

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the SUNY New Paltz Metal Program upon the occasion of its selection for inclusion as participants in the exhibition series Under the Stairs at The International Design Museum in Munich, Germany

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to honor and pay tribute to those institutions and individuals whose commitment and creative talents have contributed to the cultural enrichment of the citizens of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to those American artists who have achieved worldwide recognition, for in doing so, we also give thanks for our freedom which allows us to create and express ourselves artistically; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the SUNY New Paltz Metal Program upon the occasion of its selection for inclusion as participants in the exhibition series Under the Stairs at The International Design Museum in Munich, Germany; an opening reception for the participating artists was held on Friday, March 14, 2014, at the museum; and

WHEREAS, The Metal Program at SUNY New Paltz, School of Fine and Performing Arts, provides its students opportunities to explore the technical, aesthetic, and conceptual aspects of contemporary jewelry, and metalsmithing in a state-of-the-art facility with teachers who are actively engaged artists, and who exhibit and lecture internationally; and

WHEREAS, Each year, The International Design Museum accepts an exhibition proposal from one metal program of international acclaim for their exhibition series; SUNY New Paltz is the first American institution to be chosen for this prestigious event; and

WHEREAS, SUNY New Paltz will be sending works from current graduate students and alumni of the past six years to the museum; and

WHEREAS, The theme for this year's series, "Staring: in Hindsight," was conceived by the SUNY New Paltz Metal Program's current master of fine arts candidates, and is designed in response to the physical space that houses the exhibition; and

WHEREAS, Under the luminous direction of Professor Jamie Bennett and Professor Myra Mimplitsch-Gray, this new honor and distinction confirms most strongly the graduate metal program's place as first in the nation; the faculty of this program is internationally recognized as world-class, and now its students have taken a place beside them; and

WHEREAS, With high-quality artist-teachers and artist-students, the SUNY New Paltz Metal Program has earned the distinction of being ranked No. 1 by US NEWS AND WORLD REPORT, and is among the largest graduate metal programs in the country; and

WHEREAS, SUNY New Paltz's alumni contribute to the richness of this field in numerous meaningful ways, actively participating in building a critical and productive community while expanding the metal field through their energetic and creative professional work; and

WHEREAS, It is the practice of this Legislative Body that institutions that give positive definition to the profile and disposition of the communities of the State of New York profoundly strengthen our society with their commitment; and

WHEREAS, It is most fitting that we take time to celebrate the arts of our Nation, to honor our artists, and to express our appreciation to everyone who patronizes the arts; and as we celebrate the arts, we celebrate and give thanks to our American freedom, the only atmosphere in

which artists can truly create and in which art is truly the expression

of the soul; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the SUNY New Paltz's Metal Program upon the occasion of its selection for inclusion as participants in the exhibition series Under the Stairs at The International Design Museum in Munich, Germany; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Professor Jamie Bennett and Professor Myra Mimplitsch-Gray, SUNY New Paltz Metal Program.