



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Kenneth P. LaValle

THANKSGIVING ESSAYS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

KENNETH P. LAVALLE December 2, 2014



Dear Participant,

Thank you for your wonderful contribution to the Thanksgiving Day Creative Celebration. We received outstanding poems, essays, and artwork that exemplify the creativity of New York State's young people.

The submissions received are remarkable in what they represent – showing gratitude and respect for family, friends, our troops fighting overseas, and many other important subjects

and activities. I am humbled and honored to see such inspiring contributions in response to what is a deceptively difficult question: "What are you thankful for?"

On behalf of the New York State Senate, I would like to offer my wholehearted congratulations to all of the participants in this year's Thanksgiving Day Creative Celebration.

Sincerely,

Senator Kenneth P. LaValle

East Moriches Elementary

- Brody DeGraff
- Daniel Diaz

Edna Louise Spear Elementary

- Allie Blumenthal Blumenthal
- Sophie Blumenthal
- Nicholas Bruckner
- Luke Dickhuth
- Kenny Dixon-Lanza
- Teppei Fukuto
- Huda Jatoi

- Huda Jatoi
- Kasumi Layne-Stasik
- Hugo Onghai
- Andrew Patterson
- Ben Perez-Flesler
- Artemiy Polyanskiy
- Stefano Rabeno
- Jake Rohman
- Olivia Schlegel
- Clara Strehle
- Haruki Takeuchi
- Sophia Viens
- Amy Whitman

Fishers Island School

- Jill Paciorek

Frank J. Carasiti Elementary School

- Brandon Savickas

Hampton Bays Elementary School

- Yadhira Amado
- Merary Andrade Valle
- Joseph Arroyo
- Efren Barranocn
- Eddy Benenaula
- Gianna Betta
- Jane Brylewski
- Mia Camey
- Yuliana Carballo
- Joshua Cardenas
- Natalie Castano
- Anderson Chabla Morales
- Marco Cifuentes
- Patrick Collins
- Ryan Connolly
- Sophia Corredor
- Morgan Cowden
- Christian Cruz
- Brian Dejesus
- Emma Diaz
- Mathew Drake
- Raymond Drake

- Carly Dunn
- Carly Dunn
- Lauren Emiddio
- Zoey Engeeldrum
- Erick Farez- Leon
- April Feliciano
- Izack Fernandez
- Izack Fernandez
- Alexandra Flores
- Maya Francisco
- Pedro Franco
- Santiago Galvis
- Juan Garcia
- Noah Green
- Zitlalii Guevara
- Ben Halucha
- Mariajose Hemmings
- Jeffrey Hernandez
- Jorge Hernandez
- Charlie Kolb
- Evelyn Koziol
- Kenneth Lainez

- Ty Levine
- Emmanuel Lopez
- Madison Lopez Luna
- Danna Lopez Toapanta
- Nicole Lupercio
- Brady Madison
- Sarra Mall
- Anibal Martinez
- Adrian Mauricio
- James McCormack
- Riley Meyer
- Jaime Moore
- Ulises Munguia
- Jake Naclerio
- Stephanie Ochoa
- Ailyn Mariana Ortiz Mora
- Hiliary Pacheco
- Anthony Palacios
- David Palacios
- Yadith Paredas
- Yadith Paredes
- Lilly Patek

- Christina Pensa
- Jasmine Perez
- Keylin Perez
- Keylin Perez
- Angie Pesantez
- Angie Pesantez
- Alex Posada
- Nelly Potrero
- Maizie Poulakis
- Israel Pulla
- Joshua Pulla Valladares
- Brianna Quiros
- Tania Quiros
- Alexis Reeves
- Sarah Ren
- Emilio Rivera
- Andrea Rivera Velasquez
- Emily Robinson
- Joshua Robinson
- Joffer Rodrigo Proano
- Vanessa Ruiz
- Izabella Ruocco

- Sherlyn Saavedra Soledad
- Michael Santos
- Marcos Sarmiento
- Alexandra Schewire
- Joseph Schmidt
- Mia Schoerlin
- Allison Sequeira
- Andrew Sequeira
- Dominique Sharifi
- Sofia Solano
- Matthew Torres
- Chandler Tuttle
- Ruth Valdespino
- Haley Weissbard
- Jadzia Wilson Morales
- Dante Zangrillo

JAE Rocky Point SD

- Donna Daly

John M. Marshall Elementary School

- Daniela Chavez
- Daniela Chavez

Laddie A. Decker Sound Beach School

- Natalia Altebrando
- Anthony Andriano
- Averie Anthony
- Stephen Bielenda
- Patrick Brennan
- adam Cohen
- Ava Cosentino
- Abbey Danin
- Nathaly Garcia
- Iasbelle Giasi
- Emma Hart
- Rhiannon Higgins
- Jack Kiernan
- Nicholas Marcario
- Lucas McGuire
- Lucas McGuire
- Matthew Petrie

- Emmy Shattes
- Dayna Sherman
- Isabella Siciliano
- Tristan Stapleton
- Vasia Tassiopoulos
- Matthew Walker
- Matthew Walker
- Anna Wood
- Anna Wood
- Anna Wood

Miller Place High School

- Stephen Anglim
- David Argento
- Nicole Barreca
- Jackie Barreca
- Bobbimarie Battey
- Anthony Beck
- Jonathan Beers
- Alyssa Bonneville
- Shannon Brady

