

BY: Senator MARTINS

HONORING Damon Gersh upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Residents Forward on June 4, 2026

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend individuals whose professional accomplishments, civic leadership, and cultural contributions have profoundly enriched the quality of life in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Damon Gersh upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Residents Forward to be celebrated at its Annual Gala on Thursday, June 4, 2026, at The Manhasset Bay Yacht Club; and

WHEREAS, Damon Gersh is an entrepreneur and community leader whose enduring commitment to civic engagement and the arts has significantly strengthened the cultural fabric and community spirit of Port Washington, New York; and

WHEREAS, After leading a highly successful disaster restoration business for more than three decades, Damon Gersh has devoted his time, energy, and talents to initiatives that foster meaningful community connections and promote creative expression throughout Port Washington; and

WHEREAS, Damon Gersh is the co-founder, past chairman, and active supporter of HEARTS PW (Helping Enrich the Arts of Port Washington), a grassroots nonprofit organization dedicated to enriching the arts in Port Washington's public schools and broader community; and

WHEREAS, Through his leadership with HEARTS PW, Damon Gersh helped establish and champion the annual PortFest Music, Arts and Community Festival, a signature community event which has brought together residents of all ages in celebration of local artists, musicians, and performers; and

WHEREAS, A lifelong musician, Damon Gersh is also the lead singer and guitarist of the local band Rock Steady, which for more than 20 years has brought joy, energy, and community connection through performances at local venues and events; and

WHEREAS, Damon Gersh and his family, through the Gersh Family Foundation, are proud supporters as Partners in Performing Arts at Landmark on Main Street and its Jeanne Rimsky Theater, a vital cultural hub dedicated to artistic performance and community engagement; and

WHEREAS, In collaboration with Residents Forward, Damon Gersh and the Gersh Family Foundation have supported numerous public art initiatives, including mural projects and the Art Walk event,

transforming shared public spaces into vibrant showcases of creativity and inspiration; and

WHEREAS, Damon Gersh has further contributed to the enhancement of community life by helping bring interactive musical installations to Blumenthal Park, creating welcoming spaces that encourage participation, creativity, and intergenerational connection; and

WHEREAS, Through his visionary leadership, artistic passion, philanthropic generosity, and steadfast volunteerism, Damon Gersh continues to strengthen the cultural vitality and enduring sense of community which define and enrich Port Washington; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Damon Gersh upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by Residents Forward on June 4, 2026, and to extend to him its highest commendation and sincere gratitude for his many contributions to the community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Damon Gersh.