

I Have a Dream" contest



In celebration of the district's diversity day program and keeping with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s mission, seventh-grade students at P.J. Gelinis Junior High School in the Three Village Central School District took to the stage in the school's auditorium to participate in the school's 11th Annual "I Have A Dream" Oratory Contest.

The program, which was coordinated by social studies teacher Louis Laird, called for students to finish the sentence "I have a dream..." and share what their hopes and dreams are. Fourteen students were selected to share their essays with their peers during a grade-level assembly program. A wish to cleanse the world from the ravages of war, desires to become a diplomat, and hopes for the economic crisis to be eradicated echoed throughout the auditorium. Seventh-grader Alan Wei, who dreams of an end of the war abroad, stated, "I believe that this is not only my dream...but it represents the aspirations of others."

In addition to the students' speeches, members of the school's ninth-grade chamber choir performed several songs, and students Haley Gillan and Katherine Sweeney shared a poem entitled, "Underneath We're All the Same."

The winners of this year's contest were Jessica Carpenter (first place), Gabriel Nekrutman (second place), and William Spitz (third place). Each participant was presented with a commemorative certificate and the top three were also given trophies.