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**Walk Safe Long Island has found its E-Mobility Heroes on Long Island**

***Two high school seniors shine a light on micromobility safety in winning scholarship entries***

Hauppauge, NY (September 27, 2024): The New York Coalition for Transportation Safety (NYCTS) has awarded the 2024 Lowell Wolf Memorial Scholarship to two local high school seniors. Mya Pacheco, of Far Rockaway and Romandie Acloque of Baldwin have been awarded $1,000 each for their essays about their original micromobility-focused superheroes. The 2024 iteration of this annual scholarship contest asked students to choose a micromobility related safety issue and create an original superhero with the means to solve the identified safety issue with their powers. Micromobility devices continue to rapidly proliferate across Long Island, giving rise to many safety concerns for road users.

Ms. Pacheco, a graduate of the Queens High School for Information, Research, and Technology identified the dangers of lithium batteries as her safety issue. Mya’s original superhero Ember has the power to detect when a lithium battery in an e-mobility device is about to explode and prevent an injury or fatality from the device’s malfunction.

Ms. Acloque, a graduate of Baldwin High School, identified the lack of e-mobility designated paths as a micromobility safety issue for riders and pedestrians alike. Her superhero Luminex acts as a human solar panel to light the way for riders for a safer ride.

Micromobility-related injury and death are a rising issue in our communities. Romandie’s Luminex and Mya’s Ember have powers that could inspire real world change through policy, education, roadway engineering, and behavior change.

The Lowell Wolf Memorial Scholarship honors the memory of pedestrian safety advocate and educator Lowell Wolf and his life’s work to make Long Island a safer place for all pedestrians. The annual scholarship awards are solely funded by the New York Coalition for Transportation Safety.

**More About Micromobility in the US and on Long Island**

In their [September 2022 report](https://www.cpsc.gov/s3fs-public/Micromobility-Products-Related-Deaths-Injuries-and-Hazard-Patterns-2017-2021.pdf?VersionId=ZwIbrSm70AOuwb4de8hlVrn63Jx_SB.e), the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission reported that all micromobility products estimated a total of 267,700 Emergency Department visits between 2017 and 2021. These visits increased from 34,000 visits in 2017 to 77,200 in 2021. Micromobility, also known as e-mobility, refers to transportation with personal devices like electric bikes (e-bikes), electric scooters (e-scooters), mopeds, and other motorized vehicles. These motorized vehicles have been growing in popularity on Long Island for quite some time, but inconsistent rules across counties and municipalities may confuse riders.

About [New York Coalition for Transportation Safety](https://www.nycts.org/) and [Walk Safe Long Island](https://www.walksafeli.org/)

*Walk Safe Long Island (WSLI) is a pedestrian and cyclist safety campaign that aims to teach Long Islanders about walking and biking safely through law-based education. WSLI is overseen by the New York Coalition for Transportation Safety with assistance from the Long Island Health Collaborative. Efforts funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration with a grant from the New York State Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee. Lowell Wolf Memorial Scholarship awards are solely funded by the New York Coalition for Transportation Safety.*

*Since 1987 the New York Coalition for Transportation Safety has received grants from federal, state, local and private agencies to develop and conduct public information and education campaigns in a variety of localities.*