

1 **..Title**

2 **Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts Fee Waiver**

3 For the purpose of waiving certain fees for the Maryland Hall for the Creative Art's third phase
4 of its multi-year project to renovate its 93-year-old building and facilities in and around the
5 building.

6 **..Body**

7 ..Body

8
9 **City Council of the**
10 **City of Annapolis**

11 **Resolution 5-25**

12 **Introduced by: Mayor Buckley**

13 **Co-sponsored by:**

14
15 **Referred to:** Finance Committee

16
17 **A RESOLUTION** concerning

18 **Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts Fee Waiver**

19
20 **FOR** the purpose of waiving certain fees for the Maryland Hall for the Creative Art's third
21 phase of its multi-year project to renovate its 93-year-old building and facilities in and
22 around it.

23
24 **WHEREAS,** Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts is a multi-disciplinary arts center whose
25 mission is to provide opportunities in arts education, the visual arts and
26 performing arts for the Annapolis community; and

27 **WHEREAS,** Maryland Hall is home to artists-in-residence who create and share their work,
28 teach classes and conduct outreach programs, and four resident companies:
29 Annapolis Opera, Ballet Theatre of Maryland, Annapolis Symphony, and Live
30 Arts Maryland; and

31 **WHEREAS,** The Annapolis Film Festival and the World Artist Experience are also major
32 partners with Maryland Hall; and

33 **WHEREAS,** The building contains rooms for performing and fine arts classes for all ages and a
34 725-seat auditorium used for film, opera, symphonic, or pop music by renowned
35 performers, and all programs provide scholarships, free tickets, or are free or low-
36 cost admission; and

1 **WHEREAS,** The building was constructed in 1932 as the Annapolis High School at 801 Chase
2 Street in Historic Annapolis, in an Upper-West Annapolis neighborhood, and in
3 1979, it transitioned to Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts when the high school
4 moved to Riva Road; and

5 **WHEREAS,** Each year, Maryland Hall arts programs, with their diverse range of
6 performances, community programs, educational opportunities, and free exhibits,
7 reach more than 100,000 people, ages 3 months to 103 years, of all backgrounds
8 and economic means, making a significant impact on our community; and the
9 facility is well-used; and

10 **WHEREAS,** The historic 93-year-old Maryland Hall building has been going through a multi-
11 phased renovation project in three phases as funds are raised to complete the
12 projects, consisting of Act I, a modernization of the theater with professional
13 acoustics and improvements to audience sight lines, was completed in 2015; Act
14 II, a new loading dock and freight elevator, additional ADA accessibility, and a
15 new climate control (HVAC) system; and Act III, now in the permit process; and

16 **WHEREAS,** Act III includes the construction of the North wing to complete
17 improvements/additions, begun in 2007, and renovations/repairs to the 1932
18 historic building, classrooms, outreach, resident company, and modernization and
19 repair of heavily used public spaces, while additions to the landmark building will
20 provide fly space, stage support, lobby space for the new theater, vertical
21 circulation, additional dressing rooms and cafe; and

22 **WHEREAS,** Funding for the multi-phased project has been raised from a variety of sources,
23 including contributions by local supporters, City of Annapolis in-kind
24 contributions, State grants and bonds; and

25 **WHEREAS,** The Annapolis City Council, recognizing the invaluable contribution of the
26 Maryland Hall to our community, wishes to extend its support to the renovation
27 project by waiving fees related to the permitting process;

28 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that:
29 the City shall waive certain fees required for the Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts renovation
30 project estimated to be \$55,000.

31 **AND BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that this
32 resolution shall take effect upon passage.