

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 22, 2016, as New York State Day of the Arts

WHEREAS, New York State is known for the breadth and depth of achievement of the artists who are born here and those who chose to make their home here, from the crafts of the Iroquois and other native tribes, to Washington Irving's legends, from Yoko Ono's performance art to George Saunders' short stories, from the poetry and music of the Harlem Renaissance to the Adirondack Architecture School, from the Hudson River School of painting to the punk revolution of the 1970s, New York has been at the forefront of all artistic disciplines; and

WHEREAS, It is well-known that arts experiences are broadly beneficial for both children and adults, that they build cognitive abilities, expand capacity for empathy and create deep and meaningful social bonds; and

WHEREAS, In particular, arts experiences where participants create art magnify these benefits, while also improving student achievement, health and mental health outcomes and critical thinking abilities; and

WHEREAS, New York and New Yorkers have made inestimable contributions to national and global culture, thanks to the importance New York State has placed on encouraging participation in the arts by both children and adults, amateurs and professionals; and

WHEREAS, Further, tourism is a sizable revenue producer for New York State's economy, contributing tens of billions of dollars each year, much of which is driven by our world-class artists and arts institutions; and

WHEREAS, Art, artists, museums and other cultural institutions are all essential to New York's global identity, to its economy, and to the health, well-being and joy of its inhabitants; and

WHEREAS, All New Yorkers would benefit from participating in the arts; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 22, 2016, as New York State Day of the Arts; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York.