

Senate Resolution No. 1664

BY: Senator MAYER

COMMEMORATING the 25th Anniversary Celebration of The American Association for Development of the Gifted and Talented on June 9, 2019, and paying tribute to its President and Music Director Elena Rossman

WHEREAS, Musical organizations, and the many social and educational benefits they confer, play a vital role in the development of their communities; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those artistic landmarks which have brought outstanding entertainment and cultural enrichment to the citizens of the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of The American Association for Development of the Gifted and Talented to be celebrated with a Gala Concert on Sunday, June 9, 2019, at Carnegie Hall in New York City, and to pay tribute to its President and Music Director Elena Rossman; and

WHEREAS, The American Association for Development of the Gifted and Talented (AADGT), www.aadgt.org, is a non-profit organization, located in Westchester, New York, which helps young extraordinarily gifted classical musicians and artists; and

WHEREAS, Each year, AADGT brings talented young musicians from around the world to perform at Carnegie Hall and in Westchester County, New York; children from across the United States, Europe and Asia have traveled thousands of miles to participate in the organization's annual festival for genius and gifted young musicians at its flagship concerts, "The Passion of Music"; and

WHEREAS, This vital association also coordinates scholarships for young people to attend music camps, and connects young musicians with great performers; many children who have participated in AADGT programs have gone on to become prominent artists; and

WHEREAS, Elena Rossman emigrated to the United States from the former Soviet Union in 1990; during this time, unable to speak English, she understood the power of music to connect people across cultures; and

WHEREAS, With a profound love for classical music and a passion for musical education and its ability to transcend cultural and geographic boundaries, Elena Rossman founded AADGT in 1993; since this time, she has built a consistent track record of teaching, recognizing, supporting, encouraging and working with gifted and talented musicians at very early musical development stages; and

WHEREAS, A well-known and widely respected classical piano professional, Elena Rossman currently serves as President and Music Director of AADGT, where her tireless dedication to her students has touched the lives of countless individuals; and

WHEREAS, The success of AADGT is in direct correlation to the efforts of Elena Rossman, whose involvement is, and always has been, characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all endeavors on behalf of the organization and the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, A vibrant arts community encourages collaboration, instills local pride, draws people together, and is essential to a community's vitality; over the past 25 years, AADGT has greatly contributed to the richness of New York's cultural palette; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when artistic organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 25th Anniversary Celebration of The American Association for Development of the Gifted and Talented, and to pay tribute to its President and Music Director Elena Rossman; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Elena Rossman, President and Music Director, The American Association for Development of the Gifted and Talented.