



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**CAROLINA PLAYMAKERS 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

**2019**

**BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

## **A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill was home to the first dramatic performance at a state university in 1796 with the first play produced at Carolina by a formalized dramatic organization of students in 1896; and

**WHEREAS**, the Carolina PlayMakers was founded by Professor Frederick H. Koch who presented the theatre's first bill of three one-act plays in 1919 including 'The Return of Buck Gavin', 'What Will Barbara Say?', and 'When Witches Ride'; and

**WHEREAS**, the first official production of the Carolina PlayMakers occurred on July 31, 1919 with the first performance of the 'Taking of the Shrew' by William Shakespeare at the UNC's Forest Theatre; and

**WHEREAS**, the Carolina PlayMakers theatre ensemble became nationally recognized for encouraging the development of folk play and history outdoor drama that was represented by Paul Green's 'The Lost Colony and Kermit Hunter's Unto These Hills' which added a new dimension to the face of American theatre; and

**WHEREAS**, the theatre ensemble served as a fertile training ground for well-known playwrights, actors, designers, critics and novelists including but not limited to Pulitzer Prize winner Paul Green, Richard Adler, Robert G. Armstrong, Jonathan Daniels, John Ehle, Elizabeth Green, Andy Griffith and George Grizzard who are among many of distinction; and

**WHEREAS**, the Carolina PlayMakers extensively toured the South and the Nation throughout the twenties, thirties and forties with its first professional tour from October through December in 1941 presenting Paul Green's "The House of Connelly"; and

**WHEREAS**, the theatre provided a solid foundation and proud tradition for the founding in 1976 of PlayMakers Repertory Company known as North Carolina's premier professional theatre and resident theatre company; and

**WHEREAS**, the PlayMakers Repertory Company serves as a leader in masterful storytelling and world class theatre arts training in collaboration with UNC Chapel Hill's Department of Dramatic Arts and is committed to drawing a wider circle of partnerships with diverse, nationally acclaimed theatre artists, vibrant arts, community organizations and local educational institutions for the next 100 years of playmaking at Carolina;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim July 31, 2019, as "CAROLINA PLAYMAKERS 100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY" in North Carolina, and commend this ensemble for its pioneering work and enduring spirit in the theatre arts.



  
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Roy Cooper  
Governor

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twenty-sixth day of July in the year of our Lord two thousand and nineteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-second.