

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Fine Arts Orchestral Society of Yonkers

WHEREAS, A great state is only as great as those individuals and their organizations who perform exemplary service on behalf of their community, and it is the custom of this great state to pay tribute to that outstanding service; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Fine Arts Orchestral Society of Yonkers; this milestone was celebrated on Sunday, March 10, 2013; and

WHEREAS, The Yonkers Philharmonic Orchestra began in 1962, by Pasquale A. Pistone who was a former conductor of the former Yonkers Symphony Orchestra; and

WHEREAS, Maestro Jerome Sala was named to serve as conductor and musical director of the Orchestra in 1972; he initiated a special program in collaboration with the Yonkers Public Schools in 1987, wherein the musicians from the orchestra became mentors for students at the Enrico Fermi School for Performing Arts and Emerson Middle School; and

WHEREAS, The Fine Arts Orchestral Society of Yonkers Leads the way in providing free live symphonic concerts each year at Saunders High School; and

WHEREAS, Continuing a 15 year tradition by the Yonkers Philharmonic Orchestra, a group of orchestra members performed a free outdoor summer concert at Untermeyer Park in Yonkers and continues to perform once each summer in coordination with the Untermeyer Park Performing Arts Council; in 2009, they also performed outdoors at the Greenburg Nature Center; and

WHEREAS, The Fine Arts Orchestral Society of Yonkers recognizes, and encourages young talented musicians and awards scholarships in memory of founder Pasquale A. Pistone who passed away in 1971; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, the society supports promising teenage musicians and sponsors a Concerto Competition in which talented high school music students from all over Westchester County compete for scholarships and competition winners are offered the unique opportunity to perform as soloists with the orchestra; and

WHEREAS, Fine Arts Orchestral Society of Yonkers continues to fulfill their goal of bringing classical music free of charge to the citizens of Yonkers under the aegis of Maestro James Sadewhite and they are a volunteer-driven organization which includes the extraordinary service provided by their Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when musical societies 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 commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Fine Arts Orchestral Society of Yonkers; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Fine Arts Orchestral Society of Yonkers.