

2015-J3819

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Corky Lee upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Homecrest Community Services on February 26, 2016

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those exceptional photojournalists of this great Empire State who have distinguished themselves in their profession while entertaining us and enriching our lives with their creative talents; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Corky Lee upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Homecrest Community Services to be celebrated at its Annual Gala Celebration, The Chinese Lunar New Year 4714 "The Year of the Monkey" on Friday, February 26, 2016, at Jing Fong Restaurant, New York, New York; and

WHEREAS, Homecrest Community Services, Inc. (HCS) is a non-profit corporation which provides community-based, multi-social services for senior citizens, immigrants, children and families living in southern Brooklyn; and

WHEREAS, A renowned American photographer, born Li Yangguo, Corky Lee was born in Queens, New York; in 1965, he studied American History at Queens College; and

WHEREAS, During class, Corky Lee saw an old photo which depicted the completion of the transcontinental railroad in Utah; even though the construction involved thousands of Chinese workers who toiled in harsh conditions, the photo did not highlight one worker of Chinese descent; and

WHEREAS, From this moment on, Corky Lee was devoted to making the accomplishments of Asian Americans more visible; he has been inspired to

record and discover the diversity and nuances of Asian American culture overlooked by mainstream media, and to make sure Asian American history is included as an essential piece of American history; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the years, Corky Lee has documented the daily lives of Asian Americans as well as various historical moments in Asian American political history; and

WHEREAS, One of Corky Lee's most significant accomplishments came in 1975, when a photo he took of a Chinese-American being assaulted by the police appeared on the cover of the NEW YORK POST; in addition, he also recorded the intense protests by the Asian American community in the aftermath of the Vincent Chin murder trial in 1983; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when photojournalists 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 Corky Lee upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Homecrest Community Services on February 26, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Corky Lee.