

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Arvind Mahankali upon the occasion of being crowned the 2013 Scripps National Spelling Bee Champion on May 30, 2013

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to commend and pay tribute to those young people who, by achieving outstanding success in educational competition, have inspired and brought pride to our majestic Empire State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Arvind Mahankali upon the occasion of being crowned the 2013 Scripps National Spelling Bee Champion on Thursday, May 30, 2013, at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center in National Harbor, Maryland; and

WHEREAS, Arvind Mahankali, a 13 year old from Bayside Hills, Queens, is an eighth grade student at Nathaniel Hawthorne Middle School 74 in Bayside, New York, who enjoys tennis, basketball, and drama; he loves math and science, and hopes to one day pursue a career as a physicist; and

WHEREAS, A speaker of Telugu and Spanish, this was Arvind Mahankali's fourth consecutive trip to the Scripps National Spelling Bee; he placed ninth in 2010, and finished in third place in both 2011 and 2012; and

WHEREAS, The 2013 Scripps National Spelling Bee was broadcast nationwide on ESPN, and welcomed 281 spellers from around the world; the spellers ranged in age from 8-14 years old, and were all vying for the esteemed title of champion; and

WHEREAS, This astute young scholar was sponsored by THE DAILY NEWS, and won top honors after 16 rounds of competition by correctly spelling the word "knaidel", a German-Yiddish word that means matzo dumpling; and

WHEREAS, Known as the pride of Bayside, Arvind Mahankali was urged on by his proud parents Srinivas and Bhavani, and younger brother Srinath; Principal Anthony Armstrong was also in attendance to support his student; and

WHEREAS, Arvind Mahankali, in achieving this high honor, may take just pride in the inspiration and contribution to the spirit of excellence he brings to his family, friends, school and region; and

WHEREAS, Educational competitions which serve to better prepare our students for their future participation in the marketplace of ideas are worthy of praise and support; and

WHEREAS, Poised with enthusiasm and determined purpose, this scholar now stands honorably, in eager anticipation of future challenges, understanding and appreciating the caring counsel and support provided by his teachers and parents; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Arvind Mahankali upon the occasion of being crowned the 2013 Scripps National Spelling Bee Champion on May 30, 2013; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Arvind Mahankali.