LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION congratulating Patricia Gansz upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the New York Association for Continuing/Community Education (NYACCE) 2013 Student of the Year Award

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to take note of those individuals who have distinguished themselves through their exemplary pursuit of education as adults; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate Patricia Gansz upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the New York Association for Continuing/Community Education 2013 Student of the Year Award; she will be honored at NYACCE's 30th Annual Student Awards and Legislative Event on March 6, 2013, in Albany, New York; and

WHEREAS, NYACCE represents adult education professionals with its primary missions of maintaining and expanding education and training opportunities for undereducated adults throughout New York State; and

WHEREAS, NYACCE strives to ensure that the opportunities afforded to these students continue to be available, and that additional adults in need of these services continue to be served without barriers; it is well understood that individuals who continue their education have a greater chance of improving their employment and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Patricia Gansz understands the value of education and the challenges and hardships that are sometimes faced when trying to obtain that education; and

WHEREAS, Frustrated and discouraged with school, Patricia Gansz dropped out of high school in ninth grade and began working several different jobs to survive; and

WHEREAS, In December of 2010, Patricia Gansz realized the need to change the course of her future, so she decided to return to school to obtain a high school equivalency diploma, or GED; and

WHEREAS, Patricia Gansz started pursuing her high school equivalency diploma through a program at Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES, but she left the program to give birth to her second child; she returned to BOCES in November of 2011, after being assigned by the Department of Health and Human Services; and

WHEREAS, While pursuing her high school equivalency diploma at BOCES, Patricia Gansz also enrolled in a Nurse Aide program; and

WHEREAS, After hard work and perseverance, Patricia Gansz passed her GED exam in March of 2012, and passed her test to be a state certified Nurse Aide one month later; and

WHEREAS, Patricia Gansz, a 25-year-old single mother of two in Auburn, New York, is now employed at a local nursing home and able to provide for herself and loving family; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate Patricia Gansz upon her designation as recipient of the New York Association for Continuing/Community Education 2013 Student of the Year Award; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Patricia Gansz.