

2023-K509

Assembly Resolution No. 509

BY: M. of A. Lupardo

COMMEMORATING the 25th Anniversary of the Endicott
Performing Arts Center on September 23, 2023

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to honor and pay tribute to those cultural institutions and organizations whose commitment to promoting the richness and diversity of the arts and entertainment world has contributed to the strength, vitality, and cultural enrichment of their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Endicott Performing Arts Center, to be celebrated with a Silver Jubilee featuring performers from the past 25 years, as well as a post-show reception on Saturday, September 23, 2023; and

WHEREAS, The Endicott Performing Arts Center (EPAC) is a non-profit organization which provides an affordable and high quality venue to local, regional and touring performing artists, enabling them to present, develop, and improve their artistic efforts; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, remaining true to its mission, the Endicott Performing Arts Center provides a means for thousands of community members to gain education about all aspects of the performing arts,

while presenting a diverse array of performing arts events to its community; and

WHEREAS, In 1998, the Endicott Performing Arts Center was bought by three Endicott natives, Bob Corwin, Patty Daglio, and Steve Daglio; during this time, Pat Foti and Lou Ligouri headed the restoration project, and later in 2010, the name was changed to the "Robert Eckert Theatre" in honor of another Endicott native who was active in community theater; and

WHEREAS, Over the past 25 years, EPAC has renovated and operated out of the 106-year-old "Lyric Theater" on Washington Avenue in Endicott, New York; and

WHEREAS, During the COVID Pandemic, which caused EPAC to shut its doors for the first time in over 20 years, the Endicott Performing Arts Center was able to reinvent itself by creating a new online platform, EPAC DIGITAL, which enables EPAC to continue its mission while expanding its audience; this new video streaming system allows audiences from around the world to experience EPAC productions from the comfort of their own homes; and

WHEREAS, Today, under the direction of its President, Andrea Gregori, this extraordinary cultural institution serves as the premier entertainment center in Broome County, and a true beacon for the arts which are so vital to the community and the lives of its residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, A vibrant arts community encourages collaboration, instills local pride, draws people together, and is essential to a community's vitality; since its inception, EPAC has greatly contributed to the richness of New York's cultural palette and remains steadfastly

dedicated to ensuring this gem remains in all its glory for decades to come; and

WHEREAS, The arts are the building blocks of civilization; they are central to human expression; they enlighten us and inspire the imagination; educational institutions, individuals, and organizations which further such worthy purposes richly merit the recognition and appreciation of this Legislative Body and the people of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, As the historic Endicott Performing Arts Center looks back with great pride to its beginnings, viewing, with just satisfaction, its successful evolution, it renews both its dedication to supporting artistic excellence, and its commitment to the community it has served since 1998, expressing its appreciation to all those who have helped to sustain and enhance it over the years; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Endicott Performing Arts Center on September 23, 2023; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Andrea Gregori, President of the Endicott Performing Arts Center.