

Resolution N°. 5

August 1, 2018

Subject: *Resolution commending Congress for its continued resolve in funding the National Endowment for the Arts*

NEA Resolution

Whereas, Since taking office, President Trump has threatened to defund the National Endowment for the Arts (the “NEA”); and

Whereas, Congress has so far refused to do so and even increased funding to the NEA from 2016 to 2017¹; and

Whereas, Many member orchestras of the Regional Orchestra Players’ Association (“ROPA”) rely on funding, either directly or indirectly, from the NEA; and

Whereas, ROPA orchestras use such funding to bring culture and healing to all Americans through educational concerts and programs of great classical music; and

Whereas, The more than 5000 ROPA orchestra musicians who endeavor to support good health and well-being through music performed in their communities, are advocates for American creators of new works, and are cultural ambassadors providing music, the universal language, that can be understood and enjoyed by people throughout the world; and

Whereas; The NEA is a crucial element in helping our communities to thrive; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Regional Orchestra Players’ Association (“ROPA”) hereby applauds and commends Congress for continuing to recognize the importance of

¹ <https://www.statista.com/statistics/192353/us-federal-funding-of-the-national-endowment-for-the-arts-since-2002/>

the NEA by increasing its funding in 2017; and be it further

Resolved, That ROPA encourages Congress to act in support of the thriving Arts community in the United States and robustly allocate funds to the NEA.

Submitted by: Karen Barker, Delegate, The Erie Philharmonic, and The ROPA Executive Board