Red Thomas, Major: Writing and Rhetoric, “Smoke Break,” written for WRT 422

“Smoke Break’ is a reflection on a talk late outside a small town bar about how to navigate life as a transgendered person.”
WINNER: BEST UPPER-DIVISION WRITING 2013

Annemarie Menna, Major: Anthropology, “Ari Folman’s Ethical, Psychic Warzone,” written for WRT 200

“I was fascinated by how Folman bent the definition of a documentary to play with the very idea of what truth really is to each individual person.”
WINNER: BEST LOWER-DIVISION WRITING 2013

Andrew Montemarano, Major: Finance and Accounting, “Prison Break: Religion as a Way Out of Jail,” written for WRT 105

“Being involved with religion my entire life and interested in a career in law, I decided to explore religious practice and conversion among the incarcerated in U.S. prisons.”

Courtney Hytower, Major: Political Science, “The Salvation of Whiskey,” written for WRT 114, and “Pathway for Life,” available online at http://wrt-intertext.syr.edu/

“The Salvation of Whiskey’ is about alcoholism and Native Americans with a connection to my grandfather.”

Ginger Star Gunnip, Major: Bioengineering; Minor: Writing and Rhetoric, “Human Nature,” written for WRT 308

“This piece is a spiritual reflection on the wonders of life, the paths we choose, and corruptions we encounter along the way—towards achieving our goals.”

Ralph Willsey, Major: Criminal Justice, “Made for Walking: An Open Letter To My Boots,” SYRACUSE VETERAN’S WRITING GROUP.

“I’m a veteran of two tours of Iraq, and I take it as it comes.”
Ashley White, Major: Political Science and History; Minor: Writing and Rhetoric, “Tiger Lily,” written for WRT 308

“Having a sister is like having a best friend you can’t get rid of; you know whatever you do, she’ll still be there.”

Andrew Miller, Unmatriculated Graduate Student, “An Ugly Place,” written for WRT 422

“I visited a place with no rules and saw what it can do to us. This is one story from that ugly place.”

Annie Licata, Major: Magazine Journalism and Writing and Rhetoric, “Allie,” written for WRT 255

“This is a story about the most courageous person I know, and she’s my hero.”

Tatiana Aviles Andino, Major: Communications, “Between Two Worlds,” written for WRT 114

“Immersing myself in Hispanic culture on the Lower East Side, I discovered the important role that our roots and identity play in each of our lives and realized that there is no place like home.”

Nijmeh Ali, Doctoral student and teacher in the Political Studies Department at Al Quds University in Jerusalem. Read about Nijmeh’s visit to Steve Parks’ civic writing class, and you can hear her story “The People Did Not Stop” at http://wrt-intertext.syr.edu/