

1 [Commending Kearny Street Workshop on its 45th Anniversary]

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3 **Resolution commending Kearny Street Workshop on its 45th anniversary, and**
4 **proclaiming April 19, 2018, “Kearny Street Workshop Day” in the City and County of**
5 **San Francisco.**

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7 WHEREAS, Jim Dong, Lora Foo, and Michael Chin, children of working-class and
8 immigrant backgrounds, started a multi-disciplinary arts organization, Kearny Street Workshop
9 (KSW), that grew out of the Asian-American movement in 1972; and

10 WHEREAS, The International Hotel, which became the last building on the last block of
11 Manilatown, served as the homebase for KSW’s workshops and poetry readings, as well as
12 KSW’s Jackson Street Gallery; and

13 WHEREAS, KSW fostered the development of a unique expression of Asian-American
14 consciousness through art forms like silkscreen posters, photography, poetry, jazz, mural
15 painting and more, which were all connected to community rituals; and

16 WHEREAS, KSW continues to support Asian-American artists from their first public
17 performance, exhibition, or storytelling workshop onward to directing a Disney television
18 series, publishing an award-winning memoir in graphic novel form, and even hosting their own
19 Netflix special; and

20 WHEREAS, KSW is a key member of the SOMA Pilipinas Cultural District’s art and
21 culture committee, celebrating and contributing to Filipino-American artists and organizers;
22 and creating a cross-sector cultural fabric within the neighborhood; and

23 WHEREAS, We are in a political, social, and cultural moment where local communities
24 are being threatened by gentrification and displacement, and it is more critical than ever to

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1 engage, resist, and support artistic and creative voices that express diverse life experiences
2 and perspectives; now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
4 commends Kearny Street Workshop on the occasion of their 45th anniversary and proclaims
5 April 19, 2018 “Kearny Street Workshop Day” in the City and County of San Francisco.

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