

# TOBY NUSSBAUM JHNY2008 WRITING CONTEST



*Hon. Dennis M. Walcott, NYC Deputy Mayor for Education and Community Development, presented awards to the winners of the Toby Nussbaum JHNY2008 Writing Contest at City Hall on June 12, 2008.*

*Left to right, the students are: Sabina Habib, Gaby Carver, Darya Chernysheva, Erkinaz Shuminov, Ilona Melamed, Fabian Peñaranda Villegas, I Yin Yu, Yana Krasnokutskaya, Anni Bangiev and Taniya Minhas.*

*Joining Deputy Mayor Walcott (center) and the students are (left to right): Marcia R. Eisenberg, JCRC Jewish Communal Affairs Director; Marcy A. Fishman, JHNY Director; Bernard W. Nussbaum; Dale Nussbaum, Toby Nussbaum JHNY2008 Contest Co-Chairperson; Michael Nussbaum, JCRC Board Member and Toby Nussbaum JHNY2008 Contest Co-Chairperson; Ross Wallenstein, Assistant to the Governor for Community Affairs; Janice W. Shorestein, JCRC President; Michael S. Miller, JCRC Executive Vice President and CEO; and Judith Shapiro, JHNY Co-Chairperson.*

The Jewish Heritage-NY2008 writing contest, with its theme of *Rachmanut: Expressing the Jewish Value of Compassion*, was named after the late Toby Nussbaum, a former JCRC Vice President. Students from throughout New York City's Public Schools entered the contest, sponsored in cooperation with the New York City Department of Education, and the ten winners represented the diversity of our city. The students received their awards at a ceremony hosted by Hon. Dennis M. Walcott, NYC Deputy Mayor for Education and Community Development, at City Hall on June 12, 2008.

Deputy Mayor Walcott graciously welcomed the students, their parents and educators to the Blue Room; JCRC President Janice W. Shorestein and JHNY2008 Co-Chairman Judith Shapiro greeted the guests; Bernard W. Nussbaum and Dale Nussbaum, Co-Chairperson of the Toby Nussbaum JHNY2008 Contest, offered remarks; and Ross Wallenstein, Assistant to the Governor for Community Affairs, read a letter of congratulations from Governor David A. Paterson. The Deputy Mayor presented the JCRC awards, Ross presented certificates from the Governor to each student, and JCRC Executive Vice President and CEO Michael S. Miller closed the program. Finally, Fred Kreizman, the Assistant Commissioner of the Mayor's Community Assistance Unit, Mark Botnick from CAU, and Gary Altman, Deputy Counsel to the NYC Council, escorted the students and their guests on an exclusive tour of City Hall, including the Mayor's famous "bullpen" and City Council Chambers.

# THE TOBY NUSSBAUM JEWISH HERITAGE-NY2008 CONTEST WINNERS

## Elementary School Level (Grades 4-5)

### First Place:

#### **Sabina Habib**

Thomas J. McCann Woodside  
Intermediate School 125, Queens  
Teacher: Nadine Feingold  
Principal: Judy Mittler

### Second Place:

#### **Gaby Carver**

Public School 101  
The School in the Gardens, Queens  
Teacher: Margot Sawicki  
Principal: Ronnie Feder

### Third Place:

#### **Anni Bangiev & Yana Krasnokutskaya**

Frederick Wachtel Public School 199, Brooklyn  
Teacher: Toni DiCostanzo  
Principal: Rosalia Bacarella

## Intermediate School Level (Grades 6-8)

### First Place:

#### **Darya Chernysheva**

Mark Twain Intermediate School 239  
for the Gifted and Talented, Brooklyn  
Teacher: Michele Wallach  
Principal: Carol Moore

### Second Place:

#### **Ilona Melamed**

Mark Twain Intermediate School 239  
for the Gifted and Talented, Brooklyn  
Teacher: Michele Wallach  
Principal: Carol Moore

### Third Place:

#### **Fabian Peñaranda Villegas**

Public School 232, Queens  
Teacher: Debbie Mayerson  
Principal: Lisa Josephsen

## High School Level (Grades 9-12)

### First Place:

#### **I Yin Yu (Elaine)**

Townsend Harris High School, Queens  
Teacher: Raquel Chung  
Principal: Thomas Cunningham

