

2015-J5572

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 125th Anniversary of Carnegie Hall

WHEREAS, It is the honor and privilege of this Legislative Body to recognize the historic significance and creative achievements of artistic and cultural institutions within the State of New York, and in doing so, help to ensure that the complete history of our State and Nation is preserved and shared with present and future generations of New Yorkers; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of Carnegie Hall; and

WHEREAS, Under the able leadership of President Sanford I. Weill, Carnegie Hall is a venerated music and performance hall with an illustrious past that has set the standard for excellence and artistry in music over the past 125 years with over 46,000 events since its founding; and

WHEREAS, On May 5, 2016, Carnegie Hall held a celebratory concert and gala to observe the exact anniversary of 125 years to the day since the Hall first opened its doors in 1891 for an opening night concert conducted by Walter Damrosch and featuring Russian composer Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky; and

WHEREAS, Since its opening, Carnegie Hall has consistently drawn the most eminent performers from a wide variety of genres, ranging from classical musicians to symphony orchestras to jazz, folk, and pop stars; and

WHEREAS, Upon the laying of its cornerstone in 1890, Andrew Carnegie proclaimed, "All causes may here find a place," portending the Hall's extensive record as host to political leaders, activists, and historical

figures in need of a public forum, notably including Booker T. Washington, Mark Twain, Margaret Sanger, Winston Churchill, Theodore Roosevelt, Emmeline Pankhurst, and Martin Luther King, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Carnegie Hall's distinguished character and quality has created beloved folklore surrounding both the illustriousness of the institution and the talents of its performers with the result that all veritable New Yorkers know that the answer to "How do you get to Carnegie Hall?" is "Practice!"; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is pleased to have this opportunity to express its highest admiration for Carnegie Hall and for all of the individuals who have worked tirelessly to celebrate its storied history and continued success; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of Carnegie Hall; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Sanford I. Weill, President, Carnegie Hall.