



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Pamela Helming

## Senator Helming Presents New York State Senate Empire Award to the Canandaigua Knights 10U Travel Hockey Team

PAMELA HELMING December 2, 2024

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Senator Pam Helming presented the New York State Senate Empire Award to the Canandaigua Knights 10U travel hockey team in recognition of the organization's efforts to help raise \$40,000 for the American Cancer Society.

The youth hockey team, led by Head Coach Tory Carissimo invited the community to join them for a special November 30, 2024 "Hockey Fights Cancer" game at the Greater

Canandaigua Civic Center with proceeds from the event going to cancer research and patient care. Over 20 local businesses and more than 100 individuals have contributed to this fundraising effort.

The Empire Award recognizes the contributions and achievements of non-profits and businesses in New York State. Adelina Carissimo and Annie Sleeman accepted the award before the game on behalf of the Canandaigua Knights.

**Senator Helming** said, "I am so energized by how many people and businesses have been inspired by the incredible efforts of these young players. The Knights have shown us all how sports can be a force for good, uniting a community to support a cause larger than any single individual. They are a shining example of leadership, teamwork, and heart."

**Tory Carissimo, Head Coach, Canandaigua Knights 10U Travel Hockey** adds, "This award is a reflection of the incredible strength and unity within the Canandaigua community and the hard work of our Canandaigua Knights 10U Travel Team and their families. Events like this remind us that when we come together, we become part of something bigger than ourselves. Our players have embraced this idea, striving for their own goals while also supporting their teammates, their families, and their community. It's been truly inspiring to see so many people rally around this cause, coming together to make a difference in the fight against cancer. We are deeply honored by this recognition from Senator Helming and grateful to live in a community that values compassion and collective action."

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