

RESOLUTION NO. 20051027-018

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

WHEREAS, born in Houston on July 9, 1957, Boyd Vance grew up in Houston's Third Ward, where his interests included church, school, sports, and music; this wide array of activities foreshadowed the path his life would later take; Mr. Vance first moved to Austin to attend St. Stephen's Episcopal School, and he went on to earn his bachelor's degree in English from The University of Texas at Austin; and

WHEREAS, a consummate theater professional, Mr. Vance starred in more than 40 productions and directed more than 50, bringing to every project his characteristic blend of disciplined focus, inspired creativity, and generosity of spirit; and

WHEREAS, Boyd was a director of remarkable vision whose credits included "A Raisin in the Sun," "Joe Turner's Come and Gone," and a celebrated production of Anna Deveare Smith's documentary "Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992"; and

WHEREAS, Boyd was a valued artistic collaborator who shared his talents and energy with such diverse entities as the Tapestry Dance Company, Huston-Tillotson University, the W.H. Passon Historical Society, Ballet Austin, and The University of Texas at Austin; and

WHEREAS, though an unparalleled performer in his own right, he was less interested in furthering his own career than he was in fostering a supportive and vital arts community for the benefit of others; to that end, he shared his extensive expertise with aspiring African American theater professionals as a cofounder of Pro Arts Collective and through his work with the African-American Technical Resource Center; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Vance's commitment to community extended far beyond the arts, and he willingly lent his time and talent to such worthwhile events as Austin's African American Heritage Festival and the Martin Luther King, Jr., Boulevard Clean Up Celebration; and

WHEREAS, in 2004, Boyd was inducted into the Austin Arts Hall of Fame; in the same year, he received the B. Iden Payne Award for overall artistic achievement from the Austin Circle of Theaters; and

WHEREAS, it is the singular gift of great artists to communicate in a universal language that unites people from all walks of life, and in sharing his considerable talents with grateful audiences, Mr. Vance lifted their spirits and captivated them with work of joy and meaning; and

WHEREAS, a man of incredible talent, strength, and compassion, Boyd gave generously of himself to others, and his dedication, idealism, and love of music, literature, and dance will not be forgotten by those who knew him; and

WHEREAS, although he cannot be replaced on or off the stage, his many friends and admirers may take comfort in the fact that his vibrant spirit lives on in the organizations he helped build, in the artistic community he enriched, and in the hearts of all those fortunate enough to have known him; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin operates the George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center in which is located the Carver Theater; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to recognize the cultural contributions of Boyd Vance; **NOW, THEREFORE**,


BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

That the Carver Theater is renamed the Boyd Vance Theater.

This resolution furnishes the criteria and procedures for the renaming of the facility authorized by Section 14-1-34(G) of the City Code.

ADOPTED: October 27, 2005

ATTEST:


Shirley A. Brown
City Clerk