

## 2015-K1455

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending 4 Real Women International, Inc. upon the occasion of hosting its Voices of Women Conference 2016 on May 15, 2016

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals who would devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend 4 Real Women International, Inc. upon the occasion of hosting its Voices of Women Conference 2016 (VoW Con 16) on Sunday, May 15, 2016, at the Roulette Events and Performance Space, Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, VoW Con 16 is an annual event comprised of forums which promote open dialogue on real issues for real women; the theme of this year's conference is entitled Dreams Redefined; and

WHEREAS, Founded by Norka Blackman-Richards, 4 Real Women International (4RWI), Inc. is a non-denominational, multilingual, multicultural, multigenerational, non-profit franchise run by women for women and their families, with operations throughout the United States and across the globe; and

WHEREAS, For the last nine years, 4RWI, Inc. has diligently worked to develop and present innovative and creative insight-gaining programs and activities for women and their families, in individual or group settings, through peer-counseling, mentoring, workshops, interventions, conferences, and support groups; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, 4RWI, Inc. strives to provide awareness, understanding and practical solutions to some of the most common and often

unaddressed issues faced by women around the globe today by utilizing various social networks such as Twitter, Facebook, Pinterest, LinkedIn, Instagram, Google+, and Paper.Li, as well as YouTube; and

WHEREAS, 4RWI, Inc. believes that every woman is empowered when she understands that she deserves the freedom to rediscover herself and has the right to learn how to live her best life; through its empowerment efforts, 4RWI, Inc. hopes to challenge women to take full ownership of the countless possibilities that lie within them; and

WHEREAS, Since its inception in 2007, 4RWI, Inc. has touched the lives of thousands of women in the United States and internationally through signature programs which include: Leadership Academy 4 Women: L.E.A.D! (Leadership. Empowerment. Accountability. Determination), VoWCon (Voices of Women), a one-day conference that gathers the voices of women as panelists, to share their views around a specific topic, and International Conferences for Women in Latin America and the Caribbean; and

WHEREAS, At this year's conference, Miko Branch, author, philanthropist, and co-Founder and CEO of Miss Jessie's LLC, the company behind the premium hair care product line, Miss Jessie's, will serve as the Keynote Speaker; and

WHEREAS, The Feature Interview will highlight Mariama Camara, fashion designer, humanitarian and Founder and Creative Director of Mariama Fashion Production, Mariama Camara LLC and the co-Founder of There Is No Limit Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Guest panelists will include Datrean Y. Pileggi, a Surgical Neurophysiologist at New York Presbyterian Hospital, who assists with difficult spine and brain surgeries; and

WHEREAS, Captain Linda Rock-Wright, the Commanding Officer for the New York Police Department Enterprise Assessment Unit, which provides early

assessment and mitigates lawsuits against the New York City Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Anilsa Nunez, a 20-year veteran of higher education, current-

ly holds the title of Dean of Student Affairs at St. John's University;

and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those organizations and individuals who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend 4 Real Women International, Inc. upon the occasion of hosting its Voices of Women Conference 2016 on May 15, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Norka Blackman-Richards, Founder/CEO, 4 Real Women International, Inc., and to Miko Branch, Mariama Camara, Datrean Y. Pileggi, Linda Rock-Wright, and Anilsa Nunez.