New Jersey Secretary of Higher Education Rochelle Hendricks was a special guest speaker as six Paterson high school students were honored on June 10, 2014 as the award winners in the 2014 High School Peace and Justice Writing Contest sponsored by the Gandhian Forum for Peace and Justice at William Paterson University in Wayne.

The contest, established in 2013, offers Paterson high school students an opportunity to reflect on important contemporary social problems and their solutions, and share those reflections in a public setting. Each of the award recipients read his or her winning essay at the dinner.

Winners were selected in two categories. Ninth and tenth grade winners are Farzana Z. Line, grade 10, International High School, first place; Reynaldo Chavarry, grade 9, International High School, second place, and Jose Zelaya, grade 9, School of Information Technology, Eastside High School, third place. Eleventh and twelfth grade winners are Jana’e Smith, grade 11, School of Information Technology, Eastside High School, first place; Alexander Rodriguez, grade 11, School of Information Technology, Eastside High School, second place; and Adria Barnes, grade 12, international High School, third place.

William Paterson University’s Gandhian Forum for Peace and Justice seeks to engage high school, college, and university students and teachers and community members in innovative and practical ideas, actions, and programs that promote peace and justice through cooperative engagement, dialogue, and respect for opposing views and opinions.

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Photos of award winners appear on the following pages....
Stephen Shalom, William Paterson University professor of political science; Farzana Z. Line, grade 10, International High School, first place, ninth and tenth grade contest; and Secretary of Higher Education Rochelle Hendricks

(More on next page)
Stephen Shalom, William Paterson University professor of political science; Reynaldo Chavarry, grade 9, International High School, second place, ninth and tenth grade contest; and Secretary of Higher Education Rochelle Hendricks

(More)
Stephen Shalom, William Paterson University professor of political science; Jose Zelaya, grade 9, School of Information Technology, Eastside High School, third place, ninth and tenth grade contest; and Secretary of Higher Education Rochelle Hendricks

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Stephen Shalom, William Paterson University professor of political science; Jana’e Smith, grade 11, School of Information Technology, Eastside High School, first place, eleventh and twelfth grade contest; and Secretary of Higher Education Rochelle Hendricks

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