

2015-K333

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending Quentin Rodriguez, Zatasia Gardner, Jayde Snyder and Abigail Wilcox upon the occasion of their designation as winners of the 2015 Black History Month Essay Contest

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body, in keeping with its time-honored traditions, to recognize and pay tribute to those outstanding students who foster ethnic pride and enhance the profile of cultural diversity which strengthens the fabric of the communities of New York State; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend Quentin Rodriguez, Zatasia Gardner, Jayde Snyder and Abigail Wilcox upon the occasion of their designation as winners of the 2015 Black History Month Essay Contest; and

WHEREAS, Black American History is highlighted during the month of February so that there can be formal recognition of the fact that the history of the United States is a vast mosaic which incorporates the history of Native Americans, Asian Americans, and Black Americans, as well as a number of other ethnic and cultural groups; and

WHEREAS, It is extremely important that students, when learning of the history of the United States, understand that the histories of all its peoples are important, and they must be considered together in order to fully understand our shared heritage; and

WHEREAS, It is also extremely important that our students understand not only the facts and dates which make American history, but, additionally, the means by which these facts relate to and impact our lives; and

WHEREAS, Quentin Rodriguez, Zatasia Gardner, Jayde Snyder and Abigail Wilcox are the 2015 Black History Month Essay Contest Winners, a contest which furthers these goals of understanding; and

WHEREAS, A 4th grade student at Theodore Roosevelt School No. 43 in Rochester, New York, Quentin Rodriguez earned this high honor for his essay on President Barack Obama; and

WHEREAS, A 5th grade student at Dr. Walter Cooper Academy School No. 10 in Rochester, New York, Zatasia Gardner earned this high honor for her essay on Dr. Walter Cooper; and

WHEREAS, A 6th grade student at Flower City School No. 54 in Rochester, New York, Jayde Snyder earned this high honor for her essay on the Emancipation Proclamation; and

WHEREAS, A 7th grade student at the School of the Arts in Rochester, New York, Abigail Wilcox earned this high honor for her essay on the march from Selma to Montgomery; and

WHEREAS, These esteemed students so clearly mirror those qualities of fortitude and constancy which define the essence of the Black experience, and give to the tenor and matrix of its composition, that indispensable sense of unity which so distinguishes their families; and

WHEREAS, Through their personal and sustained commitment to Black History, Quentin Rodriguez, Zatasia Gardner, Jayde Snyder and Abigail Wilcox have so unselfishly advanced that spirit of united purpose and shared concern which is the unalterable manifestation of our American experience; and

WHEREAS, It is their concern for the perception of Black History as a sharing and united endeavor which recommends Quentin Rodriguez, Zatasia Gardner, Jayde Snyder and Abigail Wilcox for special commendation; and

WHEREAS, With their sense of civic pride and their desire to achieve, Quentin Rodriguez, Zatasia Gardner, Jayde Snyder and Abigail Wilcox represent the best development of the potential which is inherent in our most precious resource, our youth; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and most joyously commend Quentin Rodriguez, Zatasia Gardner, Jayde Snyder and Abigail Wilcox upon the occasion of their designation as winners of

the 2015 Black History Month Essay Contest, fully confident that such procedure mirrors our shared commitment to preserve, to enhance, and to effect that patrimony of freedom, justice and equality which is our American Heritage; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Quentin Rodriguez, Zatasia Gardner, Jayde Snyder and Abigail Wilcox.