

Office of the Mayor

CITY OF NEW YORK



Proclamation

WHEREAS: NEW YORK IS RENOWNED AS AN INTERNATIONAL ARTS HUB, AND OUR CITY'S PHENOMENAL CULTURAL ENERGY HAS LONG INSPIRED AND ATTRACTED PERFORMING ARTISTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD. THE ANNUAL DANCE PARADE AND FESTIVAL IN THE EAST VILLAGE EXEMPLIFIES THIS GLOBAL CREATIVE MINDSET BY SHOWCASING THE MANY TALENTED PERFORMERS AND STYLES OF MUSIC AND DANCE THAT ENRICH LIFE IN THE FIVE BOROUGHS AND INSPIRE NEW YORKERS OF ALL BACKGROUNDS AND AGES TO GET MOVING AND GROOVING TO INFECTIOUS BEATS.

WHEREAS: DANCE IS A UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE THAT KNOWS NO BOUNDARIES. NOW IN ITS 11TH YEAR, THE PARADE BRINGS TOGETHER THOUSANDS OF REVELERS FROM THROUGHOUT THE FIVE BOROUGHS AND BEYOND FOR A VIBRANT DISPLAY OF MORE THAN 80 GENRES OF DANCE PRACTICED BY NEW YORK'S DIVERSE RESIDENTS. FEATURING DECORATIVE FLOATS, COLORFUL COSTUMES AND EXUBERANT PARTICIPANTS PERFORMING EVERYTHING FROM BALLET, BALLROOM, BHANGRA, BOLIVIAN TINKU, COUNTRY WESTERN, AFRICAN DRUMMING, AND CLASSICAL CHINESE DANCE TO HIP HOP, IRISH STEP, ROLLER DISCO, SAMBA, SALSA, SLAVIC FOLK DANCE, AND SO MUCH MORE, THIS PROCESSION ON BROADWAY IS A WONDERFUL WAY TO CELEBRATE THE INCLUSIVITY, CREATIVITY AND MULTICULTURALISM THAT DEFINES OUR GREAT CITY. THE FUN AND EXPRESSIVE MOVEMENT CONTINUES ALL DAY LONG AT DANCEFEST IN TOMPKINS SQUARE PARK, WHERE PARTYGOERS CAN ENJOY LIVE MUSIC, MORE PERFORMANCES, SOCIAL DANCING AND FREE LESSONS FROM LOCAL INSTRUCTORS.

WHEREAS: IN ADDITION TO PRESENTING THIS SPECTACULAR FESTIVAL, THE DANCE PARADE ORGANIZATION NURTURES THE NEXT GENERATION OF PERFORMING ARTISTS AND ENTHUSIASTIC AUDIENCES THROUGH ITS YEAR-ROUND ARTS EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS. I APPLAUD DANCE PARADE'S STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS AND EVERYONE ASSOCIATED WITH TODAY'S EVENT FOR THEIR EFFORTS TO PROMOTE THIS LIFE-AFFIRMING ART FORM, FOSTER CROSS-CULTURAL EXCHANGE, AND UNITE NEW YORKERS THROUGH THE POWER OF DANCE. AS THE PARADE PROCEEDS DOWN BROADWAY LED BY THIS YEAR'S GRAND MARSHALS – DJ FRANKIE BONES, TAP DANCER AND PERFORMING ARTIST MAURICE HINES, CITY COUNCIL MEMBER ROSIE MENDEZ, AND CAPOEIRA MASTER JOÃO OLIVEIRA DOS SANTOS – I ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO SWAY, SHIMMY AND SHAKE OR ELSE YOU MIGHT RECEIVE A "TICKET" FROM A MEMBER OF THE NEW YORK DANCE POLICE. LET'S DANCE!

NOW THEREFORE, I, BILL DE BLASIO, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM SATURDAY, MAY 20TH, 2017 IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK AS:

"NEW YORK DANCE PARADE DAY"



BILL DE BLASIO
MAYOR