



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Jack M. Martins

## THANKSGIVING ESSAYS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

JACK M. MARTINS 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 Jack M. Martins

## **Carrie Palmer Weber Middle School**

- Abigail Gilsenan
- Abayomi Kerr
- Abbie Garfin
- Abby Hurt
- Amy Suwannatat
- Ashley Yeung
- Catherine Ricciardi
- Charlie Mark
- Chris Shroyer
- Daniel K.
- Danielle Wu
- Derek Lam
- Dylan Trenaman
- Ella Saunders

- Emily Jandman
- Emily Sanders
- Emma Kobayashi
- Erin Stewcke
- Fedora Castelino
- Gavin Shaub
- Gewn Gould
- Isaac Goldstein
- Isabella Lopez
- Jared Morales
- Jenny Frevola
- Jimmy Moger
- Jonah Goodman
- Junho
- Kaitlin Kaprowicz
- Kate M.
- Kate Steigman
- Kyle Sinett
- Kyran Hershkowitz
- Matthew Avila
- Maya Grossman
- Megan Daly

- Mia Accetturi
- Mia Kurta
- Michael Cichon
- Natalie Smith
- Nelson Gomez
- Nicole Kessler
- Oliver Melara-Perez
- Rebecca Snaider
- Rheyra Rao
- Riley Fanning-Hughes
- RJ Holt
- Rory Woods
- Ryan Joslyn
- Ryan Kessler
- Sam Fried
- Samantha Gibbons
- Sari Hartstein
- Shira Freilch
- Sophia Schmitt
- Susana Noto
- Thomas Melkonian
- Tommy Mascia

- Trevor Capps
- Tyshawn Williams
- Yauki Huang
- Zach Lustbder

## **Covert Avenue**

- Ibrahim Ahmad
- Muttakin Alam
- Alp Basar
- Matthew Bejarano
- Erika Carranza
- Jeffrie Casanova
- Eleana Cela
- Eric Chirino
- Jalai Clay
- Jason Vano
- Rachele Coreas
- Carlos Diaz
- Antoniette DiPierno
- Ajayda Griffith
- Eliana Hernandez

- Melina Hernandez
- Hayla Hurstel
- Hailey Jara
- Romesha Khan
- Catherine Krisenlall
- Akhila Kumer
- Emily Locker
- Karla Lopez
- Jorge Maldonado
- Gianna Mellen
- Sawera Mirza
- Brianna Mitchell
- Jason Mitchell
- Kevin Morrell
- Steven Niles
- Dylan Norrby
- Anjali Paul
- Nicole Plasencia
- Matthew Reusch
- Smriti Rout
- Misael Sanchez
- Elizabeth Schneidmuller

- Lexi Schneidmuller
- Zayiel Sencion
- Cecilia Smith
- Luke Villavicencio
- Leilani We

## **Gotham Avenue**

- Justin lewis

## **Great Neck North Middle School**

- Alex Ahdoot
- Gabby Damaghi
- Matthew Bloom
- Vera Cho
- Danielle Gruber
- Katherine Smolens
- Gracie Tropp-Levy

## **Harbor Hill Elementary School**

- Aaron B.

- Aaron G.
- Aasiya Z.
- Addison S.
- Aldin S.
- Alex G.
- Alex G.
- Alex K.
- Alex M.
- Alex N.
- Alex S.
- Alexa B.
- Alexander O.
- Alexander R.
- Alexandra K.
- Alexis B.
- Alexis S.
- Ali A.
- Alina K.
- Allena K.
- Amanda T.
- Amar C.
- Amena D.



- Andrew S.
- Anika T.
- Anna D.
- Anna F.
- Ari S.
- Ariela Y.
- Ariella A.
- Asher F.
- Ashley B.
- Ashley M.
- Ashley R.
- Ashley S.
- Ava R.
- Avery S.
- Aydan G.
- Bartek D.
- Bella R.
- Ben B.
- Ben F.
- Benji
- Benji R.
- Brian T.

- Caroline
- Caroline F.
- Casey S.
- Catherine D.
- Charlie H.
- Chase K.
- Chloe S.
- Christian S.
- Christina K.
- Coby R.
- Cole G.
- Connor S.
- Cooper F.
- Corey M.
- Courtney C.
- Dana A.
- Daniel K.
- Daniella I.
- Daniella Y.
- Danielle N.
- Danny L.
- Dante T.

- Devin S.
- Dylan F.
- Eitan A.
- Eli K.
- Eliza B.
- Eliza L.
- Elizabeth K.
- Ella M.
- Ellie S.
- Ellie S.
- Emily C.
- Emma K.
- Emma Y.
- Emma Z.
- Eoanna S.
- Ethan B.
- Ethan E.
- Ethan G.
- Ethan J.
- Ethan W.
- Ethan Y.
- Evalia K.

- Evan D.
- Fariha M.
- Frank L.
- Gabby C.
- Gabe K.
- Gavin C.
- Gavin Z.
- Geo P.
- Giada M.
- Giana B.
- Hailey G.
- Hailey S.
- Haley S.
- Hanah Y.
- Hannah B.
- Harel S.
- Harris Z.
- Hayden L.
- Hyunkyung P.
- Immanuela P.
- Isabella C.
- Isabella K.

- Isabella M.
- Isabella M.
- Isabella S.
- Isla O.
- Iyla S.
- Izzy L.
- Izzy L.
- Jack B.
- Jack B.
- Jack M.
- Jacob G.
- Jacob M.
- Jacob S.
- Jacob S.
- Jacob Z.
- Jacqueline K.
- Jadon B.
- Jake F.
- Jake G.
- Jake K.
- Jared S.
- Jared W.

- Javier
- Jenna Z.
- Jenny K.
- Jerry W.
- Jesse G.
- Jesse G.
- Jesse R.
- Jessica Z.
- Jhostin B.
- Jim K.
- Joel L.
- Jolie N.
- Jonathan F.
- Jonathan W.
- Jordan K.
- Jordan M.
- Jordan S.
- Jordan W
- Jordyn A.
- Joseph S.
- Josh B.
- Josh G.

- Josh K.
- Josh M.
- Justin F.
- Justin M.
- Justin N.
- Justin W.
- Kaitlyn A.
- Kaitlyn Y.
- Katie Fine
- Katie G.
- Katie M.
- Kayla D.
- Kayla Y.
- Ky'Lee-ann G.
- Lance M.
- Layla J.
- Lexi M.
- Lia F.
- Liav Sapir
- Lily R.
- Lilyann A.
- Logan K.

- Lola H.
- Lucas P.
- Lucas W.
- Lucy W.
- Luke R.
- Maddie L.
- Mahin G.
- Maksim G.
- Marc R.
- Marius F.
- Mason A.
- Mason G.
- Mason L.
- Mason W.
- Matias P.
- Matthew C.
- Matthew M.
- Matthew N.
- Max C.
- Max L.
- Maxwell K.
- Maya B.



- Maya M.
- Meeka R.
- Melanie Q.
- Mia S.
- Micah Z.
- Michael A.
- Mikayla P.
- Miles A.
- Misha G.
- Mitchell B.
- Molly S.
- Nathaniel R.
- Nicholas S.
- Nick S.
- Nicole B.
- Nicole G.
- Niko Q.
- Noah J.
- Oliver F.
- Olivia G.
- Paige D.
- Paige V.

- Petrit S.
- Phoebe A.
- Quin K.
- Rachel A.
- Rebecca A.
- Rebecca F.
- Rebecca L.
- Rebecca P.
- Rehan A.
- Remi M.
- Riley D.
- Riley G.
- Robby A.
- Robert S.
- Ryan C.
- Samantha B.
- Samantha S.
- Samantha W.
- Sarah F.
- Sarah K.
- Sarah Z.
- Shaina A.

