

2013-J4093

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 18th Annual Brooklyn Pride Celebration

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and applaud those cultural events within the State of New York which serve to celebrate diversity, and in doing so, help to enfranchise minority populations within the larger community of humanity; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 18th Annual Brooklyn Pride Celebration held on June 9-14, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Few imagined that on June 14, 1997, Brooklyn's First Annual Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Celebration would be such a huge success, especially since it was being organized and produced by a new grassroots organization with an all volunteer staff; 16 years later, Brooklyn Pride, Inc. produces the second largest Pride Celebration in New York; and

WHEREAS, Brooklyn Pride has hosted over 35,000 participants at its festival, stage and night parade; it had a cross section of the borough's business, community and government leaders as well as city wide organizations and businesses as participants in the festival and parade; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, Brooklyn Pride has become the largest and most prominent organization serving Brooklyn's LGBT community; although Brooklyn Pride's primary mission is to produce the borough's annual pride events, the organization actively works to bring pride year round to every Brooklyn neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, Brooklyn Pride is a 501(c)(3) volunteer-managed, tax-exempt, non-profit organization working for and on behalf of all lesbian, gay,

bisexual and transgender Brooklynites and all others who support the struggle for equality of this community; in the spirit of Stonewall, Brooklyn Pride welcomes the participation of all the residents of Brooklyn, the outer boroughs and pride communities both out of state and internationally; and

WHEREAS, Brooklyn Pride is a proud member of the International Association of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Coordinators (InterPride), a not-for-profit organization that provides support to over 200 groups that plan Pride events around the globe; Brooklyn Pride is also a member of Northeast Regional Pride (NERP), an association of Pride committees in the Northeast; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is very pleased to have this opportunity to express its highest admiration for Brooklyn Pride, Inc. and to wish this worthy organization continued success in its work on behalf of the community it so ably represents; and

WHEREAS, Our society is greatly benefited by the purposeful efforts of individuals who unite for the cause of improving the quality of life for others, and who proactively work toward the goal of dignity for all; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 18th Annual Brooklyn Pride Celebration; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Mickey Heller, 2014 Parade Coordinator, Brooklyn Pride Inc.