

1 A MEMORIAL

2 CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING CHARLES MACKAY FOR HIS ARTISTIC
3 AND BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS AS GENERAL
4 DIRECTOR OF THE SANTA FE OPERA UPON HIS ANNOUNCEMENT OF HIS
5 INTENTION TO STEP DOWN FROM THE LEADERSHIP OF THE OPERA.
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7 WHEREAS, Charles MacKay, general director of the Santa
8 Fe opera, has announced that he will end his distinguished
9 tenure at the helm of the opera on September 30, 2018; and

10 WHEREAS, at the time of his departure, MacKay will have
11 been the general director for ten years and will have served
12 the opera for twenty cumulative years, and his association
13 with the opera will have spanned fifty years; and

14 WHEREAS, MacKay began his life-long love of opera at the
15 age of nine with his first Santa Fe opera youth night
16 performance of *Die Fledermaus*; and

17 WHEREAS, MacKay started his opera career at the Santa Fe
18 opera as a thirteen-year-old parking lot attendant and then,
19 working for John Crosby, the founding general director of the
20 Santa Fe opera, MacKay went on to positions as a french horn
21 player in the opera orchestra, backstage worker,
22 administrative staff member, box office manager, development
23 manager and business office manager; and

24 WHEREAS, as general director, MacKay has provided for
25 unwavering artistic excellence, financial stability and

1 beautiful and comprehensive facility improvements at the
2 Santa Fe opera; and

3 WHEREAS, under MacKay's business direction, the Santa Fe
4 opera's net assets have doubled to one hundred twenty-one
5 million dollars (\$121,000,000) and its operating budget has
6 increased to twenty-four million dollars (\$24,000,000); and

7 WHEREAS, following MacKay's artistic direction, the
8 Santa Fe opera has furthered its bold and innovative
9 repertoire, commissioned five main stage world premiere
10 operas, including *Cold Mountain* and *The (R)evolution of Steve*
11 *Jobs*, and presented fifty-one productions of forty-eight
12 different operas; and

13 WHEREAS, MacKay has expanded the Santa Fe opera's
14 educational and community outreach initiatives, serving
15 fifty-two thousand children and adults in New Mexico, and has
16 overseen the development of young artists through
17 apprenticeship programs for singers and technicians; and

18 WHEREAS, prior to 2008, MacKay served as general
19 director of the opera theatre of St. Louis for twenty-three
20 years and director of development and finance of the Spoleto
21 festival U.S.A. and the festival of two worlds in Spoleto,
22 Italy; and

23 WHEREAS, MacKay is a member of the board of directors of
24 OPERA America, serving as chairman from 2004 to 2008, and has
25 served as chairman of the opera-music theater panel of the

1 national endowment for the arts;

2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that Charles
4 MacKay be congratulated and commended for his contribution to
5 the artistic, musical and cultural heritage of the Santa Fe
6 opera and the state of New Mexico; and

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Charles MacKay be wished all
8 the best in his future endeavors; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
10 transmitted to Charles MacKay, the board of directors of the
11 Santa Fe opera and the board of directors of OPERA America.==

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