



THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
NEW YORK, NY 10007

June 7, 2014

Dear Friends:

It is with great pleasure that I join everyone in celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of New York Aikikai.

For half a century, New York Aikikai has shared the beauty and discipline of this Japanese martial art with New Yorkers. Thanks to the efforts of New York Aikikai, the oldest dojo still in operation in the country and the headquarters of the United States Aikido Federation, our city has become an international hub for this practice. I applaud founder and chief instructor Yoshimitsu Yamada for preserving the cultural traditions of Japan, and together, we can strengthen the bonds between our communities.

On behalf of the City of New York, please accept my best wishes for a terrific event and continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill de Blasio".

Bill de Blasio  
Mayor