

## 2011-J1328

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the Stone Quarry Hill Art Park upon the occasion of celebrating its 20th Anniversary and honoring its Founder, Dorothy Riester

WHEREAS, It is the sense 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 that are devoted to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, It is also the sense of this Legislative Body that the quality of life of the citizens of the State of New York is greatly enriched by its exceptional cultural, educational and recreational institutions; these institutions give positive definition to the profile and disposition of the communities of the State of New York and profoundly strengthen our society with their commitment; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its longstanding traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the Stone Quarry Hill Art Park upon the occasion of celebrating its 20th Anniversary and to honor its Founder, Dorothy Riester; this auspicious occasion will be observed on Saturday, May 7, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Located in Cazenovia, New York, sitting atop a breathtaking rural landscape within upstate New York's hills, meadows, and forests, Stone Quarry Hill Art Park is a public, outdoor art park consisting of 104 acres of land and over four miles of hiking trails; tucked into these elements of natural beauty are Stone Quarry's heart: original, one-of-a-kind works of art; and

WHEREAS, The Stone Quarry Hill Art Park was founded by Dorothy and Robert Riester who moved to the Syracuse area in the 1950s; in 1958, they made their first land purchase on the site which would become the Park, and from 1959-1965 they worked on building a house on the hilltop; and

WHEREAS, Dorothy Riester designed a house on the site; shaped like a cone on its side, in keeping with the contours of the hill and considering the wind direction and bedrock of the land, the Hilltop House is

itself a work of art; an A-frame art studio was also built on the site, and in 1970 the site began its path as a place of artistic activity with the addition of the Art Barn studio, which became a base for the Syracuse Ceramic Guild; and

WHEREAS, In November 1991, Stone Quarry Hill Art Park was formally incorporated as a not-for-profit organization overseen by a volunteer Board of Directors and became an official venue in 1991; it is one of the first outdoor sculpture parks to be established in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Currently, under the able leadership of its Executive Director, Joseph A. Scala, the Stone Quarry Hill Art Park serves a dual mission: preservation of the land, and the creation and exhibition of works inspired by the relationship between art and nature; and

WHEREAS, The Stone Quarry Hill Art Park showcases both established and emerging artists; sculptors have been joined by visual and performing artists from many cultural traditions; painters, potters, dancers, musicians, weavers, and writers from around the world have all found inspiration in the Art Park's unique natural setting; and

WHEREAS, Inspired by the relationship between art and nature, the Stone Quarry Hill Art Park seeks to educate and engage the public through exhibitions, collection, interpretation, and community outreach programs in the arts; it is dedicated to providing a unique environment

for the showcasing of art by emerging and established artists, in natural and gallery settings; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious occasion presents a unique opportunity for this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to the Stone Quarry Hill Art Park and to its founder, Dorothy Riester; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when organizations and individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be recognized and applauded by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the Stone Quarry Hill Art Park upon the occasion of celebrating its 20th Anniversary and to honor its Founder, Dorothy Riester; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Joseph A. Scala, Executive Director, Stone Quarry Hill Art

Park, Cazenovia, New York.