[Authorization to Gift Debenham Comedy Recording Collection to Emerson College]

Resolution authorizing the San Francisco Public Library to gift the Debenham Comedy Recording Collection to Emerson College.

WHEREAS, On December 19, 1994, the San Francisco Public Library ("Library") received an unencumbered gift of comedy albums and novelty recordings from Warren Debenham ("Debenham Comedy Recording Collection"); and

WHEREAS, The Debenham Comedy Recording Collection now includes more than 35,000 comedy and novelty recordings in a variety of formats, including vinyl records, 8-track tapes, audio cassettes, and compact discs; and

WHEREAS, A portion of the Debenham Comedy Recording Collection has remained at Mr. Debenham's residence because the Library did not have adequate physical space to accommodate the large collection; and

WHEREAS, The Library has determined that it does not have adequate physical space to accommodate the Debenham Comedy Recording Collection, nor adequate resources to preserve, catalogue and make the collection available to the public; and

WHEREAS, The Library undertook a search for other institutions that would have an interest in taking the Debenham Comedy Recording Collection; and

WHEREAS, Emerson College, located in Boston, Massachusetts, offers educational degrees with a concentration in Comedic Arts, including a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Comedic Arts; and

WHEREAS, Emerson College has informed the Library that it would gladly accept the Debenham Comedy Recording Collection, which Emerson College has the capacity to house, preserve, and make available to students through its programs and curriculum; and

WHEREAS, Emerson College has agreed to assume the cost of transporting the Debenham Comedy Recording Collection to its campus in Boston, Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Debenham has already gifted some items directly to Emerson College, including duplicate recordings, newspaper clippings, and ephemera; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Debenham consents to and supports the Library's gift of the Debenham Comedy Recording Collection to Emerson College; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Public Library is authorized to gift the Debenham Comedy Recording Collection to Emerson College; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors authorizes the San Francisco Public Library to execute a deed gifting the Debenham Comedy Recording Collection to Emerson College.

Recommended:

_____/s/_____

Michael Lambert, City Librarian