

Assembly Resolution No. 1213

BY: M. of A. Wright

CELEBRATING the 100th Anniversary of the birth of John Coltrane, renowned artistic trailblazer and innovative New York jazz musician

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to the musical geniuses who have contributed to the entertainment and cultural enrichment of their local communities, the entire State of New York, and globally; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the birth of John Coltrane, renowned artistic trailblazer and innovative New York jazz musician; and

WHEREAS, April is Jazz Appreciation Month which honors the significant history and cultural impact of jazz, a distinctly American art form; and

WHEREAS, In 2026, the Coltrane Estate marks the 100th Anniversary of John Coltrane's birth with "COLTRANE 100," an ambitious, year-long global celebration honoring an artist whose work permanently reshaped the language, ambition, and purpose of music; the celebration includes the release of The Tiberi Tapes, live performances, celebrations in cities across the United States, and more; and

WHEREAS, John Coltrane was born on September 23, 1926, in Hamlet, North Carolina, and spent his formative years studying clarinet and alto saxophone at the Ornstein School of Music and the Granoff Studios in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; he later migrated to New York, New York in 1957; and

WHEREAS, John Coltrane's presence in New York reinforced the region's appeal and raised the bar for artistry while contributing to the robust jazz culture of the Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his career, John Coltrane frequented various New York institutions such as the Five Spot Cafe in the Bowery, the Jazz Gallery in Nomad, the Village Vanguard in Greenwich Village, and the Apollo Theater in Harlem; and

WHEREAS, John Coltrane was considered a hero to Harlem residents for his multiple appearances at the Apollo Theater between 1948 and 1962, where he performed with several notable jazz collaborators, including but not limited to Howard McGhee, McCoy Tyner, Miles Davis, and Dizzy Gillespie; and

WHEREAS, Similarly to John Coltrane, these musicians once hailed from separate parts of the country, eventually establishing shared roots in New York during the Great Migration, and quickly becoming central figures of the movement and icons of the New York jazz scene; and

WHEREAS, Their artistry led to New York flourishing as a cultural hub for future generations of musicians, all infusing their own unique musical and regional styles of creative expression to the genre of jazz; and

WHEREAS, John Coltrane's distinct "sheets of sound" have shaped both straight-ahead and experimental jazz alike, resulting in immensely influential projects such as "A Love Supreme," "Giant Steps," and "Blue Train"; and

WHEREAS, John Coltrane has produced an extensive music catalog that is credited with 2.5 million RIAA certified units; and

WHEREAS, John Coltrane formed a partnership with Impulse! Records, an iconic New York-based record label distinguished for its experimental charge and spirituality in music, and in time became known as the "house that Trane built"; and

WHEREAS, John Coltrane purchased a residential property in Dix Hills, New York in 1964, where he lived until his death, and was buried in Farmingdale, New York, in 1967; and

WHEREAS, The John Coltrane Dix Hills residence was listed on the New York State and National Registers of Historic Places in 2007; and

WHEREAS, John Coltrane's legacy and creative works continue to inspire jazz musicians of all backgrounds today and distinguish him as a globally recognized Master of Jazz Performance; and

WHEREAS, John Coltrane brings great pride to his family, the music industry, and jazz fans of the great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body has deep appreciation for the exceptional achievements of John Coltrane, and is justly proud to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the birth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to recognize and thank John Coltrane, his estate, and music partners for sharing a diverse catalog of music, artistic excellence, and cultural export.