

EMERGENCY

City of Cincinnati

JRS

EESW

An Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_

- 2024

**DECLARING** that 12th Street at Vine Street in the Over-the-Rhine neighborhood shall hereby receive the honorary, secondary name of “Theatre Row” in recognition of the theatres in the Over-the-Rhine neighborhood and the arts and culture community in the City of Cincinnati.

WHEREAS, the City of Cincinnati, steeped in its illustrious history, has steadfastly championed a diverse array of arts, recognizing and valuing the profound cultural impact and significance they contribute to the City; and

WHEREAS, the vibrant 12th Street in the Over-the-Rhine neighborhood stands as a hub for cultural expression, hosting renowned theatres and arts institutions such as Ensemble Theatre Cincinnati, the Cincinnati Shakespeare Company, Know Theatre, and the Children’s Theatre of Cincinnati; and

WHEREAS, Cincinnati, earning the impressive 11th spot on the Top 40 Arts-Vibrant Communities of 2023 by SMU DataArts, soared from its previous 20th ranking; and

WHEREAS, Cincinnati’s unwavering dedication to theatre and the arts has propelled it into the prestigious list of the top 50 Best Places to Live, as recognized by U.S News; and

WHEREAS, the abundance of theatres in the Over-the-Rhine neighborhood and throughout the City has firmly established Cincinnati as a preeminent community for arts and culture; and

WHEREAS, Council seeks to acknowledge the profound impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the City’s theatres and artists, commending the arts community for its resilience in navigating the challenges posed by the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, amid the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, all four theatres on 12th Street remained open, demonstrating remarkable perseverance as they reconstructed their patron and donor bases, infused crucial social progress into their programs, and extended their positive influence on the community; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to honor the historical and cultural significance of its artistic community and institutions, hereby bestowing the honorary and secondary name of “Theatre Row” upon 12th Street at Vine Street in the Over-the-Rhine neighborhood; now, therefore,

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That 12th Street at Vine Street in the Over-the-Rhine neighborhood shall hereby receive the honorary, secondary name of “Theatre Row” in honor of City’s artistic

community and in recognition of the many theatres in the City of Cincinnati and their struggle and perseverance during the COVID-19 pandemic including the Ensemble Theatre Cincinnati, the Cincinnati Shakespeare Company, Know Theatre, and The Children's Theatre of Cincinnati.

Section 2. That the appropriate City officials are hereby authorized to do all things necessary and proper to implement the provisions of Section 1 herein, including the generation and installation of appropriate secondary street signage, which shall designate 12th Street at Vine Street in the Over-the-Rhine as "Theatre Row" in accordance with the Department of Transportation and Engineering's procedures relating to street designation and related signage.

Section 3. That a copy of this ordinance be sent to the staff of the Ensemble Theatre Cincinnati via the office of Councilmember Seth Walsh.

Section 4. That this ordinance shall be an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and general welfare and shall, subject to the terms of Article II, Section 6 of the Charter, be effective immediately. The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to allow the Department of Transportation and Engineering to move forward with the administrative requirements related to the honorary naming of streets to provide for the ceremony and dedication of the honorary street name at the earliest possible time.

Passed: \_\_\_\_\_, 2024

\_\_\_\_\_  
Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk