

BY: Senator MYRIE

COMMEMORATING the 126th Anniversary of the
Brooklyn Public Library on November 30, 2022

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across the great State of New York is reflective of certain exemplary organizations whose purpose is dedicated to serving the community and the needs of its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 126th Anniversary of the Brooklyn Public Library on November 30, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Brooklyn Public Library (BPL) is among the borough's most democratic civic institutions, serving patrons in every neighborhood and from every walk of life; and

WHEREAS, Established in 1896, BPL is one of the nation's largest public library systems and currently has more than 850,000 active cardholders; and

WHEREAS, With a branch library within a half-mile of the majority of Brooklyn's 2.7 million residents, BPL is a recognized leader in cultural offerings, literacy, out-of-school-time services, workforce development programs, and digital literacy; and

WHEREAS, In a borough of wide economic disparity, where the costs of basic necessities often take priority over spending on cultural enrichment opportunities, BPL provides a space where patrons of all economic standings can avail themselves and their children of cultural and educational programs in a broad range of disciplines; and

WHEREAS, The American Library Association's 2014 Public Library Data Service Statistical Report ranked BPL third in the nation among public libraries for public programs offered and program attendance; and

WHEREAS, In 2016, BPL was awarded an IMLS National Medal for Museum and Library Service, the nation's highest honor for museum and libraries, in large part due to the work of its Outreach Services department and its efforts to serve Brooklyn's most vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS, The Brooklyn Public Library has been an invaluable resource for residents of the Borough of Brooklyn for 126 years; people come to the library to connect, discover and learn through story times, book group, and various programs for all ages; and

WHEREAS, A vital part of its community, this remarkable institution has continually strived to provide outstanding service to a diverse

population of neighborhood residents; and

WHEREAS, The success enjoyed by the Brooklyn Public Library is in direct correlation to the efforts of the many individuals who have supported the development of the Library over the years; and

WHEREAS, Steeped in a proud and distinguished history, the Brooklyn Public Library may take just pride in its purposeful growth, as it looks forward to continuing to serve the educational, cultural and intellectual needs of the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 126th Anniversary of the Brooklyn Public Library; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Brooklyn Public Library.