

2013-J5496

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Raiona Duncan 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 Raiona Duncan 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 Colonie Central High School, Raiona Duncan has an impressive 90.2% GPA and will receive an Advanced Regents diploma; she has taken four Advanced Placement classes and has earned college credits

through Hudson Valley Community College; and

WHEREAS, Active within her school community, Raiona Duncan is a member of Key Club, French Club, and Gourmet Club; she plays the violin in the school orchestra and is currently serving a Library Internship; and

WHEREAS, In addition, outside of school, Raiona Duncan has volunteered at the Regional Food Bank, Equinox and Parsons Child and Family Center; and

WHEREAS, Raiona Duncan enjoys learning foreign languages such as Italian and Spanish, and hopes to study abroad as part of her college experience; she will attend the University at Buffalo and aspires to a career in International Relations; and

WHEREAS, As Raiona Duncan takes her leave of Colonie Central High School, she bequeaths a legacy of academic achievement, school involvement and community service to which others may aspire; and

WHEREAS, Raiona Duncan 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 Raiona Duncan, 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 Raiona Duncan 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 Raiona Duncan.