

By: Senator(s) Younger, Gollott, Massey,
Butler, Harkins, Chassaniol, Horhn, Simmons
(13th), Tindell

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 635

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE
2 SUZUKI STRINGS ADVANCED ENSEMBLE OF COLUMBUS, MISSISSIPPI,
3 DIRECTOR DIANE FORD AND FOUNDER TRUDY GILDEA ON THEIR HISTORIC
4 PERFORMANCE IN CARNEGIE HALL.

5 WHEREAS, when Trudy Gildea was a child of 10, she sat in the
6 audience at New York City's Carnegie Hall, awed by the music of
7 Austrian-born Violinist Fritz Kreisler. More than seven decades
8 later, Gildea, the founder of Columbus' Suzuki Strings Program,
9 plans to return to the premier concert venue—this time to perform
10 on its fabled stage with the Suzuki Strings Advanced Ensemble; and

11 WHEREAS, the group has been invited by Music Celebrations
12 International as one of four to participate in the Viennese
13 Masters Orchestra Invitational on June 23, 2017, at the historic
14 landmark. The rare opportunity to perform at Carnegie Hall comes
15 at a special time in the life of the Suzuki Program, said Director
16 Diane Ford. Not only will the program's founder, Gildea, be able
17 to perform with the group, Ford is about to mark her 30th year
18 with Suzuki; and



19 WHEREAS, "This performance is coming at a time when really
20 dedicated musicians have risen above the top," Ford noted. "They
21 have worked hard to consistently receive Superior ratings at
22 federated music festivals, earn top seats in All-State Orchestras,
23 and audition for and perform with the Starkville Mississippi State
24 University Symphony Orchestra. They have soloed with the Tupelo
25 Symphony, Starkville Symphony and are playing for weddings and
26 events all over the Golden Triangle and Tupelo," Ford added with
27 pride. "They represent Columbus, Starkville, West Point,
28 Smithville and Oxford. Suzuki parents play an important role in
29 the musicians' success"; and

30 WHEREAS, the Suzuki Strings Program of Columbus, Mississippi,
31 was founded by Trudy Gildea in 1980 with a grant from the
32 Mississippi Arts Commission. In 1986, cello instruction was
33 introduced. The Columbus Arts Council continues to give grant
34 support to the orchestra and ensemble. Private lesson fees,
35 family dues, and orchestra and ensemble fees paid by parents cover
36 the bulk of expenses required to implement the program, which is
37 directed by Diane Ford. Lessons for violin and cello are offered,
38 and group lessons are offered for Beginners, Book 1-2 and Book 3+.
39 As students advance, they may play in the Youth Orchestra and
40 ensemble. Students in the Columbus Suzuki Strings Program have
41 also performed for Mississippi University for Women Drama
42 Productions, have soloed with the Starkville and Tupelo Symphony



43 Orchestras, and have played at homes during Pilgrimage and many
44 other events; and

45 WHEREAS, the Suzuki goal is to have a string program that
46 introduces music to children at an early age and nurtures and
47 develops their desire to play and perform over the years until the
48 student is prepared to go to the college level. Initial
49 observation in private and group lessons is necessary to help the
50 beginning student and parent understand the focus of the program.
51 The Suzuki Parent-Teacher-Child triangle encourages successful
52 progress and positive understanding of each learning step during
53 the lesson and at home. The program has a parent board and
54 teachers that contribute to the quality of the program; and

55 WHEREAS, Suzuki Strings Advanced Ensemble members preparing
56 for Carnegie Hall include Abbey Swartzendruber, Hope Bassett,
57 Gracie Swartzendruber, Laura Sandifer, Aidan Dunkelberg, Lucy
58 Sandifer and Patti Gildeal; and

59 WHEREAS, music and the arts are a very important part of the
60 community and is part of Mississippi's music legacy; and it is
61 with great pride that we recognize this landmark achievement by a
62 group of student musicians and their instructors who have brought
63 honor to their community and to the State of Mississippi:

64 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
65 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That
66 we do hereby commend and congratulate the Suzuki Strings Advanced
67 Ensemble of Columbus, Mississippi, Director Diane Ford and founder



68 Trudy Gildea on their historic performance in Carnegie Hall, and
69 extend our best wishes to the Suzuki Strings Program for future
70 success.

71 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
72 Director Diane Ford and founder Trudy Gildea, forwarded to the
73 Mississippi Arts Commission, and made available to the Capitol
74 Press Corps.

