

BY: Senator PARKER

HONORING Angelique Agudo upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the PASEsetter Award by the Partnership for After School Education on February 28, 2023

WHEREAS, It is the custom 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 honor Angelique Agudo upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the PASEsetter Award by the Partnership for After School Education at its 30th Anniversary PASEsetter Awards Benefit on Tuesday, February 28, 2023, at Cipriani, New York, New York; and

WHEREAS, Angelique Agudo is receiving this prestigious award for her role as an afterschool educator whose commitment, energy and creativity has had an indelible impact on the children and youth of New York City; and

WHEREAS, PASE is a child-focused organization that promotes and supports quality afterschool programs, particularly those serving young people from underserved communities; Angelique Agudo truly exemplifies this vital organization's mission of delivering consistent, high-quality programming to youth and increases their capacity to meet the needs of their communities; and

WHEREAS, At the young age of eight, Angelique Agudo started taking tap classes with Marguerite D'Aloia at Groove With Me, and thus began a lifelong love of dance, and a lifelong connection to the organization; and

WHEREAS, After graduating from high school, Angelique Agudo earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in both Sociology and Anthropology from Saint Michael's College in Vermont; she became an academic counselor at Upward Bound and then returned to her alma mater to serve as a residential director; after this position, she worked as a residential manager at Boys Hope Girls Hope; and

WHEREAS, In 2018, Angelique Agudo returned to her roots and began her career with Groove With Me as the program director; throughout her tenure, she has served as an enthusiastic and kind leader who steadfastly supports her students, alumni, staff, and coworkers; and

WHEREAS, Remembering her days as a young student at Groove With Me, Angelique Agudo understands and empathizes with her students' hopes, wishes and concerns and truly endeavors to make the dance studio a home

for all; and

WHEREAS, Angelique Agudo has tirelessly worked to expand Groove With Me's programming and partnerships, and has encouraged increased staff diversity, and realizes the importance of an on-site mental health counselor; and

WHEREAS, Last year, Angelique Agudo engaged DanceWave to design and facilitate teacher trainings for the staff, and spearheaded Groove With Me's first summer day camp and expanded the camp to include not just dance classes, but also engagement with a variety of arts extracurriculars; and

WHEREAS, During the COVID-19 pandemic, Angelique Agudo diligently strived to support and stay in contact with her students and their families, continuing to connect them with jobs and internships, and helping them with the college application process; and

WHEREAS, Angelique Agudo's steadfast and unrelenting commitment and guidance has been a driving force in the lives of so many young women and their families; currently, she is working towards a master's degree in clinical psychology in order to further expand her abilities to mold and shape the youth of her community; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such noble aims and accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be celebrated and recognized by all the citizens of the great State of New York; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Angelique Agudo upon the occasion of her designation as recipient of the PASEsetter Award by the Partnership for After School Education; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Angelique Agudo.