

2011-J1615

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Maria Ortega upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition at the 4th Annual Salute to Women of Valor on May 12, 2011

WHEREAS, The State of New York is home to countless women who have contributed to the advancement of our culture through their traditional and non-traditional roles in society; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those Women of Valor within the Empire State who have made strong contributions to their communities and who inspire others through their model citizenship; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Maria Ortega upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition at the 4th Annual Salute to Women of Valor to be held at Brooklyn College's Student Union on Thursday, May 12, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Women of every race, class, and ethnic background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of New York State in countless recorded and unrecorded ways; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body has set aside time to recognize the unique contributions that valiant women have made to this great Empire State and its society; and

WHEREAS, Maria Ortega was born and raised in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn; one of three children born to Fernando and Gloria del Valle, she was raised in a household where strong family values were instilled; these strong family values encouraged her to strive for and obtain an education; and

WHEREAS, After raising three of her own children, Maria Ortega decided to return to school to obtain a degree in Education; she graduated from Boricua College with a Bachelor of Science degree with honors in Elementary Education; she attended Brooklyn College where she received her Master's degree in reading and continued on to obtain her Supervisory and Administration certification; and

WHEREAS, In 2003, Maria Ortega was recruited to join the New York City

Leadership Academy for the Aspiring Principals Program; after completing a grueling fourteen month program, including leadership development, internships, and real life experiences, she was interviewed for and attained a Principal position at George Gershwin IS 166; in this capacity, she has worked diligently to close the achievement gap and provide endless opportunities to her students as well as her staff; and

WHEREAS, Working closely with the community has helped Maria Ortega secure the funds to build a state of the art Media Center which includes a Recording Studio and Computer Lab; the Gershwin Royal Knights Marching Band and the Warriors Baseball Team were made possible due to her efforts and have been recognized for winning competitions as well as changing student's lives; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is pleased to have this opportunity to express its highest admiration for Maria Ortega, and to wish her continued success in all of her future endeavors; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals 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 honor Maria Ortega upon the occasion of her designation for special recognition at the 4th Annual Salute to Women of Valor; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Maria Ortega.