



# State of New York

## Executive Chamber

### Citation

**Whereas**, the Empire State is proud to acknowledge significant milestones in the history of institutions that have improved the lives of our citizens and enriched the fabric of New York; this occasion presents such a moment with the opportunity to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the State University of New York College of Optometry and its unwavering commitment to advancing visual health and patient care through leadership in education, research, and service; and

**Whereas**, on April 14, 1971, Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller signed legislation establishing SUNY College of Optometry in New York City, the only institution of its kind in New York State and the surrounding region; and

**Whereas**, drawing highly talented students from across North America and beyond, the College's academic, professional, and research programs are characterized by innovation, defined by their impact, and supported by a faculty and professional staff of superior quality and devotion; and

**Whereas**, the College serves as a hub for professional and scientific knowledge, as well as a national leader in optometric education, research, patient care, and continuing professional education, offering the Doctor of Optometry degree as well as MS and PhD degrees in vision science; and

**Whereas**, as an urban campus, located in the heart of New York City at 33 West 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, the College strongly embraces its public service mission of clinical care by providing routine, medical, and specialized eye care services to tens of thousands of patients annually at the University Eye Care Center, a unique resource for the metropolitan area and one of the largest vision and eye care clinics in the nation; and

**Whereas**, a Center of Excellence within the SUNY system, the College maintains its commitment to discovery and to leading the advancement of vision care through research, earning national recognition for work conducted at the Clinical Vision Research Center, Schnurmacher Institute for Vision Research, and the Graduate Center for Research; and

**Whereas**, all New Yorkers are proud to join in congratulating SUNY College of Optometry on celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year – looking back at a half of a century of excellence in optometric research and education and looking ahead to many more years of success in helping students grow intellectually and culturally;

**Now, Therefore**, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby confer this Special Citation upon

## THE 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY

for its dedication to the education of optometrists, to the advancement of eye and vision care, and to the welfare of a broad range of communities.



Governor  
April 14, 2021