

## 2015-J2952

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Xiomara Francis upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of a Vidie L. McLaughlin 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 Xiomara Francis upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of a Vidie L McLaughlin 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, In 2010, The Honorable Carolyn McLaughlin, President of the Albany Common Council, and Vice-President of BWAA, established the Vidie L. McLaughlin Scholarship Award in memory of her beloved mother; and

WHEREAS, A Senior at the Albany Leadership Charter High School for

Girls, Xiomara Francis, affectionately known as Xixi, has maintained an impressive 96.5% GPA; she is ranked first in her graduating class of 72; and

WHEREAS, Xiomara Francis has been the recipient of numerous academic awards including the President Barack Obama Academic Award of Achievement, and Zeta Phi Beta Amicette of the Year; in 2012, she was the winner at the Albany Leadership Charter High School Science Fair with her project entitled "The Brain's Effect on the Heart"; and

WHEREAS, In 2013, Xiomara Francis was selected to present medical research at the Annual New York State STEP Conference and was a research intern at Albany College of Pharmacy; and

WHEREAS, One year later, Xiomara Francis achieved a 4.0 GPA in the University at Albany Summer STEP College Prep Program, thereby earning college credits; and

WHEREAS, Xiomara Francis has served as Captain of her school's Volleyball Team and Chair of the Macedonia Baptist Church Youth Day; and

WHEREAS, A recipient of a Legacy Scholarship, Xiomara Francis will attend Howard University; fascinated by obstetric medicine and genetic science, she aspires to become a doctor who will serve the people of her community; and

WHEREAS, As Xiomara Francis takes her leave of Albany Leadership Charter High School, she leaves a legacy of academic achievement, school involvement and community service to which others may aspire; and

WHEREAS, Xiomara Francis 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 Xiomara Francis, 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 Xiomara Francis upon the occasion of her designation as recipient

of a Vidie L. McLaughlin 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 Xiomara Francis.