

### Division II ( grades 9 & 10 )

Award	Name	School	Teacher
1st	Rana Banankhah	Independent Study	Susan Janis
2nd	Lauren Bowman	Independent Study	Ann Bowman
3rd & SW	Kayla Zhu	Central Valley HS	Megan Oliveria
HM	Aaron Madrigal	Central Valley HS	Megan Oliveria
HM	Itzayhana Yepez Ochoa	Central Valley HS	Megan Oliveria
HM	Tyler Jean Lao Verjinski	Central Valley HS	Megan Oliveria
Finalist	Avery Bezanson	Whitmore Charter	Jillian Gill
Fin & SW	Hope Elizondo	Oakdale Charter	Jeannette Ves'selis
Finalist	Taylor Hill	Central Valley H S	Megan Oliveria
Finalist	Jasman Kaur	Central Valley H S	Megan Oliveria
Finalist	Melvin Morales Lepez	Central Valley H S	Megan Oliveria
Finalist	Carlos Magaña	Central Valley H S	Megan Oliveria
Finalist	Kylie Maines	Central Valley H S	Megan Oliveria
Finalist	Alexa Martinez	Central Valley H S	Megan Oliveria
Finalist	Emily Medina	Central Valley H S	Megan Oliveria
Finalist	Salvador Ochoa	Central Valley H S	Megan Oliveria
Finalist	Guadalupe Peregrina	Central Valley H S	Megan Oliveria
Finalist	Nathan Runyon	Hart Ransom Acad Char	Susan Janis
Fin & SW	Devika Singh	James Enochs H S	Chris Hayden
Finalist	Yamily Lizeth Zaragoza	Central Valley H S	Megan Oliveria

HM = Honorable Mention

\*SW = School Winner, recognized for the top essay from a school that has submitted 10 or more essays in the Division

### Division I ( grades 11 & 12 )

Award	Name	School	Teacher
1st	Maryam Sabri	Whitmore Charter	Nancy Rossi
2nd & SW	Noah Scarbrough	Hughson HS	Karalee Ruelas
3rd	Yara Choeb	Riverbank HS	Rosalind Taulbee
HM & SW	Emily Hanson	Hughson HS	Karalee Ruelas
HM & SW	Jacob Martin	Patterson HS	Valerie Jamieson
HM	Emily Swehla	Independent Study	Susan Janis
Finalist	Bridgette Allen	Riverbank HS	Rosalind Taulbee
Finalist	Gisell Chavez Alvarez	Patterson HS	Phoebe Skelson
Finalist	Reza Banankhah	Independent Study	Susan Janis
Finalist	Jaden Brazil	Hughson HS	Karalee Ruelas
Finalist	Sofia Gregoris	Patterson HS	Phoebe Skelson
Finalist	Alexandra Henshaw	Riverbank HS	Rosalind Taulbee
Finalist	Samantha Mendoza	Patterson HS	Valerie Jamieson
Finalist	Alysse Messer	Hughson HS	Karalee Ruelas
Finalist	Mercedes Padilla	Hughson HS	Karalee Ruelas
Finalist	Emma Pohl	Hughson HS	Karalee Ruelas
Finalist	Angelica Recinos	Patterson HS	Valerie Jamieson
Finalist	Haley Sims	Downey HS	Bill McHale
Finalist	Angel Tinoco	Patterson HS	Phoebe Skelson
Finalist	Danielle Torres Wera	Patterson HS	Phoebe Skelson
SW	Drake Heffington	Oakdale Charter	Jeannette Ves'selis

HM = Honorable Mention

\*SW = School Winner, recognized for the top essay from a school that has submitted 10 or more essays in the Division

# Special Thanks to Our Donors

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 Shelly Scribner  
 Stanislaus CRTA Div #38  
 Ruby Ten Brink  
 David Tucker & Linda Lagace

