

2015-J4111

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 50th Anniversary of WCNY,
Central New York's Public Media Company

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize those outstanding organizations within our midst that have consistently contributed to the excellence of education within our communities; and
WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of WCNY, Central New York's Public Media Company; and

WHEREAS, WCNY was launched in 1965 and chartered by the New York State Department of Education as the Public Broadcasting Council of Central New York; and

WHEREAS, WCNY is a tax-exempt, nonprofit organization and a member-supported affiliate of the Public Broadcasting Service; and

WHEREAS, WCNY was originally known as "The Education Station," but it has dramatically expanded its services throughout 19 counties over the past 50 years; and

WHEREAS, During its 50-year history, WCNY has also expanded to include five digital television channels; WCNY, Create, World and Plus channels are now available to more than 1.8 million people; and

WHEREAS, Additionally, WCNY has grown from a single classical music station (Classic FM) to three digital radio stations that broadcast 24-hour jazz and oldies on its Jazz HD and Oldies HD stations, as well as The Capitol Pressroom, a daily one-hour radio program from the State Capitol which features interviews with newsmakers on various important state issues; and

WHEREAS, In 2013, WCNY moved operations from its longtime home in Liverpool, New York, to a new, state-of-the-art Broadcast and Education

Center on Syracuse's Near Westside; and

WHEREAS, This new facility features two large television studios where Artifex, Double Down, Financial Fitness, Insight, Ivory Tower, and several other local television programs are recorded for high-definition broadcast; in addition, the building includes two new radio studios and 10 audio and video production suites; and

WHEREAS, The facility is also home to the Joint Master Control Operating Company, a WCNY-owned company that manages television program distribution for all the New York and New Jersey public broadcasting companies; and

WHEREAS, As part of its educational mission, WCNY recently launched Enterprise America, a hands-on experiential learning center for school-aged children, located inside WCNY's facility on Syracuse's Near Westside; the 10,000-square-foot center features businesses and service companies which local students can run as part of their school coursework; and

WHEREAS, For its continuous efforts within the Central New York community, WCNY was the recipient of the CenterState CEO 2014 Business of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, For the past 50 years, WCNY has served as a public voice for Central New York, connecting with the community by educating and entertaining the public with television and radio programming which encourages a deep appreciation for diverse cultures and humanity; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of WCNY, Central New York's Public Media Company; and be it further

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