

2015-J2074

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION celebrating the life and accomplishments of Fernando Salicrup, respected teacher, artist, cultural pioneer and co-founder of Taller Boricua

WHEREAS, It is with regret and sorrow that we record the passing of Fernando Salicrup, of East Harlem, New York, a respected teacher, artist, cultural pioneer, and co-founder of Taller Boricua, noting the loss of an individual whose hard work and dedication helped to preserve the neighborhood's cultural institutions; and

WHEREAS, Fernando Salicrup of East Harlem, New York, died on Thursday, January 1, 2015, at the age of 68; and

WHEREAS, A lover of art, Fernando Salicrup's career included work with a diverse mix of institutions, most notably serving as one of the five founding members of Taller Boricua, a non-profit arts organization which provides programming on a host of social, cultural, and economic development issues; and

WHEREAS, Through various workshops Taller Boricua has provided countless artists an opportunity to share their vision, collaborate with others, and contribute to both preserving and pushing forward culture since its founding in 1970; and

WHEREAS, In 1992, Fernando Salicrup established the Julia De Burgos Latino Cultural Center which includes an art gallery, theatre, and other cultural amenities; through his leadership, the Center has proudly served the community of East Harlem for over 20 years, providing local artists mentorship and access to much needed resources; and

WHEREAS, Fernando Salicrup was a respected mentor, activist, and member of Community Board 11; with a vision to empower the community to secure the growth of the arts in El Barrio, his dream was to create a vibrant home for the arts and artists of Latino and Puerto Rican

descent; and

WHEREAS, Fernando Salicrup distinguished himself in his profession and by his sincere dedication and substantial contribution to the welfare of his community; and

WHEREAS, Fernando Salicrup's commitment to excellence, and his spirit of humanity, carried over into all fields of enterprise, including charitable and civic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, East Harlem is a better place because of Fernando Salicrup, a man who channeled his devotion to the arts and role as a community leader to make his community a better place to live; his loss will be felt throughout the arts world, as his dedication to the importance of culture was unrivaled; and

WHEREAS, Fernando Salicrup is survived by his loving wife and devoted children, all of whom felt privileged to be a part of his life and rejoiced in his achievements; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Fernando Salicrup leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to celebrate the life and accomplishments of Fernando Salicrup, respected teacher, artist, cultural pioneer and co-founder of Taller Boricua; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Fernando Salicrup.