- Maximilian Braun
- conlin brennan
- Claudia Campanella
- Maria Campo
- Maria Campo
- Jordan Ceccarini
- Samantha Ceccio
- Michael Chmiel
- Allison Cipriani
- Michael Cirrito
- Kathryn Contrelli
- Daniel Cronin
- James D'Eletto
- Kathleen Doherty
- Julianna Dolinski
- Molly Feinberg
- Joseph Filippetti
- Issabella Finamore
- Issabella Finamore
- Issabella Finamore
- Robert Godberson
- Jeffrey Humphreys

- Emma Jacobsen
- Marissa Jakahi
- Danielle Jimenez
- Alexandra Kastamonitis
- Gavin Kelly
- Hailey Kibbel
- Raymond Klotz
- Kelsey Lane
- Rebecca Lauria
- Brienne Ledda
- Alexandra Leichter
- Raymond Lombardi
- Geraldine Luglio
- Hannah Maniuszko
- Kaitlyn McNulty
- Aditya Mehra
- Taylor Murray
- Kristin Nappi
- Justin O'Connor
- Danielle Plunkett
- Natalie Rash
- Sean Reagan

- Isabella Rodriguez Cardenas
- Ashley Russo
- Julia Ruzek
- Emily Sammartino
- Arthur Sarkissyan
- Daniel Sexton
- James Sottilo
- Cassandra Sperl
- Jillian Spreckels
- Ryan Sultan
- William Sussman
- Emily Taylor
- Kirsten Taylor
- Kirsten Taylor
- Sophia Tsenes
- Jessica Vasturino
- Nicholas Walerstein
- Treicy Wan

Miller Place School District

- Gavin Bailey

- McCormick Brooke
- Tanyon Cloke
- Angelina Danchalski
- Scarlett Denton
- Mason Donnelly-Pliakis
- Brooke Godberson
- Kylie Hoffmann
- Kelly Holownia
- Christopher Knodel
- Krishna Kumar
- Maura Luby
- Jared Mackin
- Lacie Nugent
- Michael Schleider
- Grace Steele
- Renee Stocken
- Renee Stocken
- Christian Tarsia
- Breenaphan Weber
- Shanna Wolfe
- Brandon Zou

Nicholas Follo

- Nicholas Follo

North Country Road Middle School

- Kiera Agic
- liam anderson
- Julina Bellezza
- Shane Beseler
- Annie Boisseau
- Andrew Bova
- Kyla Bruno
- Isabella Buonovolonta
- Tiffany Cantela
- vincent cavalcante
- Elizabeth Cerato
- Jillian Chamberlin
- tony chang
- Rivers Cunningham
- Leif Dalberg
- michael davis
- Thomas DeGiorgio-Liguori

- jonathan flannery
- Alexis Franzoni
- kristin french
- Paulina Gasparis
- Lauren Grady
- Angelina Harris
- Angelina Harris
- Angelina Harris
- Angelina Harris
- Marianna Kalin
- Matthew Kearns
- Ian kibbel
- Amelia Lamberson
- jadalyn leach
- Natalie Lehmann
- Gabriel Liquori
- kevin mai
- Jose Mancero
- Dawn manoussos
- Hope Mari
- Antonio Mascarella
- Brodie McGuire

- Haley Menihan
- Kylie Mistretta
- Alexander Niedzielski
- bridget nielsen
- Mollie O'Hanlon
- Jake pallas
- Rebecca Picora
- Arianna Portigiano
- Avery Purrier
- sarah qaderi
- shannon reagan
- gregory renna
- gregory renna
- Abby Rock
- Isabella romanski
- Sean Rowburrey
- timothy samonas
- madelyn shapiro
- Chloe Siena
- Chloe Siena
- sydney stocken
- Isabel Themann

- Isabel Themann
- Zachary Themann
- Skylar Torres
- Nicole White
- Aidan Wightman
- keith winslow

Ridge Elementary School

- Noah Savickas-Doherty

Riley Avenue Elementary

- Liam Hansen
- Katherine Jakubowsky
- Lauren Matyka
- Aidan Tobin
- Madison Williams
- Lindsay Yakaboski

Rocky Point Middle School

- Elana Gold

- Kelly Logue
- MacKenzie Nielsen
- Shyanne Pinkava
- Kathleen Seda
- Kristen Zoll

Southampton Montessori School

- Karen Neubauer

St. Demetrios Astoria School

- Eo Karaftis

Tuckahoe Common School

- Maxwell Aquino
- Josue Benitez Reyes
- Hailey Cameron
- Giulia Campiaola
- Daniela Gonzalez
- Cadie Hancock
- Luz Henandez

- Charley LaMere
- Emma Malandrino
- Kevin Morales
- Gustavo Ramirez
- John Brian Reyes
- Joshua Tarku
- Emily Zukosky

West Middle Island Elementary School

- Jacob Berkley
- Zion Dlugolonski
- Stephen Dugolonski
- Aliza Greenberg
- Angelia Lucia
- William Scapticci
- Charlize Wolf
- Luke Wolf

William Floyd Middle School

- Stephanie Taisler

Verne W. Critz Elementary School

- [Haniif Summers](#)