Senate Resolution No. 678

BY: Senator O'MARA

HONORING Tesserae, the yearbook at Corning-Painted Post High School in Corning, New York, upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the Pacemaker Award by the National Scholastic Press Association

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to call attention to those young people within our midst whose nationally acclaimed accomplishments bring pride to their families, their communities, and to the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor **Tesserae**, the yearbook at Corning-Painted Post High School in Corning, New York, upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the Pacemaker Award by the National Scholastic Press Association, the association's highest honor for student work, which was celebrated on Saturday, April 10, 2021 ; and

WHEREAS, In addition to this most prestigious award, on March 19, 2021, the Columbia Scholastic Press Association honored the 2020 **Tesserae**, Volume 7, "But You Already Know That" with a Gold Crown; and

WHEREAS, The Columbia Scholastic Press Association and National Scholastic Press Association support journalism education and honor excellence in a variety of media nationwide with their annual Crown and Pacemaker Awards; and

WHEREAS, This prestigious award honors excellence in coverage and content, journalistic reporting, photography and design, digital content and student editorial leadership; only six high school yearbooks in the country earned both honors, and **Tesserae** is the only one in New York State; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, this is the fourth year in a row that **Tesserae** has earned both honors, which is the longest active streak in the nation for a high school yearbook; and

WHEREAS, Tesserae is the student-run yearbook at Corning-Painted Post High School in Corning, New York; this 43-student program is offered as a class with an emphasis on coverage, reporting and writing, photography, design, advertising and marketing, and video and digital media; and

WHEREAS, The program operates independent from administrative oversight, and the Corning-Painted Post High School and district administration affirms its student journalists' editorial independence, including their First Amendment rights to free speech and freedom of the press; and

WHEREAS, This occasion presents an opportunity for this Legislative Body to wish members of the Corning-Painted Post High School **Tesserae**, yearbook committee continued success throughout their high school years and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Poised eagerly with enthusiasm and determined purpose, these scholars 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, advisers and parents; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor **Tesserae**, the yearbook at Corning-Painted Post High School in Corning, New York, upon the occasion of its designation as recipient of the Pacemaker Award by the National Scholastic Press Association; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the members of **Tesserae**, Corning-Painted Post High School in Corning, New York.