

No. R-349. House concurrent resolution congratulating Williams College Professor of Music W. Anthony Sheppard on his designation as a 2026 Guggenheim Fellow.

(H.C.R.291)

Offered by Representative Cooper of Pownal

Offered by Senators Bongartz and Plunkett

Whereas, in 1925, former Colorado U.S. Senator John Simon Guggenheim established a foundation, which today supports “extraordinary individuals breaking new ground in the Creative Arts, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences, Humanities, and a range of interdisciplinary fields,” and, during the past century, the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation (the Foundation) has awarded over 19,000 scholars nearly \$450 million in fellowship grants, and

Whereas, on April 14, 2026, the Foundation introduced the 101st fellowship class, consisting of 223 new Guggenheim Fellows, selected from nearly 5,000 applicants who are engaged in 55 disciplines; who represent 97 academic institutions; and who reside in the United States, Canada, and eight other nations, and

Whereas, one of the 2026 Guggenheim Fellows is Pownal resident W. Anthony Sheppard, the Marilyn and Arthur Levitt Professor of Music at Williams College, a faculty member since 1996, a graduate of Amherst College, and holder of a master’s degree and a doctoral degree from Princeton University, and

Whereas, Professor W. Anthony Sheppard’s research and teaching interests range from American musical history to Asian (especially Japanese) music, Broadway musical theater, cross-cultural influences, exoticism, globalization’s impact on music, film music analysis, opera, popular music, and vocal timbre, and

Whereas, while on the Williams College faculty, he has edited and contributed to volumes on the bandleader Paul Whiteman and the Williams College alumnus, Broadway composer, and lyricist Stephen Sondheim; he has written two books, one exploring Japan’s influence on American music and a second examining exotic influences in modernist musical theater; he has published many thoughtful articles; he has edited leading academic music journals; and he has been the recipient of numerous accolades and honors; and he is a popular lecturer at musical events, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Williams College Professor of Music W. Anthony Sheppard on his designation as a 2026 Guggenheim Fellow, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Professor W. Anthony Sheppard.