

# THE COUNCIL



## CITY OF NEW YORK



# Proclamation

**W**

**hereas:** *The Council of the City of New York is proud to honor Dance Parade New York on the occasion of the 7th Annual Dance Parade and DanceFest; and*

**WHEREAS:** *Dance Parade New York was created to promote dance as an expressive and unifying art form by showcasing all forms of dance, educating the general public about the opportunities to experience dance, and celebrating diversity of dance in New York City by sponsoring a yearly city-wide dance parade and dance festival; and*

**WHEREAS:** *New York City has been the epicenter for a wide range of dance styles from Jazz and the Jitterbug to Salsa, Punk, Gothic and voguing. Dance Parade New York pays tribute to these styles and many others in its parade, culminating in a "DanceFest" in Tompkins Square Park with free performances, lessons and social dances for all; and*

**WHEREAS:** *The expression of dance has not always been seen as a celebratory, social form of expression. In the 1926, New York City enacted the Cabaret License Law to restrict social dancing. Although the law has been amended numerous times to include safety measures to avoid the club disasters like those seen in other cities, they have also been used on many occasion as a foil to address "quality of life" issues. In 2006, the New York State Supreme Court ruled that—unlike music, theater and painting—social dancing was not considered expressive activity protected by our State Constitution's freedom of expression amendment, the organization leveraged an outpouring of vibrant cultural and dance expression into what became a nonprofit artistic and cultural event. Dance Parade New York seeks to highlight the diversity of dance and showcase its cultural and communicative importance; and*

**WHEREAS:** *Dance Parade's Community Engagement Programs allow participants of all ages - from schools to community and senior centers - to discover their own innate capacity for the communication of ideas, thoughts, and feelings through the medium of dance. All participants in the Community Engagement Programs have the unique opportunity to dance alongside their teaching artists in this annual parade and festival; and*

**WHEREAS:** *Since Dance Parade New York kicked off in 2006, it has continued to grow in influence and in numbers. This year, three Grand Marshals—world-renowned choreographer Jacquelyn Buglisi; DanceAfrica founder Baba Chuck Davis; and Grammy Award-winning DJ Louie Vega—will showcase more than 200 dance organizations and more than 10,000 local and international participants; and*


**WHEREAS:** *After seven years, Dance Parade New York now represents not only this day of celebration, but a movement for everyone to express themselves freely through the universal language of dance; now, therefore*


**BE IT KNOWN:** *That the Council of the City of New York gratefully honors*

## *Dance Parade New York*

*for fostering greater harmony throughout New York City.*

*Signed this 18th day of May in the year Twenty Thirteen.*

  
CHRISTINE C. QUINN, Speaker  
For the Entire Council

  
ROSIE MENDEZ  
Council Member, 2nd District  
Manhattan