

2023-J1135

Senate Resolution No. 1135

BY: Senator PARKER

COMMENDING I AM C.U.L.T.U.R.E.D. upon the occasion of hosting its Annual Fundraising Gala on June 8, 2023

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to publicly recognize those extraordinary individuals who have made contributions to the cultural enrichment of the State of New York, and to the success and progress of society during their life's work; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend I AM C.U.L.T.U.R.E.D. upon the occasion of hosting its Annual Fundraising Gala on Thursday, June 8, 2023, at the Williamsburg Hotel in Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, For their true dedication to their community and the furtherance of I AM C.U.L.T.U.R.E.D.'s mission, this year's honorees include the Dreamville Foundation; Arnie Weissmann, Editor in Chief of Travel Weekly; Danielle Browne Esq., Founder of The Browne Firm PLLC; Nikki Bethel, President & CEO of the Emma Bowen Foundation; and

WHEREAS, I AM C.U.L.T.U.R.E.D. is a registered non-profit organization dedicated to promoting self-empowerment and appreciation for cultural richness and diversity amongst high school students of color in the New York Metropolitan Area; the I AM C.U.L.T.U.R.E.D.

acronym stands for Confident, Unique, Leading, Tenacious, Unstoppable, Regal, Educated, and Daring; and

WHEREAS, I AM C.U.L.T.U.R.E.D. is devoted to empowering high school youth of color to become innovative global citizens through experiential learning, mentorship and cultural experiences, while being passionately dedicated to promoting self-empowerment and appreciation for cultural richness and diversity by creative global leaders of tomorrow to envision a life beyond their immediate communities while fulfilling personal and professional goals towards success; and

WHEREAS, Through mentorship, leadership workshops, and travel abroad experiences, the organization takes a holistic approach to youth development, supporting their social, intellectual, and mental wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, I AM C.U.L.T.U.R.E.D. focuses on travel abroad, community service, mentorship, the Community Day Street Festival, and the Youth Empowerment Series programs, truly enriching the youth participants of the organization; and

WHEREAS, This annual evening of culture and excellence is a culminating celebration of the program year, the I AM C.U.L.T.U.R.E.D. courageous students, and bold change makers of today; this special night fuels the heartbeat of the organization- the Cultural Series Summer Travel Program; this summer, students will travel abroad to Egypt; and

WHEREAS, The current Board Members overseeing I AM C.U.L.T.U.R.E.D. include Iman Dean Strong; Melissa Shields; Maleah Land; Reggie Hudson; Bunmi Olosunde; Monique Holaman Esq.; Urian Smith; and Rondel Charles, acknowledging these exceptional individuals and their contributions to the organization, fully confident that they will continue to enjoy the

sparkling successes they have experienced thus far; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals and 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 I AM C.U.L.T.U.R.E.D. upon the occasion of hosting its Annual Fundraising Gala on June 8, 2023; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to I AM C.U.L.T.U.R.E.D., and the aforementioned honorees.