## Division III ( grades 7 & 8 )

Award	Name	School	Teacher
1st & SW	Isabella Salzer	Oakdale Jr HS	Dee Hawksworth
2nd	Nathan Carlson	Independent Study	Susan Janis
3rd & SW	Stella Whitler	Hart Ransom Acad Chtr	Susan Janis
HM	Catherine Mullins	Hart Ransom Acad Chtr	Susan Janis
HM	Connor Swearingen	Independent Study	Susan Janis
Finalist	Guy Bradshaw	Hart Ransom Acad Chtr	Susan Janis
Finalist	Alyna Fabing	Oakdale Jr HS	Dee Hawksworth
Finalist	Jessica Garibay	Cesar Chavez Jr HS	Michael Bryan
Finalist	Gavin Gleason	Oakdale Jr HS	Dee Hawksworth
Finalist	Mason Harry	Oakdale Jr HS	Dee Hawksworth
Finalist	Taylor Hay	Oakdale Jr HS	Dee Hawksworth
Fin & SW	Amberlin Hopwood	Cesar Chavez Jr HS	Michael Bryan
Fin & SW	Chloe Jacques	Yolo MS	Brandi Decator
Finalist	Abigail Moberly	Hart Ransom Acad Chtr	Susan Janis
Fin & SW	Bridget Morrow	St. Stanislaus Catholic Sch	Sarah Muñoz
Fin & SW	Joshua Nugent	Our Lady of Fatima	Star Pedron
Fin & SW	Adelyn Persons	Turlock Jr HS	Denise Nulph
Finalist	Jenna Sanders	Oakdale Jr HS	Dee Hawksworth
Finalist	Quinn Swearingen	Independent Study	Susan Janis
Finalist	Madeline Wold	Oakdale Jr HS	Dee Hawksworth
SW	Saida Alvarez	Mark Twain Jr HS	Keri Mcintyre
SW	Ryan Arias	Sacred Heart Elem, Turlk	Elaine Magni
SW	Grace Benham	Hickman Charter Elem	Tracey Kline
			Bret Berghold
SW	Blake Melo	Sacred Heart Elem, Pat	Susan Paiva
SW	Ethan Real	Hickman Middle School	Michelle Blaze

HM = Honorable Mention

SW = School Winner, recognized for the top essay from a school that has submitted 10 or more essays in the Division

### Division IV ( grades 5 & 6 )

Award	Name	School	Teacher
1st	Landon Sales	Independent Study	Susan Janis
2nd & SW	Julia Hartley	Hart Ransom Acad Chtr	Susan Janis
3rd	Lila Fritz	Hart Ransom Acad Chtr	Susan Janis
HM	Marcus Ang	Hart Ransom Acad Chtr	Susan Janis
HM	Haeliana Halloran	Hart Ransom Acad Chtr	Susan Janis
HM	Aidan Suntra	Hart Ransom Acad Chtr	Susan Janis
Finalist	Raina Curson	Great Valley Acad-M	Kassandra Angel
Finalist	Malachi Geiken	Hart Ransom Acad Chtr	Susan Janis
Finalist	Joseph Hajjar	Hart Ransom Acad Chtr	Susan Janis
Finalist	Khylee Houston	Agnes Baptist Elem	Toni David
Fin & SW	Erin Leamy	John Fremont Elem	Doren Arnold
Finalist	Sparsh Malhotra	Agnes Baptist Elem	Toni David
Finalist	Hasan Modan	Agnes Baptist Elem	Toni David
Finalist	Luke Nelson	Independent Study	Susan Janis
Finalist	Rafael Padilla	Hart Ransom Acad Chtr	Susan Janis
Finalist	Akhil Patel	Hart Ransom Acad Chtr	Susan Janis
Finalist	Aubrey Perez	Osborn Elem	Sra Enciso
Fin & SW	Jud Perryman	Hickman Middle Sch	Michelle Blaze
Finalist	Paige Shea	Connect. Waters Chtr	Alida Higgins
Fin & SW	Rachel Warter	Agnes Baptist Elem	Toni David
SW	Hunter Miner-Hill	Somerset MS	Denise Argain
SW	Josephine Webster	Valley Home Elem	Mrs. Stewart

HM = Honorable Mention

SW = School Winner, recognized for the top essay from a school that has submitted 10 or more essays in the Division

### Special Thanks to 2020 Screeners and Judges

Anna	Brown Hazen	Lynn	Lucas
Indira	Clark	John	Lucas
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Pam	Franklin	Deborah	Roberts
Elaine	Gorman	Sandy	Sample
Nancy	Haskett	Daniel	Schmidt
Annaliese	Hausler-Akpovi	Linda	Sheller
Johanna	Isaacson	Leah	Silvestre Franklin
Linda	Knoll	Julie	Ten Brink
Linda	Lagace	Dave	Tucker
		Marianne	Villalobos

*T-Shirts  
Fall Fund Raiser  
Photographers  
Refreshments*

*Peggy Hoover  
John Frailing & Maria Arevalo  
Jim Costello, Richard Anderson  
Peace/Life Essay Committee*

**First Place - Division I**

Maryam Sabri  
Whitmore Charter .Nancy Rossi  
Creating a Peaceful World  
One Hand at a Time

**First Place - Division II**

Rana Bananhah  
Independent Study Susan Janis  
Marielle Franco: Brazil's Voice in a Country  
Choked by Oppression

**First Place - Division III**

Isabella Salzer  
Oakdale Jr HS Dee Hawksworth  
Works of a True Hero

**First Place - Division IV**

Landon Sales  
Independent Study Susan Janis  
A Magic Apple

The 2020 Peace Essay Contest challenges you to find and bring recognition to one of these lesser-known heroes of peace. You may find them in your family or neighborhood, in your community or nation, or in places all over the globe. They may have lived in the past or might be living today. They may have used ideas, words, pens, music, shovels, diplomacy, technology or a variety of other common or unusual tools to build peace between people, groups or nations. The focus of each person's work may differ, but common to all peacemakers is a commitment to using non-violent principles and actions to nurture and encourage positive relationships among people resulting in a more peaceful world, locally and beyond.

