

## 2013-J2487

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim October 2013 as Italian Heritage and Culture Month in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to those whose true purpose and worthy accomplishment foster a spirit of community as they promote and recognize the goals and ideals of the rich cultural heritage of the Italian community; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim October 2013 as Italian Heritage and Culture Month in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, The Italian Heritage and Culture Committee (IHCC) of New York, a not-for-profit organization, was founded in 1976; Dr. Angelo Gimondo, its Founding Chairman, has played a leadership role since the beginning; its Board of Directors is composed of prominent representatives of New York's Italian-American community, and Joseph Sciamè continues to ably serve as its President and Chairman; and

WHEREAS, IHCC's Board of Directors, consisting of Italian and Italian-American leaders in Greater New York, announced the theme this year: "2013: Year of Italian Culture in the United States," L'Anno della Cultura Italiana negli Stati Uniti; and

WHEREAS, The theme, which parallels the theme announced by the Italian Embassy in Washington, D.C., is celebrated throughout this year, especially highlighted during Italian Heritage and Culture Month; and

WHEREAS, This year's theme is an initiative of the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Giulio Terzi di Sant'Agata, coordinated by the Italian Ambassador in the United States, Claudio Bisogniero; and

WHEREAS, The multifaceted theme, highlighting Italy's history and culture in every area of creative endeavors, will emphasize research,

discovery and innovation; what is evident is Italy's significant historical contributions to world civilization; its connection with the science, technology and art of contemporary Italy; and its ever presence throughout the culture and daily life in America; and

WHEREAS, Special commemorative anniversaries will be noted: the bicentennial of Verdi's birth; the 700th anniversary of Boccaccio's birth; the 500th anniversary of Machiavelli's THE PRINCE; and the 50th anniversary of the Lamborghini; and

WHEREAS, Unique to this year is not only the production of the Italian Heritage and Culture Committee's annual poster but also nine subsequent posters, depicting the Italian Government's program themes: Music and Theater; Science and Technology; Language and Literature; Art; Cinema and Photography; Italian Brand & Design; Italian Territories; Tastes and Flavors of Italy; and the Next Generation; and

WHEREAS, The annual poster depicts Michelangelo's David-Apollo, presently on loan from Musco del Bargello, Florence, Italy, to the National Gallery in Washington, D.C., where the inaugural event took place; and

WHEREAS, The celebration of Italian Heritage and Culture, which began as a week-long event, has grown to a month-long celebration of special events and programs organized and hosted by cultural associations, community centers, libraries, schools and universities during the month of October; and

WHEREAS, Each October is dedicated to a specific theme or personality representative of the history and culture of Italy and Italian-Americana; October 2013 marks the 37th Anniversary of Italian Heritage and Culture Month; and

WHEREAS, Italian-American cultural events and programs venerating Italian history, culture, and the many significant contributions of Italians, Italian-Americans, and Italian culture to America will take place throughout New York State during this special month for people of all cultures to enjoy; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim October 2013 as Italian Heritage and Culture Month in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York; and Joseph Sciame, President and Chairman of the Italian Heritage and Cultural Committee of New York, Inc.