April 20, 2015

Dear Friends:

I would like to welcome you to the Annual Queens Borough Hearing of the Board of Trustees of the City University of New York (CUNY). This is an important hearing during which the Board will receive testimony and answer questions from Queens residents regarding issues related to CUNY, a distinguished public university that provides a high-quality, accessible education to more than 269,000 degree-credit students and 247,000 adult, continuing and professional education students at 24 campuses across New York City.

CUNY has an illustrious history that dates back to the 1847 founding of the Free Academy. The University also plays a very important role in Queens, which is home to five of CUNY’s colleges: LaGuardia Community College, Queens College, Queensborough Community College, York College and The City University School of Law at Queens College.

We are proud that “The World’s Borough” is home to these fine institutions, which provide high-quality and affordable higher education to tens of thousands of residents of Queens, the most diverse county in the United States. Together, these institutions of higher learning help our residents, who hail from more than 120 countries and speak more than 135 languages, get the education and workforce training they need to take advantage of their talents and succeed in New York City’s 21st century economy.

During the next year I look forward to working with the distinguished leaders of our borough’s CUNY institutions, Dr. Diane B. Call, Dr. Gail O. Mellow, Dr. Marcia V. Keizs, Dr. Evangelos Gizis and Dean Michelle Anderson Esq., to ensure that CUNY continues to offer an outstanding education to all of its students.

I would like to thank the Trustees for giving Queens residents the opportunity to express their concerns and hopes about CUNY during today’s hearing. Let us all work together to ensure that CUNY continues to be the nation’s leading urban public university.

Sincerely,

Melinda Katz
President
Borough of Queens