

## 2013-J2585

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending GallopNYC upon the occasion of hosting its annual Ride With Pride Horse Show

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those within our midst who have made significant contributions to the quality of life therein; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend GallopNYC upon the occasion of hosting its annual Ride With Pride Horse Show in Central Park on Sunday, June 16, 2013; and

WHEREAS, GallopNYC is a non-profit organization based in New York City that offers therapeutic horsemanship programs to children and adults with disabilities; it particularly works with children, youth, and adults who face developmental, emotional, social, and physical challenges; and

WHEREAS, GallopNYC riders have a wide range of disabilities including learning disabilities, such as: autism spectrum disorder; cerebral palsy; and developmental, speech and language delays; the organization also works with at-risk teens and children exposed to domestic violence; it serves 150 riders a week and operates its riding program at three main locations; and

WHEREAS, Therapeutic horsemanship uses the pleasures and skills of horseback riding and horse knowledge to build developmental, emotional, social, and physical skills for each individual rider; under the direction of a PATH International certified instructor, supported by trained volunteers, each rider progressively acquires riding skills and measurable improvements in life skills; and

WHEREAS, Through weekly sessions, GallopNYC helps riders walk, talk, connect, focus, behave, learn, and have fun; it also offers hippotherapy

services; and

WHEREAS, Therapeutic horsemanship means learning to ride a horse, along with building a bond with a horse and learning to care for a horse; it also means understanding how horses perceive the world and respond to people, and being a leader to a horse; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend GallopNYC upon the occasion of hosting its annual Ride With Pride Horse Show; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to GallopNYC.