- Shaun D.
- Sheilly B.
- Sidney S.
- Sienna B.
- Sienna M.
- Skye H.
- Skylar G.
- Skylar S.
- Smadar B.
- Sofia B.
- Sofia L.
- Sofia S.
- Sophie B.
- Sophie G.
- Spencer A.
- Spencer P.
- Stamati S.
- Summer H.
- Sydney H.
- Sydney S.
- Sydney H.
- Sydney S.

- Talli M.
- Tanya R.
- Tatianna C.
- Tesla C.
- Tomer G.
- Tyler G.
- Tyler O.
- Uma K.
- Vasilios T.
- Victoria S.
- Vincent L.
- Whitney P.
- William C.
- Yeonjin P.
- Zach M.
- Zach P.
- Zach W.
- Zachary G.
- Zachary Y.

**Henry Viscardi School**

- Brianna Ramsundar

## **Hillside Grade School**

- Alvin Paul

## **Mineola Middle School**

- Matt cobos
- dominique Crecco
- Deborah DosSantos
- Gabriella Flynn
- Meghan Heckelman
- Margaret Jones
- Jessica Kessler
- Melanie Mendes
- Jennifer Moglia
- Neha Parambi
- Julia Perrino
- Erick Salmeron
- Joshua Sandoval
- Ana victoria Serna
- William winski

# New Hyde Park Road School

- Naayiemah Abdullah
- Elisabeth Antropova
- michelle davydoff
- Ava Denaro
- Aaron Gitelman
- Alora Hague
- Rovjyot jawanda
- Paige Jones
- Michael Kolen
- Isabella le
- Gina Lee
- Adrian Lujambio
- Emily MacKnight
- Kayla Mahoney
- Anahi Maldonado
- Nicholas Marsella
- Claire Mikowski
- Henna Nair
- Luke Orbon
- Rebecca Panicker

- Malika Patel
- Vanessa Piazza
- Tiffany Rodriguez
- Steve Roshan
- Abigail Scardapne
- Anuj Shaji
- David Sibrian
- Thalia Torio
- Jack Vasquez
- Jenna Walsh

## **Notre Dame School**

- Stephen Bracco
- Michael Campagnuolo
- James Weedon
- Catherine Gunther
- Thomas Portnoy
- Alessia Valle
- Victoria Certa
- Gabriella Puleri
- Bryan Herrera

- Philip Schurr
- Lance Sinson
- Caitriona Smith
- Ryan Opak
- Jayden Rodriguez
- Justin Cosgorve
- Andrew Escorcia
- Alfred Squicciarino
- Giancarlo Valle
- Pamela LaRosa
- Julianna Curtis
- Arnav Sharma

## **Polk Street School**

- Nicholas Abruzzo
- Gabrielle Amalfitano
- Matthew Mantone
- Amanda Mazzei
- Amanda Mazzei
- Alan Justin Melgarejo
- Alexa Kola



- Amelia Zych
- Brandon Roethel
- Chris Toscano
- Emily Blattberg
- Emma Byme
- Emma Cavalli
- Eric Hensley
- Gianna Montante
- Jake
- Jennelle Maldonado
- Kristen Hopper
- Kristine Balquin
- Michael Hopkins
- Nicholas Albanesse
- Nick Tricario
- Paul Mirable
- Rachel Rose
- Stepanie Noboa
- Victoria Kamavar

**Rushmore Avenue School**

- Sabrina Abbatiello
- Jaclin Alves
- Matthew Auerbach
- Evan Austria
- Marisa Bavaro
- Anthony Bileddo
- Rolphmann Bireaux
- John Buffolino
- kiersten cardenas
- Christopher Carrillo
- devlin castillo
- Abigail Chiappone
- riha chowdhury
- Patrick Cody
- Ines De Sousa
- Maryrose Decutiis
- Maryrose Decutiis
- Maryrose Decutiis
- Maryrose Decutiis
- Alexa Dedicke
- Alexa Dedicke
- Victoria Dieguez

