

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Brooklyn Academy of Music upon the occasion of hosting the 2014 DanceAfrica Festival on May 17-26, 2014

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to call attention to those events which serve to enhance the cultural enrichment of the State of New York and preserve the heritage of African Americans; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Brooklyn Academy of Music upon the occasion of hosting the 2014 DanceAfrica Festival, which was celebrated on May 17-26, 2014, in Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM) is a multi-faceted arts center committed to serving the Brooklyn community; for over 150 years, it has provided world-class programming in theater, dance, music, opera, and film, while showcasing the work of emerging artists and innovative modern masters; and

WHEREAS, Now in its 37th year, DanceAfrica is the nation's largest festival dedicated to the various traditions of African dance; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed cultural event brings together performance, art, film, and an array of community events for an exhilarating celebration of the unique contributions of Africa and the African diaspora; and

WHEREAS, This year, DanceAfrica proudly shines the spotlight on Madagascar-based music and dance troupe Bakomanga, which is making its American debut; and

WHEREAS, Led by Malagasy music star Mariette Rasoarinala, Bakomanga embraces a rich variety of indigenous cultural forms, using jubilant drum and accordion-driven music and movement to honor its ancestors, usher in the harvest, and preserve tradition; and

WHEREAS, The DanceAfrica Arts Festival is a cherished event which provides a uniquely warm and safe environment in which to enjoy the music, dance, arts, crafts, flavors, colors, laughter and love of the African Diaspora with family and visitors from across the globe; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Brooklyn Academy of Music upon the occasion of hosting the 2014 DanceAfrica Festival; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Brooklyn Academy of Music.