



07 LC 96 2609 Senate Resolution 597 By: Senator Thomas of the 2nd

## **A RESOLUTION**

### **Commending the Savannah Arts Academy's Music Department; and for other purposes.**

WHEREAS, the Savannah Arts Academy's **Silver Winds Ensemble** and **SkyeLite Jazz Band** was formed in August 1998 under the direction of Michael E. Hutchinson, Ed. S., as two of the major ensembles in the Savannah Arts Academy's Music Department; and

WHEREAS, the Savannah Arts Academy's Music Department **Silver Winds Ensemble** has produced a number of Georgia Music Educators Association All-State Band Members, including: Jaron McCarr, Mark Spradley, Nancy Ryerson, Amanda Barrow, Cherylann Vega-Velez, Tung Vu, Takako Komo, Diana Lugmewa, Lena Ausby, Emily Spradley, Gregory Hammontree, William Reese, Brandon Kaufman, Kelli Horton, Monika Warchol, Clare Brennan, Theresa Ward, Kevin Klingmeyer, Colin Agnew, Matthew Sikes, Alex Nguyen, Mary Parsons, Jamie Holmes, Meghan Crampton, Robert Stringer, Michael Fahey, and Elizabeth Haworth; and

WHEREAS, the Savannah Arts Academy's Music Department **SkyeLite Jazz Band** has also produced a number of Georgia Music Educators Association All-State Jazz Band Members, including: Jaron McCarr, Mark Spradley, Branden Polk, Gregory Hammontree, Emily Spradley, Tyler Moore, Colin Agnew, Chris Sather, Alex Nguyen, Jamie Holmes, and Andrae Murchison; and

WHEREAS, the members of the **Silver Winds Ensemble**, while attending the Georgia Music Educators Association First District Performance Evaluation Festival at Armstrong Atlantic State University, earned Thirty Five Superior Ratings and One Excellent Rating from adjudicators in performance and sight-reading; and

WHEREAS, members of the band have earned scholarships to Oberlin Conservatory, Columbus State University, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Morris Brown College, Clark Atlanta University, Mercer University, Georgia Southern University, Georgia State University, Savannah State University, West Georgia State University, University of Florida Community College, Howard University, Michigan University, University of North Florida, Lake Forest College, and New England Conservatory, totaling over half a million dollars; and

WHEREAS, conductor Michael E. Hutchinson was selected as Savannah Arts Academy's 2003 Teacher of the Year; and

WHEREAS, the music of the **Silver Winds Ensemble** and **SkyeLite Jazz Band** is truly a balm for the wounded spirit, hope for the discouraged, magic for the dreamer, as beautiful and valuable as silver, and as powerful as the wind.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE** that the members of this body commend the Savannah Arts Academy's Music Department's **Silver Winds Ensemble** and **SkyeLite Jazz Band** for their outstanding performances and tremendous achievements and extend their best wishes for continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Savannah Arts Academy's Music Department Chair Dianne Gardner.