

Dr. Lawrence Feldman, Chair

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 16-114 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING STUDENTS PAOLO CESTI AND STARLA SANTANA

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: HIGHLY EFFECTIVE TEACHERS, LEADERS AND STAFF

Paolo Cesti, a student in the 8th grade at Arthur & Polly Mays Conservatory has won the 2016 Best Middle School Award at the All-American High School Film Festival in New York City for his short film, "Isolation". Paolo has amassed impressive accolades including winner in the 2016 "Writing Track Poetry" competition, All State for Film Excellence for "False Awakening", second place in the 10 second Broadcasting Challenge, second place for On The Spot at District Florida Scholastic Press Association (FSPA). A well-rounded student, he is on the Superior Honor Roll and a member of the FSPA. Paolo, who studies Broadcasting, is recognized for his outstanding achievements in the area of filmmaking and for his keen insight and talented expression of the emotions and challenges of his generation.

Starla Santana, an exemplary 9th grade student at Miami Palmetto Senior High School, has been chosen as a member of the 2016 Taekwondo Female USA Junior Team in the 55kg division. Starla recently competed at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado and has qualified to represent the USA in the Junior World Championship tournament taking place in Canada. She has decided to forge a path in the martial arts, a traditionally male-dominated sport and has created her own exciting style of fighting. Starla finds that Taekwondo has allowed her to stay composed and aware of her surroundings. It has taught her incredible discipline, which she applies to every aspect of her life. She believes she can inspire other females in the community by proving that combat sports are not only for her male counterparts. Starla is to be commended for her achievements in the area of Taekwondo and in her pursuit of joining the 2016 Taekwondo Female USA Junior Team.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY CHAIR
LAWRENCE FELDMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida approve Resolution 16-1143 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing students Paolo Cesti and Starla Santana.

**RESOLUTION NO. 16-114
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING PAOLO CESTI AND STARLA SANTANA**

WHEREAS, Paolo Cesti, a student in the 8th grade at Arthur & Polly Mays Conservatory has won the 2016 Best Middle School Award at the All-American High School Film Festival in New York City for his short film, "Isolation"; and

WHEREAS, Paolo has amassed impressive accolades including winner in the 2016 "Writing Track Poetry" competition, All State for Film Excellent for "False Awakening", second place in the 10 second Broadcasting Challenge, second place for On The Spot at District Florida Scholastic Press Association (FSPA); and

WHEREAS, a well-rounded student, he is on the Superior Honor Roll and a member of the FSPA. Paolo, who studies Broadcasting, is recognized for his outstanding achievements in the area of filmmaking and for his keen insight and talented expression of the emotions and challenges of his generation; and

WHEREAS, Starla Santana, an exemplary 9th grade student at Miami Palmetto Senior High School, has been chosen as a member of the 2016 Taekwondo Female USA Junior Team in the 55kg division. Starla recently competed at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado and has qualified to represent the USA in the Junior World Championship tournament taking place in Canada; and

WHEREAS, she has decided to forge a path in the martial arts, a traditionally male-dominated sport and has created her own exciting style of fighting. Starla finds that Taekwondo has allowed her to stay composed and aware of her surroundings. It has taught her incredible discipline, which she applies to every aspect of her life; and

WHEREAS, she believes she can inspire other females in the community by proving that combat sports are not only for her male counterparts. Starla is to be commended for her achievements in the area of Taekwondo and in her pursuit of joining the 2016 Taekwondo Female USA Junior Team.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 16-114 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Paolo Cesti for his achievement for 2016 Winner Best Middle School Film Award and Starla Santana for her achievements in the area of Taekwondo and in her pursuit of joining the 2016 Taekwondo Female USA Junior Team.

A copy of this resolution is placed in the permanent records of this Board.

Presented this fourteenth day of December, A.D. 2016

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary