

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**SESSION 1993**

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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 393**

Corrected Copy 4/23/93

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Sponsors: Representatives Mavretic, Jenkins, G. Thompson; Beall, Bowman, and Flaherty.

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Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House.

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March 4, 1993

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE FOUNDERS OF THE JOHN C.  
2 CAMPBELL FOLK SCHOOL AND THE PENLAND SCHOOL OF CRAFTS  
3 AND DECLARING BOTH SCHOOLS AS NORTH CAROLINA ARTS AND  
4 CRAFTS RESOURCES.

5       Whereas, North Carolina is the location of two of the nation's most unique  
6 cultural resources, the John C. Campbell Folk School and the Penland School of Crafts;  
7 and

8       Whereas, the John C. Campbell Folk School, located in Brasstown, began as  
9 an idea of John C. and Olive Dame Campbell to revitalize rural Western North Carolina  
10 based on a Danish folk school theory; and

11       Whereas, in 1925, with donations of land, labor, materials, and funds from  
12 families in Brasstown, Olive Dame Campbell and Marguerite Butler Bidstrup began the  
13 John C. Campbell Folk School; and

14       Whereas, in the years to follow, the John C. Campbell Folk School created  
15 agricultural demonstration projects, the first area farmers' credit union, health and  
16 nutrition programs, a library, a residential school, a cannery, a dairy, agricultural  
17 cooperatives, cottage industries, and later an internationally recognized traditional  
18 Appalachian craft school; and

19       Whereas, the John C. Campbell Folk School was designated as an Historic  
20 District by the National Register of Historic Places; and

1           Whereas, the John C. Campbell Folk School pioneered such programs as job  
2 training for veterans in the late 1940s, a literacy program in the mid-1950s, a  
3 community cannery in the 1960s, and a mentor-apprenticeship crafts program in 1990;  
4 and

5           Whereas, the John C. Campbell Folk School heritage arts and folklore  
6 program plays a critical role in recognizing and preserving North Carolina's traditions  
7 and properly presenting and interpreting the character of North Carolinians to a larger,  
8 national public; and

9           Whereas, in 1992, over 15,000 people attended the John C. Campbell Folk  
10 School's outreach programs in public schools and communities, providing a critical  
11 reminder to the residents of this State of the uniqueness of North Carolina's mountain  
12 traditions; and

13           Whereas, the John C. Campbell Folk School serves as a center for youth,  
14 civic, church, professional, and business groups from Western North Carolina and  
15 across the southeastern region of the United States; and

16           Whereas, the John C. Campbell Folk School supports and markets the work  
17 of over 200 of the region's finest traditional craftspeople; and

18           Whereas, the John C. Campbell Folk School serves as an important point of  
19 interest, attracting over 50,000 travellers in 1992; and

20           Whereas, since 1985, of 237 existing craft schools, the John C. Campbell  
21 Folk School has had the most students and offered the most courses in craft, music, and  
22 dance; and

23           Whereas, the John C. Campbell Folk School, in the spirit of its founders,  
24 works toward two inter-connected goals, namely, the growth of the individual in an  
25 inner, spiritual sense toward finding the creative expression with each of us, and  
26 secondly, the growth of people as members of society, more caring, more  
27 understanding, and more tolerant toward their fellow human beings; and

28           Whereas, the John C. Campbell Folk School is one of North Carolina's most  
29 unique cultural resources and a national resource for traditional crafts, music, dance,  
30 and folklore, and is the only school of its kind in the United States; and

31           Whereas, in 1923, the Penland School of Crafts was begun as the Penland  
32 School of Handicrafts, by Lucy Morgan in order to revive handweaving and to provide  
33 women in rural Western North Carolina with additional income from the sale of their  
34 products; and

35           Whereas, the Penland School of Crafts, incorporated in 1929 and located in  
36 Mitchell County, promotes individual and artistic growth in crafts by providing  
37 programs and instructional facilities that encourage genuine innovation, knowledge of  
38 the history of applied design, and excellence in craftsmanship, and by preserving the  
39 traditions of folk arts and the heritage of improvisation; and

40           Whereas, the Penland School of Crafts offers classes in book arts, ceramics,  
41 drawing, fiber and surface design, glass, metals, paper, photography, printmaking, and  
42 wood; and

1           Whereas, through the North Carolina Office of Public Instruction, Penland  
2 School of Crafts offers teacher certificate renewal credit and a special program for  
3 North Carolina visual arts teachers; and

4           Whereas, through the Greater University Systems of North Carolina and  
5 Tennessee, students may earn graduate and undergraduate academic credits by attending  
6 the Penland School of Crafts; and

7           Whereas, in 1992, the Penland School of Crafts had students from 51 of  
8 North Carolina's counties; and

9           Whereas, over 150 instructors offer classes during each year at the Penland  
10 School of Crafts, coming from all over the United States and occasionally from other  
11 countries; and

12           Whereas, the Penland School of Crafts offers a special one-half tuition  
13 program to residents of Avery, Mitchell, and Yancey counties; and

14           Whereas, over 100 professional craft studios have been established in Avery,  
15 Mitchell, and Yancey counties as a direct influence of the Penland School of Crafts,  
16 which has a strong positive effect on tourism and the local economy; and

17           Whereas, in 1987, the Penland School of Crafts received the Mountain  
18 Heritage Award from Western Carolina University for outstanding contributions to the  
19 preservation and interpretation of the heritage and culture of Western North Carolina  
20 and the Gold Medal in Education for long-time service from the American Craft  
21 Council; and

22           Whereas, it is important to acknowledge the contributions of the John C.  
23 Campbell Folk School and the Penland School of Crafts and to encourage the citizens of  
24 this State to take advantage of them;

25 Now, therefore, be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

26           Section 1. The General Assembly of North Carolina wishes to honor the  
27 founders of the John C. Campbell Folk School and the Penland School of Crafts.

28           Sec. 2. The General Assembly of North Carolina wishes to recognize the  
29 John C. Campbell Folk School and the Penland School of Crafts as North Carolina arts  
30 and crafts resources and to encourage the citizens of this State to take advantage of  
31 them.

32           Sec. 3. The Secretary of State shall transmit a certified copy of this resolution  
33 to the directors of the John C. Campbell Folk School and the Penland School of Crafts.

34           Sec. 4. This resolution is effective upon ratification.