

I MINA BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2006 (Second) Regular Session

Executive Committee
Resolution No. 198

Introduced by:

L. F. Kasperbauer *LFB*
Ray Tenorio *RT*
Mike Cruz *MC*

Relative to commending and congratulating Mr. Larry Franquez, a native son of Guam, on a successful career as a musician and to recognizing his contributions and dedication to the advancement of island talent in the field of music on the occasion of the "10th Annual Larry Franquez Drum Clinic."

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF I MINA BENTE OCHO NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN:

Whereas, Mr. Larry Franquez was born on February 17, 1958 to Jesus G. (dec.) and Francisca Q. Franquez (~~dec.~~), and

Whereas, today Larry is married to Sumie Franquez, their children are Jenny and Shawn; and

Whereas, in 1962 at the tender age of four (4), Larry began playing the drums, a year later, Larry's skill and drumming prowess catapulted him into the spotlight. From 1963 – 1968, young Larry performed as a drum-set soloist on Guam television, at talent shows, carnivals and other public and private events; and

Whereas, from 1972 -1979, Larry Franquez worked with a variety of bands and at various venues throughout the island. By 1980, Larry had worked with all of Guam's top jazz musicians including those whom emigrated from countries such as Italy, Singapore, Philippines, New Zealand and Great Britain; and

Whereas, the influence gained as a result of the eastern and western jazz influence inspired and motivated Larry to study the art deeper, in 1980, he

packed his bags and ventured to Boston, Massachusetts and graduated in 1984 from Berklee College of Music with a Bachelors Degree in Music Education; and

Whereas, with guidance from Alan Dawson and John Ramsey, Larry developed his own expression in the art of playing drums. His pursuit of rhythmic interpretation and the exploration of jazz helped to make him a world traveler; and

Whereas, Larry has performed with George Benson, Benny Powell, Tom Harrell, Dr. Lonnie Smith, Houston Person, Jerry Weldon, Danny Mixon, Bruce Gertz, Tony Dumas, Calvin Keys, Yuzuru "Joe" Sera, Barry Reis, T.K. Blue and Sadao Watanabe to name a few; and

Whereas, from 1998 to 2005, Larry has lived and performed in New York City, Boston, Los Angeles and Japan in the capacity as a bandleader and sideman, where his talents were quickly recognized and allowed him the opportunity to work with some of the areas most noted jazz musicians; and

Whereas, Larry's travels aid to ensure that he's able to challenge the continual evolution and explore the inexhaustible energy and universe of jazz; and

Whereas, Larry's personal work is not limited to self, his work as an educator of vocal and general music in both the public and private school systems in Guam from 1985-98 is world renowned, as his students have consistently earned prestigious awards in band competitions in New York, Boston, New Orleans, San Diego, Hawaii, and Canada; and

Whereas, Larry continues to teach aspiring percussionists and musicians at his popular annual drum clinic in Guam, over the years Larry has conducted and presented drum clinics and jazz workshops throughout the western and central pacific region including Japan; and

Whereas, in 1999 Franquez introduced the Lame Londin Memorial Scholarship Fund to Guam and Micronesia, which is administered by the

Percussive Arts Society for drummers ages 24 and under. He donates the proceeds from his annual drum clinic to the scholarship fund; and

Whereas, Larry is a international artist endorser for Sabian cymbals, Vic Firth drumsticks, DW hardware and SunUte drums; and

Whereas, on Saturday, October 21, 2006, Larry will host the 10th Annual Larry Franquez Drum Clinic ~~October 21, 2006~~ at the Guam Reef Hotel, Pandanus Room; and

Whereas, the annual event is sponsored ~~by this year~~ Shimbros Music, Guam Reef Hotel, SABIAN, Vic Firth Inc., Sunlite, DW Drums, Percussive Arts Society, and Budget Car Rental; and

Whereas, Larry Franquez, with the support of Rick Fargis celebrates 10 successful years of offering free drum clinics to drummers, musicians, vocalists and all others interested of all levels and of all ages, with the first drum clinic held on May 17, 1997 and sponsored exclusively by All American Music and held in their second store location in Upper Tumon; and

Whereas, Door prizes proceeds from products donated by endorsement companies and Shimbros Music benefit the Larrie Londin Memorial Scholarship Fund created by SABIAN and administered by Percussive Arts Society (www.pas.org). Franquez introduced this scholarship fund to Guam residents in 1999 and CNMI residents in 2004. The scholarship is available to all qualified residents ages 24 and under; and

Whereas, corporate sponsors that have supported the drum clinics in the past 10 years include: Westin Resort, Outrigger Resort, Hyatt Resort, Town House Department Store, Continental Airlines, KGTF, Shooting Star Productions, Sinajana Community, University of Guam Music Department and Marianas College, Saipan; and

Whereas, Other educational projects organized and conducted by Franquez include music and jazz workshops in Guam, Majuro, Saipan, Rota and

Tinian. The workshops benefit public and private elementary, middle and high school students, university and college students including amateur and professional musicians; and

Whereas, Larry Franquez is Guam's first and only international artist endorser. His endorsements include, SABIAN Cymbals, Vic Firth Drumsticks, Sunlite Drums and DW Drums Pedals and Hardware. He has appeared four times for a product advertisement in Modern Drummer Magazine ("World's #1 Drum Magazine") most recently in the September 2006 issue; and

Whereas, Larry Franquez was school band director for JFK High School, Pitti Middle School, Bishop Baumgartner Middle School and Santa Barbara School. This school year 2006-07 Franquez returned to the classroom and is currently band director at Agueda I. Johnston Middle School; now therefore be it

Resolved, that the Executive Committee of *I Mina Bente Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby, on behalf of the people of Guam, join in commending and congratulating Mr. Larry Franquez, a native son of Guam, on a successful career as a musician; and be it further

Resolved, that *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* does hereby recognize his contributions and dedication to the advancement of island talent in the field of music on the occasion of the "10th Annual Larry Franquez Drum Clinic"; and be it further

Resolved, that the Speaker certify to and the Legislative Secretary attest the adoption hereof and that copies of the same be thereafter transmitted to Mr. Larry Franquez, and to the Honorable Felix P. Camacho, *I Maga Lahen Guåhan*.

Duly and regularly adopted on the ____ day of October, 2006.

MARK FORBES

Speaker

EDDIE BAZA CALVO

Senator and Secretary of the Legislature