



Office of the Chicago City
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R2012-634

Office of the City Clerk

City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:	6/6/2012
Sponsor(s):	Reilly, Brendan (42)
Type:	Resolution
Title:	Commemoration of 50th anniversary of Grant park chorus and declaration of June 13, 2012 as "Grant Park Music Festival Day" in Chicago
Committee(s) Assignment:	

**Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Grant Park Chorus, and
Proclaiming June 13, 2012 “Grant Park Music Festival Day” in Chicago.**

Whereas, The Grant Park Music Festival, the nation’s only remaining free outdoor summer classical music series, was conceived by Chicago Mayor Anton J. Cermak in 1931 and founded by James C. Petrillo, president of the Chicago Federation of Musicians, to lift the spirits of Chicagoans during the Great Depression in 1935; and

Whereas, in 1962, the award-winning Grant Park Chorus was established under the direction of Thomas Peck and has been led by Chorus Director Christopher Bell since 2002; and

Whereas, in 2012, the Grant Park Music Festival will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the formation of the Grant Park Chorus, now a professional ensemble of more than 100 vocalists; and

Whereas, the Grant Park Music Festival annually offers a 10-week session of free concerts, artistic development initiatives, radio broadcasts, and community education and outreach programs, sharing the enrichment of symphonic music with nearly 1.8 million people each year and has made its home in Millennium Park and its state-of-the-art concert facility, the Jay Pritzker Pavilion since 2004; and

Whereas, the Grant Park Music Festival has earned a reputation for artistic excellence by consistently presenting varied and adventurous repertoire – juxtaposing well-loved favorites with less familiar classical and contemporary masterworks – at the highest professional level; and


Whereas, the Grant Park Music Festival remains committed to making live symphonic and choral performances broadly accessible and to fostering a lifelong appreciation of classical music among people of all ages, backgrounds, and means; and

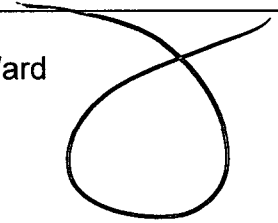
Whereas, the Grant Park Music Festival will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Grant Park Chorus with a number of special activities and events throughout the 2012 season, including a Golden Anniversary Choral Spectacular on June 29-30; and

Whereas, the Grant Park Music Festival has further commemorated this anniversary with the commissioning of two new works for the Grant Park Chorus, by esteemed American composers Michael Gandolfi and Sebastian Currier, presenting their world premiers on July 15-16 and July 6-7, respectively; and

Be It Resolved, that we, the Mayor and members of the City of Chicago Council, assembled this 6th day of June, 2012 A.D., do hereby commend the Grant Park Music Festival for its efforts to enrich, enlighten, and uplift all of Chicago's residents and guests by presenting free, world-class classical music concerts; honors the Grant Park Chorus on the occasion of its 50th Anniversary; and declares Wednesday, June 13, 2012 "Grant Park Music Festival Day" in Chicago, and

Be It Further Resolved, that an official copy of the resolution be prepared and presented to Grant Park Music Festival.


Brendan Reilly
Alderman, 42nd Ward



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