

BY: Senator WEBB

COMMEMORATING the 40th Anniversary of The
Discovery Center of the Southern Tier

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend those illustrious organizations of the State of New York whose focus and intent have made a substantial impact on the quality of life in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of The Discovery Center of the Southern Tier; and

WHEREAS, Creating the first hands-on children's museum in the Southern Tier, the Imagination Builders and the Junior League of Binghamton worked to fill a need in the community; The Discovery Center of the Southern Tier was chartered by the New York State Education Department in 1984 and officially opened its doors; and

WHEREAS, Finding great success in the area, The Discovery Center of the Southern Tier saw 10,000 guests by the end of the first year visit the museum; growing out of its space, the museum relocated to Ross Park in Binghamton, New York from an urban school in 1987; and

WHEREAS, Designed to capture the imagination of children, The Discovery Center of the Southern Tier aims to create playful narratives with caregivers and build safe spaces for children to play; the museum plans events, celebrations, field trips, and performances to provide in-depth opportunities for children to be inspired, enriched, educated, and to explore their world; and

WHEREAS, Expanding in 2008, The Discovery Center of the Southern Tier created Story Garden, an award-winning outdoor exhibit space; it was designed by hundreds of volunteers alongside landscape architects and features 15 storybook-themed exhibit spaces that are individual works of art, over 20 sculptures crafted by local and regional artists, an amphitheater for educational programming and theatrical productions, and hand-painted cultivated gardens to beautify the space; and

WHEREAS, The Discovery Center of the Southern Tier has many hands-on exhibits that are tastefully drawn and hand-painted with references to local objects and educational topics; collections focus on ethnic materials, childhood memorabilia, and natural specimens; and

WHEREAS, Serving the community and known as the premier location "where children play," The Discovery Center of the Southern Tier serves as home to preschool, afterschool, and summer camp programming; the arts-integrated curriculum focuses on social and emotional health and allows for the full development of children to build their unique talents and interests, which often cannot be found in a standard

classroom setting; and

WHEREAS, Over its distinguished 40-year history, The Discovery Center of the Southern Tier has demonstrated continuous service to the residents and communities which it serves; and

WHEREAS, The success of The Discovery Center of the Southern Tier is in direct correlation to the efforts of its Executive Director, Dr. Brenda Myers, and its dedicated staff, whose involvement are, and always have been, characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all endeavors on behalf of the organization and the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that when individuals and organizations 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 40th Anniversary of The Discovery Center of the Southern Tier; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Discovery Center of the Southern Tier.