### Second Place:

#### **Taniya Minhas**

Townsend Harris High School, Queens  
Teacher: Raquel Chung  
Principal: Thomas Cunningham

### Third Place:

#### **Erkinaz Shuminov**

Leon M. Goldstein High School, Brooklyn  
Teacher: Christian Del Ré  
Principal: Joseph Zaza

# JHNY2007 WRITING CONTEST



*Hon. Dennis M. Walcott, NYC Deputy Mayor for Education and Community Development, presented awards to the winners of the JHNY2007 Writing Contest at City Hall on June 13, 2007.*

*Left to right, the students are:*

*Michael Pedulla, Catherine Chan, Juvella Tolentino, Sean Kyle Hardy, Justin Saperstein, Dana Saperstein, Adiba Anam, Irvin Coindet and Nickcardo Blake (Diana Barbosa is not pictured).*

*Joining Deputy Mayor Walcott and the students were Ross Wallenstein, Assistant to the Governor for Community Affairs, Matthew J. Maryles, JCRC President, Marcy A. Fishman, JHNY Director, Judith Shapiro, JHNY Co-Chairman, Sally Goodgold, JCRC Officer, and Michael S. Miller, JCRC Executive Vice President & CEO Michael S. Miller.*

The theme of the annual writing contest in the NYC Public Schools was *Tikun Olam: Repairing the World Through Social Action*. Students from throughout the city entered the contest sponsored in cooperation with the New York City Department of Education, and the ten winners represented the diversity of our city and, for the first time, every borough. The students received their awards at a ceremony hosted by Hon. Dennis M. Walcott, NYC Deputy Mayor for Education and Community Development, at City Hall on June 13, 2007.

Deputy Mayor Walcott graciously welcomed the students, their parents and teachers to the Blue Room, JHNY2007 Co-Chairman Judith Shapiro offered greetings, and Ross Wallenstein, Assistant to the Governor for Community Affairs, read a letter of congratulations from Governor Eliot Spitzer. The Deputy Mayor presented the JCRC awards, Ross presented certificates from the Governor to each student, and JCRC Executive Vice President and CEO Michael S. Miller closed the program. Finally, Fred Kreizman, the Assistant Commissioner of the Mayor's Community Assistance Unit, and Manny Behar, Community Services Liaison to NYC Council Speaker Christine Quinn, led the students and their guests on an exclusive tour of City Hall, including the Mayor's famous "bullpen" and City Council Chambers, where Council Member Melinda Katz warmly acknowledged them.

**Jewish Heritage-NY2007 Writing Contest**  
**Sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York**  
**in cooperation with the New York City Department of Education**  
**AWARD WINNERS**

**Elementary School Level**  
**(Grades Four-Five)**

**First Place: Juvella Tolentino**

Public School 105, Bronx  
Teacher: Michelle Dipirro  
Principal: Christopher Eustace  
Regional Superintendent: Laura Rodriguez  
Local Instructional Superintendent: Irene Rogan

**Second Place: Michael Pedulla**

Public School 204, Brooklyn  
Assistant Principal: Jessica Horgan  
Principal: Marie Reilly  
Regional Superintendent: Dr. Dorita Gibson  
Local Instructional Superintendent: Edward Seto

**Third Place: Dana and Justin Saperstein**

Public School 55, Staten Island  
Teachers: Linda Scragg, Sue Gainer, Terry Pollio  
Principal: Kathleen Schultz  
Regional Superintendent: Dr. Dorita Gibson  
Local Instructional Superintendent: Neal Opromalla

**Intermediate School Level**  
**(Grades Six-Eight)**

**First Place: Nickcardo Blake**

The Donald Hertz School, Public School 83, Bronx  
Teacher: Rachel Smith  
Principal: Benjamin Soccodoto  
Regional Superintendent: Laura Rodriguez  
Local Instructional Superintendent: Irene Rogan

