

2015-J565

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the "B" Bridges Exchange Program and its members for their outstanding work with the students of Xaverian High School in Brooklyn, New York

WHEREAS, Volunteerism is an essential element of all societies; it provides a way in which the human values of community, caring and serving can be sustained and strengthened; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to call attention to the dedicated efforts of those organizations and individuals from across the State of New York who volunteer their time and energies in service to the community; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the "B" Bridges Exchange Program and its members for their outstanding work with the students of Xaverian High School in Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, The "B" Bridges Exchange Program is a volunteer group consisting of close to 500 people who have traveled back and forth between New York City and Inuyama, Japan, with the mission of fostering good works and inter-cultural education; and

WHEREAS, This unique program has brought Japanese teachers and education study groups to Xaverian High School in Brooklyn, and has sponsored charity events in both New York City and Inuyama; and

WHEREAS, The "B" Bridges Exchange Program's first event in Inuyama featured a concert by the Xaverian Jazz Band; this event raised money to benefit foreign residents who had lost their jobs; and

WHEREAS, Following the 2011 tsunami, the "B" Bridges Exchange Program and Xaverian High School held fundraising events in both New York and Japan to benefit those whose lives were affected by the disaster; and

WHEREAS, The next year, these two community-minded groups joined together again in fundraising efforts to help residents of New York City after Hurricane Sandy; and

WHEREAS, A tremendous experience for all involved, the "B" Bridges Exchange Program has demonstrated the value of cultural transmission and community service; and

WHEREAS, Volunteerism promotes family and community solidarity; most importantly, people who volunteer their time in civic and charitable endeavors inspire others to the call of volunteerism; the members of the "B" Bridges Exchange Program and the students of Xaverian High School are such volunteers; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that when organizations and individuals 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 the "B" Bridges Exchange Program and its members for their outstanding work with the students of Xaverian High School in Brooklyn, New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the members of the "B" Bridges Exchange Program and the students of Xaverian High School.