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**PRESS RELEASE**

**NYS PTA Announces New Partnership to Increase Student Traffic Safety**

September 25, 2024 (Albany) – NYS PTA and The Skip Barber Driving Academy are proud to reveal a new partnership, which will allow for a wider range of young adults to access various Skip Barber Driving Academy programs across the state of New York, beginning in Nassau and Suffolk Counties.

The Skip Barber Driving Academy has helped thousands of individuals become safer and more competent drivers by allowing participants to experience an emergency situation in a controlled environment, under the tutelage of our expert instructors. Aspects of the program include time-honored curriculum with technical car control modules, ensuring success with young drivers since 1975.

“Every 12 seconds someone between the ages of 16 and 20 is involved in an accident in the state of New York,” Skip Barber Driving Academy Chief Marketing Officer Dan DeMonte said. “As a father in New York myself, that statistic and the others like it, are difficult to hear. That’s why we believe in the Skip Barber Driving Academy so much. I’ve heard countless stories from teenagers and parents whose level of comfort and confidence on the road increased dramatically as a result of spending one day with us. Making this program more accessible has been at the top of our list and partnering with the New York State Parent-Teacher Association is a momentous step towards that goal.”

Each program combines classroom instruction with behind-the-wheel training focused on safety and emergency response. This makes for an engaging experience for all participants.

“NYS PTA is thrilled to expand our work in traffic safety, and partner with Skip Barber Driving Academy,” offered NYS PTA Executive Director Kyle Belokopitsky. “As a parent of a high school-aged child, I know all too well the anxiety parents and families face when their children begin to drive, and this program will expand our existing Every Child Travels Safely program into the high school setting to support more youth.”

Information regarding new Skip Barber Driving Academy programs in New York will be unveiled in the coming weeks. Go here for more information: <https://nyspta.org/skip-barber-driving-academy/>

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