

BY: Senator MARTINS

CONGRATULATING the Great Neck South High School Rebels Robotics Team upon the occasion of winning the Inspiration Award in the fourth annual Optimum Innovator Awards

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to commend and pay tribute to those who, by achieving outstanding success in their educational endeavors and competitions, have inspired and brought pride to our majestic Empire State; and

WHEREAS, It is also the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize the dedication and commitment of our young people who distinguish themselves through excellence in scholastic competition; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate the Great Neck South High School Rebels Robotics Team upon the occasion of winning the Inspiration Award in the fourth annual Optimum Innovator Awards; and

WHEREAS, This auspicious occasion will be celebrated at an Awards Ceremony on Monday, June 12, 2023, at Great Neck South High School; and

WHEREAS, Optimum is committed to inspiring the next generation of innovators through its partnership with FIRST Robotics to cultivate STEM skills and encourage an interest in technology fields by supporting local teams, regional events, and more; and

WHEREAS, The Rebels won the Inspiration Award for their proven record of inspiring STEM education to others everywhere by holding virtual Java and CAD courses for students across the globe; in addition, the team developed their own gender-equity initiative, She Has Empowerment (SHE), and works with a local non-profit to create STEM learning opportunities to hospitalized youth with grave illnesses; and

WHEREAS, Robotics classes teach students various skills such as critical thinking, collaboration, communication, leadership and ownership, all of which have led the Great Neck South High School Robotics Team to a high level of success; and

WHEREAS, Lead mentor and founder of Great Neck's robotics team, John Motchkavitz has done a superb job in guiding, molding and inspiring the team members toward their goals; and

WHEREAS, The members of the Great Neck South High School Robotics Team are loyally and enthusiastically supported by their school, family, friends and the community at large; and

WHEREAS, Poised eagerly with enthusiasm and determined purpose, these students now stand honorably, with just pride in their

accomplishments and in eager anticipation of future challenges, understanding and appreciating the caring counsel and support provided by their teachers, coaches and parents; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate the Great Neck South High School Robotics Team upon the occasion of winning the Inspiration Award in the fourth annual Optimum Innovator Awards; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the members of the Great Neck South High School Rebels Robotics Team: Sophia Gal, Dana Kagan, Andrew Kern, Gabriela Lopez, Mohanna Kumanan, Nicholas Pfeiffer, Carter Shea, Mayu Tatsumi, Vincent Wang, Kevin Wang, Wendy Wang, Eric Yachbes, and Ishaan Zaveri; and Mentor/Founder, John Motchkavitz.