

2009-J285

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Dr. Aaron A. Flagg upon the occasion of his designation for special honor by the Music Conservatory of Westchester on February 20, 2009

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to honor and pay tribute to organizations and individuals whose commitment and creative talents contribute to the education, entertainment, and cultural enrichment of their community and the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and fully in accord with its long-standing traditions, it is the intent of this Legislative Body to commend Dr. Aaron A. Flagg upon the occasion of his designation for special honor by the Music Conservatory of Westchester; and

WHEREAS, Aaron A. Flagg will be honored at the Music Conservatory of Westchester's "Tango & Waltz" concert, an evening of professional music and dance, to be held at the C.V. Rich Mansion in White Plains, New York, on Friday, February 20, 2009; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1929, the Music Conservatory of Westchester is Westchester County's oldest professional performing arts organization; located on Central Avenue in White Plains, the Conservatory is a community school of the arts providing comprehensive music, musical theatre, and music therapy instruction to students of all ages and abilities; and

WHEREAS, The Music Conservatory of Westchester is proudly honoring Aaron A. Flagg in recognition of his significant contributions, as a performer, teacher and supporter of the arts, to the Music Conservatory of Westchester and to the Westchester community; and

WHEREAS, Trumpeter, educator and administrator, Dr. Aaron A. Flagg, has been the Executive Director of the Music Conservatory of Westchester for the past three years; he lives in Riverdale with his wife, Dr. Cristina Stanescu, and their son; and

WHEREAS, He holds a doctorate from the University of Michigan and earned two degrees from The Juilliard School, where he studied with Wynton Marsalis and Mark Gould of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra; Dr. Flagg is a member of the faculty of The Juilliard School as well as of the Music Conservatory of Westchester; and

WHEREAS, He performs in both jazz and classical musical styles and has done so with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, New York Philharmonic, Illinois Jacquet Big Band, Manhattan Virtuosi, Tania Leon's "Son Sonora Ensemble," Gladys Knight, Roberta Flack, the Westchester Philharmonic, Westchester Symphony, Long Island Symphony and the Brooklyn Philharmonic, among many others; and

WHEREAS, Aaron A. Flagg has served as a spokesperson for the Music Educators National Conference (MENC) and has made presentations before such organizations as the Westchester Arts Council, Center for Arts Education, Chamber Music America, Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism, Joyce Foundation, Massachusetts Arts Council, National Endowment for the Arts, and the New York State Council on the Arts; and

WHEREAS, He is currently Chair of the New York Metro Area Region of the National Guild of Community Schools for the Arts and a member of the League of American Orchestras' Board of Trustees, and was honored to have been named by the Business Council of Westchester as one of its "Rising Stars -- Westchester's Forty Under Forty," in 2008; and

WHEREAS, As its Executive Director, Dr. Flagg brings a wealth and depth of knowledge and experience to the Music Conservatory of Westchester; during his tenure, he has taken 180 students to perform at Carnegie Hall's Zankel Hall, completed a five year strategic plan, overseen an 11 percent increase in enrollment, significantly expanded the reach of the

Conservatory's Music Therapy Institute, and launched new programs in Vocal Performance, Hip Hop, Rock and Composition; and

WHEREAS, The arts are the building blocks of civilization; they are central to human expression; they enlighten us and inspire the imagina-

tion; individuals who further such worthy purposes richly merit the recognition and appreciation of this Legislative Body and the people of the State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend Dr. Aaron A. Flagg upon the occasion of his designation for special honor by the Music Conservatory of Westchester on February 20, 2009; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Dr. Aaron A. Flagg.