



RESOLUTION OF COUNCILOR JOHN FITZGERALD DECLARING RICHARD DYER DAY IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

WHEREAS: Richard Dyer was born in Mineral Wells, Texas in 1941, and spent his youth first in Enid, Oklahoma, and then in Hiram, Ohio; and

WHEREAS: Dyer graduated Hiram College in 1963 summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in English and a minor in French. In addition to his academics, while at in college Dyer studied piano at the Cleveland Institute of Music; and

WHEREAS: After graduating college, Dyer continued his piano studies in Paris at the Institute of European Studies, where he studied under legendary pianists including Jacqueline Eymar and Alfred Cortot; and

WHEREAS: Dyer was then brought to the Boston area to earn both a Masters and PhD in English from Harvard University, briefly teaching English at the University of Iowa upon receiving his masters; and

WHEREAS: While completing his PhD in the 1970s Dyer began receiving national attention for his music criticism published within the New York Times and the Boston Globe. In addition to these publications Dyer also published critical work with in the Chicago Tribune, Opera News, The Nation, and many more; and

WHEREAS: In addition to his musical criticism, Dyer also contributed to music encyclopedias, liner notes for classical albums, and the program notes for the Boston Symphony Orchestra and other performances across the country; and

WHEREAS: Dyer joined the Globe as a music critic officially in 1973, eventually succeeding Michael Steinberg as Chief Classical Music Critic in 1976. Dyer served thirty years in this role until his retirement in 2006; and

WHEREAS: Since leaving the Globe, Dyer taught courses at the Tanglewood Music Center and Dawn Upshaw's Graduate Program at Bard College, as well as lecturing at Boston University, the New England Conservatory, the Aspen Music Festival, and the Juilliard School; and

WHEREAS: Richard Dyer passed away on September 20, 2024 at the age of 82 and it is only right that we honor him for all his contributions; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

That the members of the Boston City Council do hereby extend their gratitude to Richard Dyer and declare December 29, 2024 Richard Dyer Day in the City of Boston.

Filed in Council: December 3, 2024