- Mia Douso
- Thomas Durecut
- Thomas Durecut
- giovanni fabiano
- Matthew Fiderer
- Alexia Freebody
- Justin Frein
- Natalia Furey
- Alexandra Georges
- Nysa Gonzalez
- Adriano Graca
- Karen Gutierrez
- Ashley Hommel
- Elizabeth Hommel
- Jack Hommel
- joseph iadevaia
- Leah Iglesias
- Gregory Jarvis
- Gregory Jarvis
- Gregory Jarvis
- Jennifer Jimenez
- James Kapralos

- Breven Kuriakose
- terry lam
- Erin Leary
- Kennedy Lee
- Rita Lin
- Christopher Lopes
- Alvaro Lopez salinas
- Sid Mantravadi
- Alejandro Martinez
- Dominick Masiello
- Alexa Mastrangelo
- Christian Micheli
- Anthony Mifsud
- Karina Mogavero
- Matthew Moncada
- emily monferrato
- Alexandra Nagy
- Julia O'Connell
- Lillian Parise
- Anthony Pascarella
- Nicholas Pascarella
- Cristina Posillico

- Lucas Raccolin
- Molly Rivera
- Sebastian Rodriguez
- Ava Sanguedolce
- Chloe Santos
- Chloe Santos
- Chloe Santos
- Jake Seidl
- patrick selhorn
- Nicole Shaw
- Colin Sheridan
- Vincent Spitz
- Kayla Stecker
- Tristan Tagliarino
- Giovanni Tallini
- Giovanni Tallini
- Jack Taveras
- Thomas Thoben
- Alicia Torres
- Dionysios Valentis
- AnnaMaria Vargas
- Adam Vaz

- Lucas Verdade
- Sebastian Vitanza
- Michael Whigham
- Jack Williamson
- Kevin Woska
- Melissa Wysocki
- Jason Yang
- Alexander Zabierowski
- Alexander Zabierowski

## **Saint Aidan School**

- Jessica Perfit

## **Saint Demetrios Astoria School**

- Theo J. Klotsos

## **St. Aidan School**

- Gia Guido
- Jillian Orr
- Gabrielle Russell

## **St. Joseph School**

- Elijah Dorsainvil
- Sherfran Louhis
- Anthony Randazzo

## **St. Mary's Elementary School**

- Aaron Mahabirsingh
- Aidan Decker
- Ariana Brattoli
- Bharath Venkatesan
- Catherine Steinbach
- Che' Johnson-McGregor
- Clair Lapina
- Damer Raheel
- Daniel Gibson
- Dexter Reid
- Elisa Jaquez
- Evan Briguglio
- Fabien Bossous Durand
- Giancarlo Cascarino
- Hayla Hightower

- Ian Bjelke
- Jada Ross
- Jazlyn Santos
- Jeffrey Stones
- John Deliso
- Joseph Caliendo
- Joseph Congero
- Joshua Minton
- Justine Cuomo
- Maria Cipriano
- Matthew Hoosein
- Max Bunja
- Mia Asenjo
- Mia Quansoon
- Nina Kellner
- Pereyra
- Pierce
- Ricardo Zaldivar
- Richard Attardi
- Sophie Steinbach
- Spencer O'Reilly
- Terence Scheurer



- William Hoffman
- Yani Merritt

## **Stewart Manor School**

- Josphe Damato
- Sophia Kasimatis
- Rahul Krishan
- Ella Marchignoli
- Neal Mehta
- Anthony O'Shea
- Amber Ramos
- Ashley Rullo
- Jennifer Scanlon
- Xavier Shaw
- Christopher Sims

## **Weber Middle School**

- Alana Bernstein
- Eloise Griffin
- Rotem Konfino