

Office of the Mayor

CITY OF NEW YORK



Proclamation

WHEREAS: IT'S NO COINCIDENCE THAT NEW YORK IS BOTH THE WORLD'S MOST DIVERSE CITY AND ITS CULTURAL CAPITAL. OUR ARTISTIC PREEMINENCE IS THE RESULT OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND VIEWPOINTS OF OUR RESIDENTS, WHO SPEAK MORE THAN 200 DIFFERENT LANGUAGES AND HAIL FROM EVERY CORNER OF THE GLOBE. SO I CAN'T IMAGINE A BETTER PLACE FOR THE 2009 DANCE PARADE AND FESTIVAL, WHICH FEATURES OVER 60 STYLES OF DANCE FROM AROUND THE WORLD AND SHOWCASES THE RICH DIVERSITY THAT MAKES OUR CITY GREAT.

WHEREAS: AS THE PARADE WINDS DOWN BROADWAY AND ALONG ST. MARK'S PLACE TOWARD THE EAST VILLAGE, SPECTATORS WILL BE TREATED TO AN ARRAY OF DANCE STYLES—FROM HIP-HOP AND ZYDECO, TO SALSA AND SWING, TO HUSTLE AND HOOPERS—PERFORMED BY MORE THAN 200 GROUPS. AT THE END OF THE PARADE, DANCERS AND VIEWERS ALIKE WILL GATHER IN TOMPKINS SQUARE PARK FOR "DANCE FEST," WHERE THEY CAN WATCH STAGED PERFORMANCES FROM MORE THAN 30 OF THE BEST GROUPS. BUT "DANCE FEST" ISN'T ALL ABOUT PROFESSIONAL DANCERS! WITH WORKSHOPS, ROAMING PERFORMANCES, AND SOCIAL DANCING, AUDIENCE MEMBERS WILL HAVE THE CHANCE TO PUT ON THEIR DANCING SHOES, GET IN THE ACTION, AND SHOW OFF SOME OF THE MOVES THEY'VE SEEN THROUGHOUT THE DAY.

WHEREAS: THE DANCES ALONG THE PARADE ROUTE AND AT THE FESTIVAL OFFER A GLIMPSE INTO OUR CITY'S VIBRANT AND DYNAMIC CULTURES, ALLOWING RESIDENTS TO LEARN ABOUT DIFFERENT ART FORMS AND ENCOURAGING GREATER CULTURAL EXCHANGE AND DIALOGUE. IN ADDITION, TODAY'S EVENTS ARE A BOON TO OUR TOURISM INDUSTRY, DRAWING DANCERS AND SPECTATORS TO OUR CITY, AND A WAY TO LEND VITAL SUPPORT TO DANCE ARTISTS AND ORGANIZATIONS DURING THESE TOUGH TIMES. BUT MORE THAN ANYTHING, TODAY'S FESTIVITIES WILL BE A WHOLE LOT OF FUN, AND OUR CITY IS PROUD TO JOIN IN THIS VIBRANT CELEBRATION OF THE MANY STYLES OF DANCE.

WHEREAS: THE ENGLISH POET JOHN DRYDEN SAID THAT "DANCING IS THE POETRY OF THE FOOT." THE 2009 DANCE PARADE AND FESTIVAL IS PROOF POSITIVE THAT RHYTHMIC MOVEMENT IS EVERY BIT AS BEAUTIFUL AS A WELL-CRAFTED VERSE, AND I COMMEND ALL THOSE WHO MADE IT POSSIBLE. ON BEHALF OF DANCE AFICIONADOS THROUGHOUT OUR CITY, PLEASE ACCEPT MY BEST WISHES FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS EVERY STEP OF THE WAY!

NOW THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL R. BLOOMBERG, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, IN RECOGNITION OF THIS EXCITING EVENT, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM SATURDAY, MAY 16TH, 2009 IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK AS:

"THE 2009 DANCE PARADE AND FESTIVAL DAY"



Michael R. Bloomberg
MICHAEL R. BLOOMBERG
MAYOR

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO
SET MY HAND AND CAUSED THE SEAL OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK TO BE AFFIXED.