**Second Place: Irvin Coindet**

Leonardo Da Vinci Intermediate School 61, Queens  
Teacher: Susan Bayza  
Principal: John O'Mahoney  
Regional Superintendent: Charles Amundsen  
Local Instructional Superintendent: Catherine Powis

**Third Place: Sean Kyle Hardy**

Professional Performing Arts School, Manhattan  
Teacher: Brenna Sevano  
Principal: Keith Ryan  
Regional Superintendent: Peter Heaney, Jr.  
Local Instructional Superintendent: Hal Epstein

**High School Level**  
**(Grades Nine-Twelve)**

**First Place: Catherine Chan**

Townsend Harris High School, Queens  
Teacher: Raquel Chung  
Principal: Thomas Cunningham  
Regional Superintendent: Judith Chin  
Local Instructional Superintendent: Gerard Beirne

**Second Place: Adiba Anam**

Townsend Harris High School, Queens  
Teacher: Raquel Chung  
Principal: Thomas Cunningham  
Regional Superintendent: Judith Chin  
Local Instructional Superintendent: Gerard Beirne

**Third Place: Diana Barbosa**

Townsend Harris High School, Queens  
Teacher: Raquel Chung  
Principal: Thomas Cunningham  
Regional Superintendent: Judith Chin  
Local Instructional Superintendent: Gerard Beirne



# JHNY2006 WRITING CONTEST AWARD CEREMONY



*JHNY Director Marcy A. Fishman (second from left), JCRC-NY Executive Vice President and CEO Michael S. Miller (center) and JHNY Co-Chairperson Judy Shapiro (right) join the JHNY2006 Contest Award winners.*

**Jewish Heritage-NY2006 Writing Contest**  
**Sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York**  
**in cooperation with the New York City Department of Education**  
**AWARD WINNERS**

**Elementary School Level**  
**(Grades Four-Five)**

**First Place: Daniel Cohen**

Public School 217, Brooklyn

Teacher: Sue Horowitz

Principal: Franca Conti

Regional Superintendent: Gloria Buckery

Local Instructional Superintendent: Marianne Ferrara

**Intermediate School Level**  
**(Grades Six-Eight)**

**First Place: Ana Lorenzo**

Intermediate School 61, Queens

Teacher: Susan Bayza

Principal: John O'Mahoney

Regional Superintendent: Reyes Irizarry

Local Instructional Superintendent: Catherine Powis

**Second Place: Brian Orellana**

Intermediate School 131, Bronx

Teacher: Susan Karben

Principal: Rudolph Rupnarain

Regional Superintendent: Laura Rodriguez

Local Instructional Superintendent: Dov Rokeach

**Second Place: Diedre Morrissey**

Middle School 53, Queens

Teacher: Gila Ostrowsky

Principal: Claude Monereau

Regional Superintendent: Dr. Kathleen Cashin

Local Instructional Superintendent: Michele Lloyd-Bey

**Third Place: Lily Harford**

Public School 268, Brooklyn

Teacher: Dale Shoken

Principal: Mosezetta Overby

Regional Superintendent: Gloria Buckery

Local Instructional Superintendent: Felicita Santiago

**Third Place: Faina Izgiyayev**

Brooklyn Studio Secondary School

Teacher: Ardene Girshek

Principal: Martin Fiasconciro

Regional Superintendent: Michelle Fratti

Local Instructional Superintendent: Iris Baum

**High School Level**  
**(Grades Nine-Twelve)**

**First Place: Divya Matthew**

Townsend Harris High School, Queens

Teacher: Raquel Chung

Principal: Thomas Cunningham

Regional Superintendent: Judith Chin

Local Instructional Superintendent: Gerard Beirne

**Second Place: Lauren Herzlich**

Bronx High School of Science

Teacher: David Colchamiro

Principal: Valerie Reidy

Regional Superintendent: Yvonne Torres

Local Instructional Superintendent: Elena Papaliberios

**Third Place: Bari Nadworny**

Townsend Harris High School, Queens

Teacher: Charlene Levi

Principal: Thomas Cunningham

Regional Superintendent: Judith Chin

Local Instructional Superintendent: Gerard Beirne