



New York State Assembly Citation

Whereas, within every community reside those organizations who by virtue of their mission, vision, and good deeds command the greatest respect throughout the community; and those organizations engender such service which is truly the lifeblood of the community and state; it gives me great pleasure to present this citation to the Rome College Foundation,

Whereas, in the mid-1960s, the Rome Chamber of Commerce and the Rome community became increasingly aware that Rome was the largest city in New York State without significant post-secondary college facilities, with only a few evening classes offered by Mohawk Valley Community College (MVCC) at what was then Staley Junior High School,

Whereas, in February 1965, a special committee was established and charged to study the potential of a public or private college and to establish a broadly based committee representing all segments of the community to do what would be necessary on a long term basis to develop higher education opportunities in Rome, New York,

Whereas, on August 26, 1966, an absolute incorporation charter was granted, specifying that the education corporation, to be called Rome College Foundation (RCF), would be located in Rome, New York with the first organizational meeting held on September 19, 1966,

Whereas, The RCF board of trustees, assisted by the Chamber, developed studies and data which demonstrated the need and the wisdom for expanding MVCC's presence in Rome, New York—having determined that a separate public or private institution was unlikely.

Whereas, the State University's master plan was changed by the Board of Regents in the 1970's to allow an MVCC branch in Rome; Oneida County committed to the support necessary for the branch; the Air Force made available temporary facilities at Griffiss Air Force Base; and RCF raised money to modify those buildings into classrooms. Later, the County Legislature made available buildings on Floyd Avenue; and with the help of the New York State Legislature, raised funds for remodeling and expanding that site into a genuine branch campus of MVCC. Today, the Rome area finds itself having a true branch campus of one of the best community colleges in New York State and the whole country.

Whereas, through the years, the RCF has made financial contributions toward computer facilities, the campus library, and furniture for the Rome Campus of MVCC,

Whereas, the RCF develops, advocates and offers a wide variety of college programs for all area residents,

Resolved, that as a member of the New York State Assembly I, Anthony Brindisi, wish to recognize the many contributions to our community by the Rome College Foundation. It is only appropriate that this stalwart organization be honored on its 50th Anniversary.

Date: November 4, 2016

In Witness Whereof, I Have hereunto set my Hand and Signature.

Anthony Brindisi
Member of Assembly