

2009-J2535

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor David A. Paterson to proclaim July 5, 2009, as Morgan Park Summer Music Festival Day in the State of New York

WHEREAS, The arts, in whatever form depicted, are central to human expression; they are truly a universal language and their contribution to the development of friendship and understanding among all peoples cannot be underestimated; and

WHEREAS, The history, the heritage, and the lives of the people of all countries and all cultures are portrayed in their music and dance; the art and act of sharing them enriches us altogether; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those musical organizations that have brought entertainment and cultural enrichment to the citizens of the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to memorialize Governor David A. Paterson to proclaim July 5, 2009, as Morgan Park Summer Music Festival Day in the State of New York, in honor of its 50th Anniversary; and

WHEREAS, One of the oldest continuously operated arts organizations on Long Island, the Morgan Park Summer Music Festival has presented free concerts on summer weekends without interruption since its inception 50 years ago; and

WHEREAS, The Morgan Park Summer Music Festival was established by Mayor Joseph A. Suozzi and Laura Pratt to bring music to the community and enhance leisure activities in the City of Glen Cove, New York; and

WHEREAS, The first concert sponsored by the Morgan Park Summer Music Festival was held on July 5, 1959, featuring The Little Orchestra Society, which was conducted by Glen Cove resident Clara Burling Roesch; and

WHEREAS, Supported solely by donations from private individuals and businesses on the North Shore, the Morgan Park Summer Music Festival has been able to sponsor a concert every weekend during the summer since 1982; and

WHEREAS, Enjoyed by more than 4,000 people each year, the annual

program of the Morgan Park Summer Music Festival consists of music of all artistic and cultural styles, representing the varied tastes and traditions of the uniquely diverse community of Glen Cove, New York; and WHEREAS, Over the years, the Morgan Park Summer Music Festival has been able to bring stars like Dave Brubeck, Shirley Verrett, Lionel Hampton, Sarah Vaughn, Maxine Sullivan, Vergil Fox and Marian McPartland, as well as the United States Army and Navy Concert Bands to perform for the residents of Glen Cove, New York, and its surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, In addition, the Morgan Park Summer Music Festival has expanded its repertoire to include Saturday programs that are geared towards families with younger children, introducing them to music by allowing them the chance to see and hear different instruments, listen to conductors speak and watch ballet and musical theater; and

WHEREAS, For the past 37 years, the Morgan Park Summer Music Festival has also sponsored a Young Performers Talent Competition for musically inclined youth who live or go to school on the North Shore of Nassau County; and

WHEREAS, Many of the past winners of the Morgan Park Summer Music Festival Young Performers Talent Competition have gone on to have productive and rewarding musical careers, including Robert Sirota, who is now the President of the Manhattan School of Music; Alexis and Christa Kende, who have performed for the Pope in Rome; and Nikki Blonsky,

who was nominated for a Golden Globe Award for her performance in "Hair-spray"; and

WHEREAS, It is most fitting that we take time to celebrate the arts of our Nation, to honor our artists, and to express our appreciation to everyone who patronizes the arts; and as we celebrate the arts, we celebrate and give thanks for our American freedom, the only atmosphere in which artists can truly create and in which art is truly the expression of the soul; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor David A. Paterson to proclaim July 5, 2009, as Morgan Park Summer Music Festival Day in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable David A. Paterson, Governor of the State of New

York, and the Morgan Park Summer Music Festival.