



THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK OFFICE OF COUNCIL MEMBER MARK S. WEPRIN

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FIFTH GRADER KATIYA JONES WINS MARK WEPRIN'S ESSAY CONTEST AND BECOMES COUNCIL MEMBER FOR A DAY

Council Member Mark Weprin (D-Oakland Gardens) hosted Council Member for a Day essay contest winner Katiya Jones, a fifth grade student at PS 26Q, at his City Hall office.

This year's essay contest question was: *Why I Love Queens County. Describe in detail the places you have visited, the foods you have eaten, or anything else you love about the borough in which you live.* Hundreds of essays from local Queens students were submitted this year. Katiya's essay was articulate and upbeat: "The Black Spectrum Theatre Company is the oldest and only professional African American theater in Queens. In 1988, the theater produced one of the first AIDS Awareness theater programs in the country," she wrote.

City Council Member for a Day Katiya Jones took a tour of City Hall, attended the Autism Initiative Press Conference, interacted with elected officials, and took Council Member Weprin's seat at the Stated Meeting at City Hall Council Chambers.

Council Member Weprin began the essay contest in 1994, when he was a member of the State Assembly. Mr. Weprin has continued the tradition throughout his tenure as Council Member.

"Being Council Member for a day gives our students a unique perspective on how government works, and I am thrilled that I can offer the opportunity each year," said Council Member Weprin.

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Attachments:

Photos by William Alatraste