

IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COMMISSION ON THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

To recognize and commend the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of KanKouran West African Dance Company.

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WHEREAS, KanKouran West African Dance Company was established in Washington, DC in 1983 by Assane Konte and Abdou Kounta of Dakar, Senegal; and,

WHEREAS, KanKouran West African Dance Company, whose members were born in the United States, Africa, and the Caribbean, is dedicated to preserving and sharing the culture of Africa; and,

WHEREAS, KanKouran West African Dance Company is home to three performing companies—the Senior, Junior, and Children’s groups; and,

WHEREAS, KanKouran West African Dance Company has established itself as an organization offering a wide range of educational and cultural programs; and,

WHEREAS, Co-Founder and Artistic Director Assane Konte has raised the national and international profile and awareness of African dance and culture through his work; and,

WHEREAS, KanKouran West African Dance Company has been a longstanding grantee of the Commission: Now, therefore, be it

*RESOLVED*, That the District of Columbia Commission on the Arts and Humanities congratulates KanKouran West African Dance Company and Assane Konte, Co-Founder and Artistic Director, on forty years of celebrating and teaching African culture through dance in Washington, DC and around the world.