Westchester County
Board of Legislators

Proclamation

Whereas, throughout its history, one of Westchester's Most Precious Natural Resources has been the strength of its people—a strength measured in Community Pride and Community Commitment that has enabled the County to grow and prosper; and

Whereas, Italian Heritage Committee of New York, Inc. is celebrating the 45th anniversary of Italian Heritage and Culture Month in New York. The Board Members IHCC-NY, Inc., who volunteer their efforts each year to facilitate an array of events and programs throughout the New York metropolitan area and beyond, invite your financial support to continue this important work to affirm our Italian legacy; and

Whereas, Italian Heritage Committee of New York, Inc. is celebrating the genius of Dante Alighieri, the great medieval poet and philosopher. On the afternoon of March 25, a reading of excerpts from the Divina Commedia (Divine Comedy) will be presented at the Dante Statue at Dante Park, positioned in front of Lincoln Center at 63rd Street and Broadway. The John D. Calandra Institute, CUNY, will be the site of a Dante Symposium later in the day; and

Whereas, Dante Alighieri importance includes his being the first to use the Florentine vernacular in a major literary work, rather than in Latin, which has been accessible to only the well-educated. Dante set a precedent that later Italian writers, such as Boccaccio and Tasso, followed. This was an incredible act, which enabled a wider audience among the populous, and, even more importantly, established his Italian as the accepted national language, unifying the people of Italy across diverse regions. IHCC-NY, Inc. recognizes for more than four decades in which a group of educators and Italian American advocates came together to celebrate and help educate the wider community regarding the many cultural and heritage contributions of Italians and Italian Americans. By doing so, we salute in special ways through the various programs that will be sponsored a most positive representation of all that has occurred and is occurring in Italy and America and presented to the world as a gift. That gift has been one of heritage, culture, language, and more. We all, as a society, enjoy those benefits today; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

Resolved, that the members of the Westchester County Board of Legislators take great pride in joining their esteemed colleague, David Turcillo, representing the 14th District, to honor Italian Heritage Committee of New York, Inc. and thank them for all they will do for the community; and be it further

Resolved, that July 20th, 2021 be proclaimed “Italian Heritage Committee of New York, Inc. Day” in Westchester County; and be it further

Resolved, that the text of this Proclamation be carried throughout the County of Westchester for all people of good will to forever know.

Given Under My Hand and Seal

20th Day of July, 2021

Benjamin Brafman
Chairman

Legislators