

CLERK'S OFFICE

APPROVED

7-13-10

Submitted by: ASSEMBLY MEMBERS
OSSIANDER AND STARR

Prepared by: Assembly Counsel's Office

For reading: July 13, 2010

Date: _____

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

AR NO. 2010-203

1 **A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY RECOGNIZING AND**
2 **REMEMBERING EAGLE RIVER'S MUSIC AMBASSADOR: ARTHUR W. BRAENDEL.**

3
4 WHEREAS, on June 6, 2010, Arthur W. Braendel, founding member of the
5 Anchorage Symphony Orchestra and the Alaska Fine Arts Academy, died at home at the
6 age of 92, comforted by his wife of 63 years, Eleanor, and their loving family; and
7

8 WHEREAS, Arthur W. Braendel, a gifted cellist, loved string music and shared that
9 passion through his performances with the Anchorage Symphony Orchestra for 60 years,
10 through his years with the Borealis String Quartet, and through his teaching of many
11 students; and
12

13 WHEREAS, born on May 25th, 1918 in Palisades Park, New Jersey, Arthur W.
14 Braendel was a mechanical engineer with a passion for music, art, and Alaska; and
15

16 WHEREAS, following his naval service in the Pacific Theatre during World War II,
17 Arthur W. Braendel traveled to Juneau, Alaska and in 1946 accepted a mechanical
18 engineering position in Anchorage, Alaska with the Civil Aeronautics Administration, the
19 territorial predecessor agency to the Federal Aviation Administration upon statehood; and
20

21 WHEREAS, in October 1946, Arthur W. Braendel married Eleanor, also a musician,
22 and together they were among the founding members of the Anchorage Symphony
23 Orchestra; and
24

25 WHEREAS, in 1947, Arthur W. Braendel and his family homesteaded in Eagle River
26 where Arthur, an avid organic gardener, experimented with plants, organic fertilizers, and
27 soil supplements; and
28

29 WHEREAS, friends and fellow musicians recall in the first 20 years of the
30 Anchorage Symphony Orchestra, Arthur W. Braendel was the "backbone" of the orchestra,
31 with his hand in everything – from handling advertising to ensuring that musicians had
32 chairs; and
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34 WHEREAS, as an engineer, Arthur W. Braendel designed and built the first sewage
35 lagoon in Alaska, invented a lift to make the symphony chairs more cellist-friendly, and
36 installed an hydraulic water system on the Braendel family homestead, giving the Eagle
37 River homestead indoor plumbing two years before it had electricity; and
38

39 WHEREAS, in 1982, Arthur W. Braendel retired from the Federal Aviation
40 Administration and after 35 years of service; and

1 WHEREAS, in 1984, sharing their passion for music and art, Arthur and Eleanor
2 Braendel envisioned an academy of fine arts to encourage and to empower people to
3 explore their gifts within; and to that end Arthur and Eleanor Braendel founded the non-
4 profit Eagle River Fine Arts Academy, now the Alaska Fine Arts Academy; and

5
6 WHEREAS, presently and with the motto "Discover the Artist in You", the Alaska
7 Fine Arts Academy continues its endeavors to develop the artistic skills in every individual
8 and to provide a place to perform and display artistic talent; and

9
10 WHEREAS, over the years, the Braendels were honored with the Bear Paw Festival
11 Lifetime Achievement Award, the Anchorage Mayor's Lifetime Achievement Award in 2004
12 and the Governor's Lifetime Achievement in the Arts Award in 2008; and

13
14 WHEREAS, Arthur W. Braendel performed as cellist with the Anchorage Symphony
15 Orchestra for 60 years, retiring after the 2006 season; and

16
17 WHEREAS, still active on the Alaska Fine Arts Academy Board of Directors at the
18 time of his death, Arthur W. Braendel served as a good leader, inspirational role model and
19 mentor of fellow musicians and directors; and

20
21 WHEREAS, Arthur W. Braendel's leadership, talents as a cellist, and pioneering
22 spirit are evident throughout his life and are lasting investments for his musician-filled
23 family, his friends and the Anchorage community; and


24
25 WHEREAS, the Alaska Fine Arts Academy, Arthur and Eleanor Braendel's enduring
26 legacy, offers an inviting, nurturing and instructional environment where artists may
27 discover and refine their talents, and share them with the community;

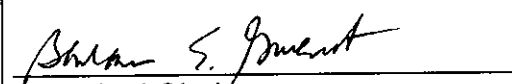
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29
30 NOW, THEREFORE, THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY RECOGNIZES AND HONORS:

31
32 **ARTHUR W. BRAENDEL**

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34 for his passion for music, organizational support and personal commitment to our fine arts
35 community, and investment in Anchorage through musical enrichment for generations to
36 come.

37
38 PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 13th day of
39 July, 2010.

40
41 
Chair

42 ATTEST:
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44 
45 Municipal Clerk