



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Jeffrey D. Klein

Senator Klein and Miss USA Erin Brady Host 19th Annual "Valentines for Veterans" Event

JEFFREY D. KLEIN February 14, 2014

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BRONX, NY - Senator Klein and Miss USA 2013 Erin Brady, joined by student choirs from P.S. 14 and P.S. 83 hosted "Valentines for Veterans" at the James J. Peters VA Medical Center. The event marked Senator Klein's 19th year hosting the event for local veterans. After the program, Senator Klein, Miss USA and children from P.S. 83 helped distribute valentines and gift bags prepared by children at 25 schools across the Bronx.

Senator Klein said: "The sacrifice our veterans have made in protecting our country and defending our freedom is invaluable. For nearly 20 years, I have proudly hosted 'Valentines for Vets,' an event that coincides with the National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans, as a way to show thanks to our local veterans.

With a visit from Ms. USA, a musical performance from the P.S. 83 Children's Choir and Valentines written by students from more than 25 local schools, this event offers a way for us to show our appreciation for the contributions made by local American heroes."

"The National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans gives everyone a chance to let our veterans know just how very much they are appreciated," said **Medical Center Director, Dr. Erik Langhoff**, "We were excited to welcome Miss USA, Erin Brady, our P.S. 83 students and Senator Klein. Their participation just heightens the celebration and brings a special note of cheer to our veterans."

The Valentines for Veterans event coincides with a week of national and local celebrations commemorating veteran patients as part of the National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans. The National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans seeks to spread awareness and appreciation for veterans by encouraging citizens to visit hospitalized veterans in their communities.