

2013-J5451

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Taylor Keith upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of a Marian I. Hughes Award by the Black Women's Association of Albany on June 14, 2014

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 Taylor Keith upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of a Marian I. Hughes Award by the Black Women's Association of Albany, to be celebrated at its 9th Annual Marian I. Hughes Scholarship Awards Luncheon on Saturday, June 14, 2014, at The Desmond Hotel, Albany, New York; 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 the Albany Leadership Charter High School for Girls, Taylor Keith has an impressive 3.85 GPA on a four point scale, which qualified her to be in the school's Academic Honors Club; and

WHEREAS, Active within her school community, Taylor Keith participated in Track and Field events and was a School Ambassador at Open Houses for parents and prospective students; and

WHEREAS, A true leader, Taylor Keith was instrumental in the creation of Stomp On Bullying, a campaign that used a multi-faceted action plan to address all aspects of bullying; she met with New York State Legislators, police officers, community organizers and other students to put her campaign into action; and

WHEREAS, Taylor Keith was subsequently named Delta GEMS Leader of the Year, and in 2013, she was the New York State Regional Representative of the Delta GEMS at the Delta Sigma Theta Centennial Convention in Washington, DC; and

WHEREAS, In addition, she was the founder and President of her school's Gay Straight Alliance, and advocated for acceptance and safe zones within schools for LGBTQ students; Taylor Keith participated in the Common Council Campaign as an Assistant Canvass Captain and attended a four day conference sponsored by the League of Women Voters; and

WHEREAS, Taylor Keith will attend SUNY Geneseo and aspires to a career in Forensic Anthropology; and

WHEREAS, As Taylor Keith takes her leave of the Albany Leadership Charter High School for Girls, she bequeaths a legacy of academic achievement, school involvement and community service to which others may aspire; and

WHEREAS, Taylor Keith 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 Taylor Keith, 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 Taylor Keith upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of

a Marian I. Hughes 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 Taylor Keith.