

## 2013-J132

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 100th Anniversary of Players of Utica

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, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Players of Utica, to be celebrated on Saturday, September 15, 2012; and

WHEREAS, The mission of Players of Utica is to afford the residents of the Greater Utica Area the opportunity to enjoy, study, and actively participate in live amateur theatre; and

WHEREAS, In addition, Players of Utica aims to stimulate interest and foster the development of an appreciation of the dramatic arts, as well as to promote the social and intellectual well-being of the community by encouragement of the study and improvement of the arts as they relate to the theatre; and

WHEREAS, Players of Utica is one of the oldest, continually producing community theatres in the United States and the oldest in New York State; and

WHEREAS, Players has always strived to provide entertainment that is unmatched in quality and value in Central New York; with each new season, it brings a mix of performances that range from timeless classics to the bold and inspiring, some never before or since seen in the area; and

WHEREAS, Players of Utica had its beginnings as an amusement club, organized for an evening of more or less extemporaneous performances, nonprofessional, and intended only for casual pleasure; and

WHEREAS, From 1913-1948, Players of Utica had a period of serious

effort to present the dramatic arts as professionally as possible; this was followed by the institution of a community theater; and WHEREAS, Since its establishment, Players of Utica presented hundreds of dramas, musicals, and original plays to more than one million residents of Central New York; and WHEREAS, On May 5, 1999, Players of Utica suffered a devastating fire in which everything was lost; and WHEREAS, Thanks to the efforts of many, on October 31, 2003, Players of Utica held a much anticipated ground-breaking ceremony on the site of its new theatre complex located on the corner of State and Mandeville Streets in Utica, New York; and WHEREAS, Steeped in a proud and distinguished history, Players of Utica can look back with great pride upon its humble beginnings; taking just satisfaction in its purposeful growth, it will continue its mission, devoting its talent and unique services to enriching the cultural spirit of the public it has served so faithfully for 100 years; now, therefore, be it RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Players of Utica; and be it further RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Players of Utica.