen performances, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Maren Langdon Spillane and to Montpelier High School.