

## **Tools for Tolerance – Simon Wiesenthal Center in New York City: Horia Soltani's Visit**

**At the end of World War II, thousands of Nazis who participated in the systematic murder of some 6,000,000 Jews and millions of Gypsies, Poles and other "inferior" peoples, slipped through the Allied net and escaped to countries around the globe. Simon Wiesenthal, a survivor of the Nazi death camps, dedicated his life to documenting the crimes of the Holocaust and to hunting down the perpetrators still at large. As founder and head of the Jewish Documentation Center in Vienna, the freelance Nazi hunter, usually with the cooperation of the Israeli, Austrian, former West German and other governments, ferreted out nearly 1,100 Nazi war criminals, including Adolf Eichmann, the administrator of the slaughter of the Jews. "When history looks back," Wiesenthal explained, "I want people to know the Nazis weren't able to kill millions of people and get away with it."**

**In November 1977, the Simon Wiesenthal Center was founded. There are tolerance centers in Los Angeles, New York City, and Toronto which focus on Holocaust remembrance, and the defense of human rights. With offices throughout the world, the Wiesenthal Center carries on the continuing fight against bigotry and anti-Semitism and pursues an active agenda of related contemporary issues.**

**One of SJA's students, Horia Soltani, is currently on a flight to New York City to visit the Wisenthal's New York Tolerance Center. There, she will participate in a number of workshops that provide students the opportunity to reflect on challenging local and global topics.**

**FSWC is a non-profit organization that works to improve Canadian society by supporting projects which promote tolerance, justice and human rights.**

**The Diversity Committee would like to take this opportunity to wish Horia all the best during her visit to the FSWC in New York City today. Horia will be back tomorrow to share her experience, and to help solidify the message of the acceptance of all human beings regardless of their race or gender not only at St. Joan of Arc, but also within our community.**