

Resolution Naming Maestro Erich Kunzel Founder and Conductor Emeritus of the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra

Whereas, Erich Kunzel was recruited by the late Max Rudolf to join the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra as an associate conductor in 1965 and that October Maestro Kunzel conducted his first sold-out “8 O’Clock Pops” concert thus beginning his career as a modern orchestral legend And,

Whereas, the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra, part of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, was then officially founded in 1977 with Maestro Kunzel at the helm and for decades he led the orchestra, packing houses in Cincinnati’s Music Hall and Riverbend Music Center, and also gaining new fans the world over through tour performances, PBS television specials and recordings on the Telarc label And,

Whereas, Maestro Kunzel led the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra on national and international tours that brought world-wide attention to the orchestra and to our city and in August 2008, Maestro Kunzel and the Cincinnati Pops made an historic return to China to participate in the Opening Festivities of the Summer Olympics, the only international orchestra performing at the 2008 Olympics And,

Whereas, beginning in 1977, Maestro Kunzel recorded more than 85 albums on the Telarc label with the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra, with more than 55 of these albums appearing on the Top 10 Billboard Charts and he was named *Billboard Magazine’s* Classical Crossover Artist of the Year for an unprecedented four consecutive years And,

Whereas, under Maestro Kunzel’s tenure the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra reached the pinnacle of performance and popularity in this country selling an astounding 10 million recordings and reaching more than 30 million fans through PBS broadcasts And,

Whereas, Maestro Kunzel’s distinguished career was personified by his 2006 National Medal of Arts, presented by President and Mrs. Bush in a ceremony in the Oval Office at The White House and he was also honored in September 2008 as an inductee into the American Classical Music Hall of Fame And,

Whereas, Maestro Kunzel became a living legend in the Pops genre and dedicated his life to making music and gave more than 40 years of service to the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra bringing international recognition and acclaim to our orchestra and our community.

Therefore, the Board of Directors of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra resolves that from this day forward Maestro Erich Kunzel shall be named Founder and Conductor Emeritus of the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra.

Adopted on the first day of September 2009

J. Marvin Quin, Chairman

Anatolio B. Cruz, III, Secretary