

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF WOODIE KING, JR.'S,
NEW FEDERAL THEATRE ON ITS
30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2001

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Woodie King, Jr.'s, New Federal Theatre, which will be honored at a celebration of its 30th anniversary on March 25, 2001. For 30 years, Woodie King, Jr.'s, New Federal Theatre has provided emerging playwrights the opportunity to have their work produced and given employment opportunities to minority actors, directors, and producers.

The celebration will be hosted by such luminary actors as, among others, Debbie Allen and Avery Brooks, and Angela Bassett, Ossie Davis, Ruby Dee, Leslie Uggams, Shirley Verrett, and Susan Taylor. Chairs for the event will be Maya Angelou, Camille O. Cosby, Toni Fay, Byron Lewis, and Percy Sutton. Sydney Poitier serves as an advisor. Along with celebrating the anniversary of the New Federal Theatre, the event will also honor the Shubert's Gerald Schoenfeld, directors Lloyd Richards and Shauneille Perry, producers Wynn Handman, Phillip Rose, and Michael Bevins, the Coca Cola Foundation education director. Posthumous honorees include photographer Bert Andrews and costume designer Judy Dearing.

Woodie King Jr.'s New Federal Theatre presented its first production in the 1970-1971 season and has produced more than 175 plays, including the award-winning plays *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/When the Rainbow is Enuf*, *Child of the Sun*, and *Black Girl*. Among the many notable directors whose work has been shown at the New Federal Theatre include Laurence Holder, Damien Lake, and Ron Milner. Some of the more well-known actors who have performed at the theater include Morgan Freeman, Denzel Washington, and Debbie Morgan.

The New Federal Theatre is named after Woodie King Jr., the founder and producing director of the New Federal Theatre and National Black Touring Circuit in New York City. In the thirty-year history of the theater, Woodie King has presented more than 150 productions, both Broadway and off-Broadway shows. Among his many awards, Mr. King is the recipient of an Obie Award for Sustained Achievement as well as an Honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters from Wayne State University and a Doctorate of Fine Arts from the College of Wooster. His 1974-75 production of *The Taking of Miss Janie*, which he produced, won a Drama Critics Circle Award as Best New American Play. Aside from his work at the New Federal Theatre, Mr. King

has produced and directed shows all over the nation, with his work appearing in Atlanta, Detroit, St. Louis, Brooklyn, and Bermuda.

For 30 years, Woodie King Jr.'s New Federal Theatre has provided enormously talented imaginative, and creative minorities with the chance to present their work in an established and professional theatrical venue. Without the opportunity to perform at Woodie King's New Federal Theatre, encouraged by Woodie King himself, many of today's most successful and promising theater professionals would have perhaps never achieved their current successes.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join in acknowledging Woodie King and the pioneers of Woodie King's New Federal Theatre on the theater's thirtieth anniversary. Woodie King's New Federal Theatre, with a stellar record of accomplishment, has truly made an important contribution to American Theater.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARDS

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2001

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate and honor a young student from Alaska who has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in her community. Kari Wise of Anchorage has just been named one of Alaska's top honorees in The 2001 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, an annual honor conferred on the most impressive student volunteers in each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Ms. Wise is being recognized for developing a program designed to help middle school students lead healthy and positive lives as they begin high school. Her program, named "View on Your Future Is All About YOU," helped young students realize destructive behavior is not the answer for dealing with difficult life experiences.

In light of numerous statistics that indicate Americans today are less involved in their communities than they once were, it's vital that we encourage the selfless contributions this young woman has made. People of all ages need to think more about how we, as individual citizens, can work together at the local level to ensure the health and vitality of our towns and neighborhoods. Young volunteers like Ms. Wise are inspiring all of us, and are among our brightest hopes for a better tomorrow.

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program brought this young role model to our attention. This program was created by The Prudential Insurance Company of America in

partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals in 1995 to impress upon all young volunteers that their contributions are critically important and highly valued. Over the past six years, the program has become the nation's largest youth effort based on community service, with an estimated 100,000 youngsters participating since its inception.

We are extremely proud that Ms. Wise has been singled out from such a large group of dedicated volunteers. I applaud Ms. Wise for her initiative in seeking to make her community a better place to live, and for the positive impact she has had on the lives of others. Clearly, she has demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that deserves our sincere admiration and respect. Her actions show that young Americans can, and do, play an important role in our communities.

TRIBUTE TO KEVIN KANNENGEISER

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2001

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kevin Kannengeiser, an extraordinary teacher, coach, friend, and mentor to the students at St. Nicholas School in Los Altos Hills, California.

Mr. Kannengeiser or Mr. K, as he is known to his students, came to St. Nicholas School in January, 1977. During his 25 years at St. Nicholas, he has worked tirelessly on behalf of his students. As the 8th grade homeroom teacher and Chair of the Mathematics Department, Mr. K dedicates himself to educating, advising and guiding his students. His commitment is evident through his consistent work to offer his students educational opportunities in and out of the classroom.

Ten years ago, Mr. Kannengeiser launched the idea of taking his Social Studies students on an annual trip to Washington, D.C., so that they would better understand the workings of our government. As athletic director, Mr. K coaches the boys' basketball team, and for the last 27 years he has hosted the Annual Boys Basketball Tournament in the Bay Area.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to an outstanding community leader and a remarkable teacher who has touched the lives of countless students and serves as an inspiration to so many. Mr. K has sacrificed financially to remain in the Catholic education system. He has earned the deepest respect and admiration of his colleagues, of parents, and his students for his extraordinary dedication and effectiveness in all he does at St. Nicholas School.

Mr. Speaker, we are indeed a better nation and a better people, because of Kevin

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