

Very truly yours,

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, On January 5, 2020, a sold-out audience at CIBC Theatre in downtown Chicago took to their feet with thunderous ovations for lead actor Miguel Cervantes and the superb cast of "Hamilton" as the final curtain fell on the most successful Broadway musical in Chicago's history; and

WHEREAS, Lin-Manuel Miranda's award-winning musical "Hamilton" is the story of revolutionary firebrand and Founding Father Alexander Hamilton, an illegitimate orphan raised in the West Indies, who immigrated to New York, served as George Washington's aide-de-camp in the Continental Army, co-authored the Federalist Papers, founded the Bank of New York, led the Federalist Party, and became the first Treasury Secretary of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Featuring a hugely diverse cast, and a score that blends hip-hop, jazz, R&B, blues, pop and rap music in a most unprecedented way, "Hamilton" opened in Chicago on September 27, 2016 and immediately captured the imagination of Chicagoans. More people have seen-"Hamilton" in Chicago than in any other city, including New York; and

WHEREAS, During its remarkable 171-week run in Chicago, "Hamilton" was performed 1,341 times at sold-out shows attended by more than 2.6 million people. A wildly successful musical, "Hamilton" generated \$400 million in ticket sales at the box office and contributed \$250 million annually to the local economy; and

WHEREAS, Thanks to the Hamilton Education Program, a partnership of "Hamilton", the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History and the Rockefeller Foundation, more than 31,000 Chicago Public School (CPS) students attended "Hamilton" after benefitting from a special curriculum on U.S. History and the Founding Era that was integrated into participating CPS classrooms across the City; and

WHEREAS, During their stay in Chicago, the generous cast of "Hamilton" raised over \$1 million for Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, a not-for-profit organization that raises funds for AIDS-related causes across the United States; supported several local service agencies; and participated in many civic and community events; and

WHEREAS, Lead actor Miguel Cervantes, who brilliantly played the role of Alexander Hamilton, and his wife Kelly, embraced Chicago as their new home. As a result of their tireless efforts, inspired by the death from a neurodegenerative disorder of their beloved three-year-old daughter Adelaide, more than \$1 million has been raised for Chicago-based Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy (CURE); and

WHEREAS, In the closing monologue of "Hamilton", as Alexander Hamilton is bracing for death on the wrong end of Aaron Burr's pistol, he remarks in his parting lines: "What is legacy? It's planting seeds in a garden you never get to see."; and

WHEREAS, In appreciation of this great American musical, and its enduring legacy as a vibrant celebration of our Nation and its values of diversity, unity, tolerance and optimism,

Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot proclaimed January 5, 2020 to be Hamilton Day in Chicago; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, That we, the Mayor and Members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this fifteenth day of January 2020, do hereby congratulate and applaud Lin-Manuel Miranda for his hit musical "Hamilton"; Miguel Cervantes for his stellar performance in the title role; and the entire cast of "Hamilton" for their many contributions to our great City and for their genius in bringing to life the memory and legacy of Founding Father Alexander Hamilton for all Chicagoans to better understand; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. Miguel Cervantes as a token of our appreciation and esteem.

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