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March 28, 2017

Meenakshi Srinivasan, Chair  
New York City Landmarks Preservation Commission  
Municipal Building  
1 Centre Street, 9th Floor, North  
New York, NY 10007

Re: New York Public Library Interiors, 42<sup>nd</sup> Street

Dear Chair Srinivasan,

I am writing on behalf of the Preservation League of New York State to encourage the Landmarks Preservation Commission to designate the Rose Reading Room, Bill Blass Catalog Room, and nine other public interiors of the New York Public Library on 42<sup>nd</sup> Street.

Following Historic District Council's 2013 Request for Evaluation of the 1911 Carrère and Hastings public interiors, this overdue designation was put on hold for the important restoration efforts.

The 1974 designation report for Astor Hall and McGraw Rotunda as interior landmarks stated, "The interior of this great building is as magnificent as its exterior. Among the notable interior spaces readily available to the public are: the Main Lobby, the North and South Staircases from the first and third floor, and the Central Hall on the third floor." The rooms currently proposed for interior landmark designation are now also open to the public and as magnificent as the landmarked Astor Hall and McGraw Rotunda. *New York Times* architecture critic Michael Kimmelman called the recently restored Rose Main Reading Room as one of New York's "most beloved public spaces" of 2016.

We urge the Commission to designate these important interior spaces at the 42<sup>nd</sup> Street New York Public Library, protecting them for future generations. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jay DiLorenzo  
President