

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

*No. 51*

Approved February 9, 2024

WHEREAS, January 24<sup>th</sup> was opening night and the world premiere of “La Broa’ (Broad Street)” at Trinity Repertory Theater - a play written by Orlando Hernández, directed by Tatyana-Marie Carlo, and inspired by the book “Latino History of Rhode Island: Nuestras Raíces” by Marta V. Martínez; and

WHEREAS, La Broa’ is a play based on the lives of real people who shaped Latino history in Providence and, more specifically, the Broad Street neighborhood of South Providence; and

WHEREAS, Described by its director as “a love letter to Broad Street”, this play celebrates the contributions of Latin American Rhode Islanders to the culture, economy, and history of the City of Providence; and

WHEREAS, The set design, the production, and the acting of La Broa’ is exemplary of the outstanding quality that Trinity Repertory has been nationally recognized for; and

WHEREAS, This play is a poignant reminder of the necessity of historical documentation, especially for historically overlooked communities whose vibrant stories have shaped the spirit of Providence; and

WHEREAS, The play’s vivid depiction of the Broad Street community reminds us of hurdles and victories that every Rhode Islander with immigrant ancestry can relate to; and

WHEREAS, It is the power of historical storytelling and live theater to evoke a response that is both deeply personal and also connects all of us in a shared experience; and

WHEREAS, The portrayal onstage of the lived experiences of Latino Rhode Islanders sheds light on the nuance and complexity of the Broad Street community and all immigrant American communities; and

WHEREAS, The City of Providence as we know it today stands on the shoulders of generations past, and it is our duty to be stewards of the past so that we might be stewards of the future; and



WHEREAS, This play and the stories told therein, remind us as that as members of the Providence City Council we serve complex communities and that we must allow history to inform every moment of our civic service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council enthusiastically congratulates Trinity Repertory Theater and the cast and crew of La Broa’ for a successful opening night; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council also expresses deep gratitude for this invaluable contribution to the city’s culture and for the critically important historical and ethnographic work of Marta V. Martínez which has expanded the ways in which we understand the history of the people of Providence; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage a copy of this resolution be sent to the office of Mayor Brett Smiley, to Trinity Repertory Theater, and to Rhode Island Latino Arts.

IN CITY COUNCIL  
FEB 01 2024  
READ AND PASSED

  
RACHEL M. MILLER, PRESIDENT  
  
CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.

  
Mayor

Date: 2/9/2024