

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring the Roxbury Arts Group upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2011 Tourism, Hospitality, and Cultural Business of the Year Award by the Central Catskills Chamber of Commerce on May 18, 2011

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those businesses and individuals who would devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor the Roxbury Arts Group upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2011 Tourism, Hospitality, and Cultural Business of the Year Award by the Central Catskills Chamber of Commerce, to be celebrated at its Annual Awards Dinner on Wednesday, May 18, 2011 at the Hanah Mountain Resort and Country Club in Margaretville, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Central Catskills Chamber of Commerce seeks to advance the economic and community vitality of the many hamlets, villages and towns in the greater Margaretville area and promote and foster events, programs and initiatives that will support the Central Catskills Chamber of Commerce members; and

WHEREAS, As the Chamber of Commerce celebrates its 31 years of service to the community, it is proud to recognize the Roxbury Arts Group as well as its Executive Director, Susan Kenny, for this most auspicious award; and

WHEREAS, Tourism, Hospitality and Culture is one of the largest segments of business in the Central Catskills economy; this award recognizes the excellence and dedication of a business in this industry and one that has shown business acumen while commitment to improving the quality of living in the region; and

WHEREAS, The Roxbury Arts Group, incorporated in 1979, began as a celebration of the bicentennial during 1976; from its simple origins, it has grown into an outstanding Arts Council for Delaware County; and

WHEREAS, Many milestones have been achieved including the acquisition of the 1922 Classic Revival YMCA building in 1988; moreover, after extensive historically sensitive renovations, the 6000 square foot building now contains the Walt Meade gallery, The Hilt Kelly performance hall, and an upstairs dance studio and workshop space; and

WHEREAS, Since 1986, the Roxbury Arts Group has administered the Decentralization Program for the New York State Council on the Arts; coordinated by staff member Ann Epner, this program grants funds to a broad range of individual artists and non-profit organizations throughout Delaware County for Community Arts Projects; and

WHEREAS, In 2000, the Roxbury Arts Group acquired the historic Old Bank building on Main Street, which became the home of its business offices and gallery; and

WHEREAS, The Roxbury Arts Group updated a performance space formerly known as the Stamford Performing Arts Center in 2008, which became The Coffee House of 76 MAIN; two years later, the newly renovated Carriage House followed; and

WHEREAS, In 2009, the Roxbury Arts Group completed a merger with the Denver Vega Conservation Committee and took ownership of assets and responsibility for the care, preservation and maintenance of the First Old School Baptist Church in the Vega Valley where summer concerts are held each year; and

WHEREAS, The Roxbury Arts Group has been guided and managed over the years by individuals who have combined great business management with a dedication to providing arts and cultural programming that would other-

wise not be available to its community; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when businesses 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 honor the Roxbury Arts Group upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the 2011 Tourism, Hospitality, and Cultural Business of the Year Award by the Central Catskills Chamber of Commerce on May 18, 2011; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Susan Kenny, Executive Director, the Roxbury Arts Group.