

BY: Senator PARKER

COMMEMORATING the 93rd Anniversary of Kings
Theatre in Brooklyn, New York

WHEREAS, Theatrical institutions, and the many social and educational benefits they confer, play a vital role in the development of their neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those artistic landmarks which have brought outstanding entertainment and cultural enrichment to the citizens of the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 93rd Anniversary of Kings Theatre in Brooklyn, New York; and

WHEREAS, Upon its inception in 1929, the Loew's Kings Theatre was one of the most exquisite theatres in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Originally designed by architectural masters Rapp & Rapp with interior design by Harold W. Rambusch, the theatre was truly an ornate spectacle for the masses; as one of the five original "Loew's Wonder Theatres," the Kings was originally ordained a movie and live performance theatre of epic proportion; and

WHEREAS, The Loew's Kings Theatre officially opened its doors to the public September 7, 1929, with the screening of "Evangeline," accompanied by on stage performances from Wesley Eddy and His Kings of Syncopation, The Chester Hales Girls, and Frills and Fancies; and

WHEREAS, The Loew's Kings Theatre would eventually become the epicenter of cinema and live performance in the thriving Brooklyn arts and shopping district along Flatbush Avenue; and

WHEREAS, On February 3, 2010, Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz announced that ACE Theatrical Group, LLC was selected and contracted as the developer for a monumental restoration of the newly named Kings Theatre; and

WHEREAS, Three years later, on January 23, 2013, following the immense preliminary work undertaken by ACE Theatrical Group, a 55-year lease with The Kings Theatre Redevelopment Corporation was executed to commence the redevelopment of the storied Kings Theatre to a state reminiscent of its original architecture; and

WHEREAS, Today, Kings Theatre features an authentic restoration of its 1929 design; the original plaster and painting schemes have been restored, vintage carpet and seating have been recreated and historic lighting fixtures have been renovated and re-installed; and

WHEREAS, The restoration of this former movie palace marks the rebirth of a historic venue, and a transformation into a state-of-the-art live performances theatre which will continue to revitalize the Brooklyn arts scene, and provide an economic stimulus to the Flatbush Avenue business district, and the region beyond; and

WHEREAS, A vibrant arts community encourages collaboration, instills local pride, draws people together, and is essential to a community's vitality; over the past 93 years, Kings Theatre has greatly contributed to the richness of New York's cultural palette; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when artistic societies of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be 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 93rd Anniversary of Kings Theatre in Brooklyn, New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Kings Theatre, Brooklyn, New York.