

2023-J317

Senate Resolution No. 317

BY: Senator MARTINS

HONORING Miranda Best upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Arts Education Leadership Award by HEARTS of Port Washington on February 10, 2023

WHEREAS, The unity of our State and Nation is built upon the compassion of good individuals such as Miranda Best who uphold the values of community life and who, through their great actions, epitomize the best of humanity; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Miranda Best upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Arts Education Leadership Award by HEARTS of Port Washington, to be celebrated at its Annual Red Party on Friday, February 10, 2023, at Polish American Hall, Port Washington, New York; and

WHEREAS, HEARTS (Helping Enrich the Arts) of Port Washington is an independent, grassroots, not-for-profit community organization whose mission is to add meaningful value to children's lives by supporting, promoting, and enriching the arts in public schools and throughout the Port Washington community; and

WHEREAS, A caring, competent and committed leader, Miranda Best's character and integrity are the hallmarks of her life and work as an educational leader, a community volunteer and as a person; and

WHEREAS, Miranda Best has taught art in Port Washington for more than 25 years, beginning at Weber Middle School and moving on to Schreiber High School, where she has given tirelessly of her time and energies for the past two decades; and

WHEREAS, Throughout her illustrious tenure, Miranda Best has worked with students to create murals, host visiting artists, design fashion collections, take field trips and much more; furthermore, she has found that working with contemporary art is an essential piece of her approach to teaching, allowing students to examine ideas from multiple viewpoints; and

WHEREAS, A significant contributor to education in New York State, Miranda Best has continually demonstrated an impressive dedication, an unparalleled devotion and an unrelenting enthusiasm for the quality of the art programs and opportunities offered at Schreiber High School for the benefit of its faculty and students, as well as for the entire community; and

WHEREAS, Miranda Best grew up in Virginia and attended both Vassar College and Teachers College, Columbia University; she taught art in Manhattan for one year before making the move to Long Island; and

WHEREAS, For the past 24 years, Miranda Best has lived in Sea Cliff, New York, with her husband Jim and her two children, Jackson and Maya; she maintains her artmaking practice with a focus on drawing, painting, and printmaking from her home studio; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by an individual for the benefit of others which Miranda Best has displayed throughout her life; and

WHEREAS, It has always been the objective of this Legislative Body to honor and support those individuals who have displayed their commitment to the betterment of their communities, and it is the intent of this Legislative Body to inscribe upon its records, this tribute to Miranda Best, that future generations may know and appreciate her admirable character, her many benevolent deeds, and the respect and esteem in which she is held by her peers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Miranda Best upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the Arts Education Leadership Award by HEARTS of Port Washington, and to wish her continued success in all her future endeavors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Miranda Best.