

**A SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION HONORING ZHAILON
LEVINGSTON FOR HIS HISTORIC TONY AWARD ACHIEVEMENT**

WHEREAS, Zhailon Levingston, a proud native of Caddo Parish and graduate of Captain Shreve High School, has distinguished himself as one of the nation's most innovative and accomplished theatrical directors, writers, and creative artists; and

WHEREAS, through his extraordinary talent, vision, and dedication to the performing arts, Mr. Levingston has earned national acclaim for his groundbreaking contributions to American theater and for expanding opportunities for diverse voices and stories on the Broadway stage; and

WHEREAS, on June 7, 2026, Mr. Levingston achieved one of the highest honors in American theater when he received the Tony Award for Best Direction of a Musical for *Cats: The Jellicle Ball*, alongside co-director Bill Rauch, at the 79th Annual Tony Awards; and

WHEREAS, this historic achievement made Mr. Levingston the youngest Black director to direct a show on Broadway, the 2nd youngest director to win the Tony Award for Best Direction of a Musical, the 3rd Black Director (and the 1st this Century) to win a Tony for Best Direction of a Musical, further cementing his place among the most influential creative leaders in contemporary theater; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Levingston's success serves as an inspiration to aspiring artists throughout Caddo Parish and beyond, demonstrating that dedication, creativity, and perseverance can lead to excellence on the world's most prestigious stages; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Caddo Parish take great pride in celebrating the accomplishments of those whose achievements bring distinction and honor to our community, state, and nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission in regular session convened, that it hereby recognizes and congratulates Zhailon Levingston upon his historic Tony Award victory and commends him for his outstanding contributions to the performing arts and for serving as an exemplary ambassador for Caddo Parish.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Caddo Parish Commission extends its sincere appreciation and best wishes to Zhailon Levingston for continued success in all future endeavors and expresses its gratitude for the pride and recognition he has brought to the citizens of Caddo Parish.

THUS DONE AND ADOPTED by the Caddo Parish Commission, State of Louisiana, in regular session duly convened this 18th day of June, 2026.