

BY: Senator PARKER

COMMEMORATING the 11th Annual Art of Brooklyn Film Festival on June 1-12, 2021

WHEREAS, The arts, in whatever form depicted, are central to human expression; they are truly a universal language and their contribution to the development of friendship and understanding among all peoples cannot be underestimated; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to honor and pay tribute to those organizations and events whose commitment and creative talents have contributed to the entertainment and cultural enrichment of the citizens of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, The Art of Brooklyn Film Festival (AoBFF) is a unique event that brings Brooklyn's celebrated film and media makers together with their peers across the country and around the world; and

WHEREAS, The award-winning AoBFF is a filmmaker-focused event, platform and showcase for exciting emerging creators and established voices which partners with film distributors and media organizations, hosts world-class talkbacks, creates innovative programming for networking and skill building, and screens in state-of-the-art theaters for enthusiastic audiences across Brooklyn; and

WHEREAS, Founded by working artists in 2011, ten festival premieres have gotten theatrical distribution to date, with one becoming an HBO series; and

WHEREAS, This vital organization has held events in 19 different venues in nine neighborhoods across Brooklyn, often partnering with local businesses and organizations to reach the widest possible audience; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, its innovative approach to ensure no single point of view dominates the curation process includes working with a different Guest Festival Director every season; its ethical and transparent submission policy is a model for the industry; and

WHEREAS, The success of the Art of Brooklyn Film Festival is in direct correlation to the efforts of its co-Founder and Executive Director, Joseph Shahadi, whose involvement is, and always has been, characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all endeavors on behalf of the event and the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious occasion presents an opportunity for this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to the Art of Brooklyn Film Festival; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when artistic

creators of such remarkable talent 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 11th Annual Art of Brooklyn Film Festival on June 1-12, 2021; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Joseph Shahadi, co-Founder and Executive Director of the Art of Brooklyn Film Festival.