

## 2011-J2692

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the Trinidad and Tobago United Cultural Association upon the occasion of hosting the 49th Independence Ball

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body, in keeping with its time-honored traditions, to recognize and pay tribute to those organizations which foster ethnic pride and enhance the profile of cultural diversity which strengthens the fabric of the communities of New York State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Trinidad and Tobago United Cultural Association upon the occasion of hosting the 49th Independence Ball on Saturday, August 20, 2011, in Queens, New York; and

WHEREAS, The Trinidad and Tobago United Cultural Association Inc. (TATUCA) was organized in August of 1962, the same month Trinidad and Tobago attained its independence; its founding members were called "UN BOYS"; and

WHEREAS, For many years the Trinidad and Tobago Independence Ball sponsored annually by the "UN Boys" was the occasion for Trinidad and Tobago nationals residing in New York City; the event was always held at the Manhattan Center, Hilton, Americana, and Sheraton where there were large turnouts of over 1,000 supporters; and

WHEREAS, Thereafter, for 40 years TATUCA successfully promoted the Trinidad and Tobago Independence Ball; TATUCA took a number of initiatives which have now become common practice; and

WHEREAS, TATUCA was the first Trinidad and Tobago organization to hire a native orchestra from Trinidad to play at a function; it was during this time that TATUCA arranged chartered flights to Trinidad's carnival; in the 1970s, TATUCA initiated the practice of honoring its nationals; and

WHEREAS, For the past 45 years, TATUCA has been at the forefront of the Trinidad and Tobago community in New York; its mission has, and continues to be to promote the culture of its beloved twin island

nation, provide educational opportunities for its youth and support worthy charitable causes; and

WHEREAS, TATUCA has been honored by the Trinidad and Tobago Alliance and received the award for community service; additionally, its members Cameron Wiltshire, Dolores Walters, Jackie Philip and Berold Hinds have all individually received honorary awards for their dedication to community service; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals and organizations of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Trinidad and Tobago United Cultural Association upon the occasion of hosting the 49th Independence Ball; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Trinidad and Tobago United Cultural Association.