

CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

IN CITY COUNCIL

November 16, 2017

RESOLUTION HONORING OLIVIA MARQUES MISS NEW BEDFORD 2017

WHEREAS, The Miss New Bedford Pageant is the official preliminary to the Miss America Pageant, which is the largest single source of scholarships for young women in the world; and

WHEREAS, Since 1954, when the New Bedford Jaycees began sponsoring the Miss New Bedford Pageant, the young women who compete for the crown of Miss New Bedford have always been intelligent, articulate, talented, hardworking and wonderful ambassadors of young women, who are motivated to succeed by choosing platforms that make a great contribution to our local community and promote public service; and

WHEREAS, For over 60 years, The Miss New Bedford Pageant has advanced the continued education of pageant contestants through the generous granting of scholarship awards and has provided an arena for young women from the Greater New Bedford area the opportunity to advocate for causes that are of importance to them; and

WHEREAS, Miss New Bedford 2017, Olivia Marques, is the 64th young woman to wear the crown of Miss New Bedford, she is daughter of Joanne and John Marques of New Bedford, Massachusetts and is currently a sophomore at Bridgewater State University pursuing a Musical Theatre/Education Major degree, with plans to eventually become a theatre educator in the New Bedford Public School System; and

WHEREAS, Olivia Marques, at the age of fifteen was crowned Miss New Bedford Outstanding Teen 2014 and is the first ever Miss New Bedford Outstanding Teen to later be crowned as Miss New Bedford, an accomplishment that fulfilled her dream and which she and her family are so proud of; and

WHEREAS, Throughout her reign as Miss New Bedford 2017, Olivia Marques served as a role model for young women in the region, dedicating her platform "We Rise By Helping Others", which extols the values of community service and has touched so many in the community by helping those in need; and

WHEREAS, With her infectious smile, exuberant energy and warm personality, Olivia Marques is the first ever Miss New Bedford to produce and host a Cable TV show, "Miss New Bedford Insider", which showcased the core principals of the Miss New Bedford Pageant providing the opportunity for young women to become ambassadors for a cause that makes a great contribution to our local community; and

WHEREAS, As Miss New Bedford 2017, Olivia Marques has raised nearly \$4,000 to benefit the Children's Miracle Network, the national platform of the Miss America Organization which oversees the Miss Massachusetts and Miss New Bedford competitions; has spent an impressive amount of time volunteering and serving the local community, making more than ninety appearances since her crowning as Miss New Bedford in October 2016, and has averaged over two thousand hours of community service all while studying at a College and living away from her home; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the New Bedford City Council hereby honors **OLIVIA MARQUES**, for her year of service as **MISS NEW BEDFORD 2017**, thanks her for representing our City so well, congratulates her on her many accomplishments during her year-long reign and wishes her much luck and success in the future.