



PRESS RELEASE
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FSCNY ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS 2017

*College-bound high school students from NYC & Suffolk County
selected as recipients for 21st annual scholarship program*

*Retired State Senator Hugh T. Farley
to be honored at FSCNY's Annual Scholarship Awards Luncheon
May 16th, in Brooklyn*

Monday, May 8th, 2017, New York, NY - College-entering high school students from New York City and Suffolk County will receive the **2017 Young Leaders Scholarship Award** offered by **Financial Service Centers of New York (FSCNY)** and sponsored by **MoneyGram International**.

Seven students will receive more than \$35,000 in scholarship money and prizes. The awards will be presented at **FSCNY's Annual Scholarship Luncheon**, scheduled for **Tuesday May 16th** at the Brooklyn Bridge Marriott, during **FSCNY's 25th Annual Conference & Exposition**.

Recently retired State Senator **Hugh T. Farley**, who presided over the State Senate's Committee on Banks, will receive the **2017 Service Industry Award** during the Luncheon in recognition of his lifetime advocacy for access to financial services among all communities throughout the State.

"Every year, FSCNY's Young Leaders Scholarship Luncheon brings together industry and community leaders, with exemplary college-bound students who are making an impactful difference in their communities and have shown a solid commitment to community service, academic achievement and excellence", said **Gigi Guerrero**, chairperson of the Young Leaders Scholarship Program. "This year we are thrilled to recognize State Senator Hugh T. Farley at the Scholarship Luncheon. Senator Farley leaves behind a 40+ year legacy in the Legislature for his advocacy of education and financial services for all".

After an application review and student interview process, FSCNY's Scholarship Committee selected two grand prize winners for the **William Siegel Memorial Scholarship** and **Gene Schott Memorial Scholarship Awards** (\$7,500 each), and five First Place Scholarship Award winners (\$4,000 each). Each winner will also receive a laptop computer courtesy

of **TellerMetrix**, a FSCNY associate member. All winners are high school seniors entering their freshman year in college next Fall.

2017 FSCNY SCHOLARSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS:

Grand Prizes:

- * **Maesha Shonar, Manhattan Center for Science and Mathematics, the Bronx** (Gene Schott Memorial Scholarship Award)
- * **Thomas Heslop, High School for Public Service Heroes of Tomorrow, Brooklyn** (William Siegel Memorial Scholarship Award)

First Place Scholarship Awards:

- * **Jannatul Yesmin, John Dewey High School, Brooklyn**
- * **Sirajum Sandhi, Franklin D. Roosevelt High School, Brooklyn**
- * **Michael Milo Truppin, Bronx High School of Science, Manhattan**
- * **Katharina Chong, Smithtown High School East, St. James** (Suffolk County)
- * **Emily Peterson, Smithtown High School East, St. James** (Suffolk County)

Now in its 21st year, FSCNY's Young Leaders Scholarship Program has granted nearly \$800,000 dollars to 324 students since its inception in 1996.

About FSCNY (Financial Service Centers of New York):

The Financial Service Centers of New York is the industry's leading voice on legislative, regulatory and business issues, and the leading advocate for the rights of consumers to access basic financial services in New York for the last 60 years. The New York check cashing industry consists of approximately 520 check cashing locations, which employ nearly 4,000 New York residents. Nearly 80% of employees are African American and Latino. The industry is composed largely of small businesses that are located in the working class neighborhoods that have been abandoned or never served by banks. The industry cashes nearly 20 million checks annually with a face value of nearly \$11 billion. New York's check cashing fee cap of 2.03% is among the lowest in the nation. For more information about the Young Leaders Scholarship Program and other community programs, visit www.fscny.org.

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