LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating this year's honorees upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of the 2013 Dr. Martin Luther King Award for Character, Leadership and Excellence

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize that the quality and character of life in the communities across New York State are reflective of the concerned and dedicated efforts of those individuals who would devote themselves to the welfare of the community and its citizenry; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate this year's honorees upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of the 2013 Dr. Martin Luther King Award for Character, Leadership and Excellence, to be celebrated on Sunday, February 10, 2013, at the Historic Elmont Library Theatre in Elmont, New York; and

WHEREAS, The outstanding honorees include: Aloysius Johnson, Pat G'Orge Walker, Wilhemina Nyarko, Rohan Dawes, Richard DeBrosse, Anthony Maffea, Amy Persaud, Darian Bryan, Alden Jules, Michael Bernard, Wendell Jules, Tristan Brown, Michael Dugue, Lizette Terry, Natalie Santiago, Kristian Stukes, Nachbi Lacossiere, Collins Ihaza, Olujimi Awoliyi, Marlon Fearon, George Ingram, Brandon Lawrence, Rahaman Adenlola, Eddie Alston, Kaela Hillaire, Domonique White, AJ James, Nicholas St. Louis, Rachel Havrylkoff, Timothy Lewis, Christon Beharry, Tamera Canning, Shenley Boyce, Giovanna Braganza, Kieran O'Reilly, Rene Amell, Rachel Wisniewski; the Elementary honorees include: Lea Stewart, Matthew Bediako, Tacarra Verene, Nevin Balgobin, Michael Lisojo, Indali Parris-Guilbaud, Janasia Allen, Patrick Ihejirika; and

WHEREAS, The month of February acknowledges the rich and diverse heritage of our great State and Nation; Black History Month seeks to emphasize that Black History is American History; and

WHEREAS, The 2013 honorees have distinguished themselves through outstanding success in character, leadership, excellence and community involvement; they are all true assets to society; and

WHEREAS, Rare indeed is the impressive dedication shown by individuals for the benefit of others which these honorees have displayed throughout their lives; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the life in their community and have shown a sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate this year's honorees upon the occasion of their designation as recipients of the 2013 Dr. Martin Luther King Award; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the aforementioned honorees.