Division I (grades 11-12) and Division II (grades 9 - 10) 500-1000 Words  
Division III (grades 7-8) and Division IV (grades 5-6) 250-500 Words

By talking with others and/or researching, find and write, in your own words, about a lesser known person who has worked for peace and justice through non-violent and non-military means. This person may have lived in the past or is living today. He or she may be from your local community or from anywhere around the globe, working to make our world a more fair and peaceful place. In your essay:

- Describe who the person is/was and how they have worked for peace and justice.
- Explain why this person's actions are an important contribution to building a more peaceful and just world.
- Tell how the work of this person might inspire you to also find ways to work for a more peaceful and just world.

Print your word count at the end of the text of your essay, Then show Works Cited for any quotations, borrowed ideas and facts that are not general knowledge. (The title and citations are not included in the word count.) If you are uncertain about plagiarism, ask your teacher. Further suggestions on using citations are included in the submission details and at <http://peaceessaycontest.weebly.com/>.

## **Welcome and Presentations**

**Susan Cassidy, MC**

**Librarian– MJC**

### **CONGRATULATIONS AND CERTIFICATES**

US Representative Josh Harder 10th  
CA State Senator Andreas Borgeas, 8th District  
CA State Senator Anna Caballero, 12th District  
CA State Senator Cathleen Galgiani, 5th District  
CA State Assemblyman Adam Gray, 21st District  
CA Assemblymember Heath Flora 12th District

### **Presentations and Awards**

**Leng Nou, Presenter**

### **Closing and Refreshments**

## **2020 Peace Essay Contest Heroes of Peace**

Peace is understood to mean not only an absence of hostilities or war, but also a state of harmony and justice existing between people, groups or nations. All over the globe and throughout history, there have been people who have steadily worked for peace and justice through non-violent and non-military means. They have worked alone and sometimes joined with others, often working behind the scenes. These people are the rarely recognized heroes of peace.

Martin Luther King, Jr., Gandhi or Mother Teresa are examples of well known peacemakers. However, there are many people whose peacemaking efforts are not widely recognized. The experiences of these unheralded peacemakers are sometimes told in songs and stories, but seldom make the history books.

## **The Modesto Peace/Life Center**

For over 50 years the Modesto Peace/Life Center has been working to promote peace, social and economic justice, and a sustainable environment in our community, country and the world. Besides this Peace Essay Contest, the Center sponsors a number of other events:

**Modesto's Martin Luther King, Jr. Event, February 22**

**Golden State Road Warriors Wheelchair KCBP Fundraiser, March 28**

**Earth Day, Graceada Park, April 18**  
**Climate Action Event, April Place and Date TBD**

**Annual Pancake Breakfast, June 7**

**Family Peace Camp, June 26 - 28**

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Peace Life Center , Autumn 2020**

**Harvest Gathering (October)**

**Holiday Potluck Song Fest (December)**

**John McCutcheon Music Concert (Jan/Feb).**

**Vigils for Peace and Economic Justice (first Wed, every month)**

The Center is committed to helping make a better society and world through nonviolence. We welcome everyone who wants to join us in this vital work. Thank you for your involvement in the 2020 Peace Essay Contest. Your encouragement of a child's thinking and writing contributes to our becoming a more thoughtful, kind and peaceful society.

Event details can be found in the following:

**On-line newspaper, Stanislaus Connections**

<http://stanislausconnections.org/>

**PLC Website, <http://peacelifecenter.org/>**

**PLC Online Videos, <http://vimeo.com/user9154856/> videos ,**

**By telephone, 209- 529-5750.**



Heroes of Peace #36

**2020 Award Reception  
Friday, April 3, 2020**

## **Peace Essay Contest**

***“It isn’t enough to talk about peace.  
One must believe in it.  
And it isn’t enough to believe in it.  
One must work at it.”***

***Eleanor Roosevelt***

**Sponsored by:**

**Modesto Peace/Life Center  
and**

**Division of Literature and Language Arts  
Modesto Junior College**

**2020 Peace Essay Committee**

**Indira Clark, Peggy Hoover, Linda Lagace,  
Colleen Norby, Deborah Roberts,  
Sandy Sample, Shelly Scribner and David Tucker**