

2015-J2949

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Naw Eh Ku upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of a Marian I. Hughes Scholarship Award by the Black Women's Association of Albany on June 20, 2015

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to act, in accord with its long-standing traditions, honoring the youth of today, and leaders of tomorrow, whose character and achievements best exemplify the ideals and values cherished by this great State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Naw Eh Ku upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of a Marian I. Hughes Scholarship Award by the Black Women's Association of Albany, to be celebrated at its Marian I. Hughes Scholarship Awards Dinner Dance on Saturday, June 20, 2015, at The Desmond Hotel, Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, The theme of this year's auspicious event will be "Vision to Victory!"; JoDee Kenney, News Anchor on Time Warner Cable News will serve as Keynote Speaker; Shari W. Quinn, local author and educator, will be selling copies of her latest book, DISLOYALTY, and popular DJ Syxxfiggaz will provide dance music; and

WHEREAS, The Black Women's Association of Albany (BWAA) was founded on September 21, 1977, by a group of dynamic women with the purpose to stimulate social awareness, encourage cultural growth, help youth realize their full potential through education and serve as positive role models for African American women of all ages; and

WHEREAS, The BWAA Marian I. Hughes Scholarship Awards were established in 2005, in memory of Mrs. Hughes, an educational leader who held various teaching and administrative positions in the City School District of Albany; she was also an Associate in the New York State Education Department, the author of two books about the history of public school education in Albany, and an advocate for better human relations; and

WHEREAS, A Senior at Albany High School, Naw Eh Ku has maintained an impressive 88.2% GPA, ranking 82nd out of her graduating class of 475 students; active in her school, she participates in numerous clubs; and

WHEREAS, Naw Eh Ku was born in a refugee camp along the Thai-Burma

border, and subsequently, lived in poverty until she was 14 years old;

regrettably her mother died in childbirth; and

WHEREAS, Through help from the United Nations, Naw Eh Ku was able to move to the United States and live with her grandparents; with great determination, she learned English and passed the ESL Proficiency Test by her Freshman year of high school; by 11th grade, she was taking AP English Language Composition class; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated to the well-being of her community, Naw Eh Ku helps to feed the homeless at the Rescue Mission, and teach Sabbath School classes for youth at her church, as well as serve as a translator for others of the Karen Tribe in her community when they have medical or other appointments; and

WHEREAS, After graduation, Naw Eh Ku will major in Sociology at Siena College; she aspires to have a successful career in the Public Health field; and

WHEREAS, As Naw Eh Ku takes her leave of Albany High School, she leaves a legacy of academic achievement, school involvement and community service to which others may aspire; and

WHEREAS, Naw Eh Ku stands poised on the threshold of a broad and challenging world; a testament to the love and nurturing care of her family, friends and school; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is moved to honor Naw Eh Ku, a young woman and able scholar, recognizing the value of her labors and the promise of her future; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Naw Eh Ku upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of a Marian I. Hughes Scholarship Award, to commend her for her outstanding academic achievement and to extend to her the best wishes of this Legislative Body for a future of purposeful success and well-being, fully confident of her response to a promising future and appreciative of the model she represents for all aspiring young people of the Empire State; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Naw Eh Ku.