Youth Writing Festival
A program of the Multicultural Institute

Anthology of Students Creative Works
Summer 2017
# Table of Contents

About Us ........................................................................................................................................3
MI Staff and Board of Directors ..................................................................................................4
Letter from the Site Coordinators .................................................................................................5
Student’s Written Work .................................................................................................................6-63
Youth Writing Festival Staff ............................................................................................................64-66
Photos ........................................................................................................................................67-68
A Word from the Students .............................................................................................................69
A Word from the Parents ................................................................................................................70
Youth Writing Festival Writers ......................................................................................................71
Special Thanks ...............................................................................................................................72
ABOUT US

THE MULTICULTURAL INSTITUTE:
A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, promotes community empowerment, youth and family support, and leadership development in diverse communities. Founded in 1991 by Fr. Rigoberto Calocarivas, the Institute has a small full-time staff, a number of part-time staff, and many enthusiastic volunteers. Overseeing the Institute is a board of directors who work together to establish and fortify alliances with local civic, business, leaders and other institutions.

Our VISION
We envision a community in which immigrants, regardless of their immigration status, are embraced and valued in the communities in which they work and live.

Our MISSION
We accompany immigrants in their transition from poverty and isolation to prosperity and participation.

Our VALUES

- **Dignity of each person** – promoting respect and communication
- **Social Equality** – believing that resources should be shared by all
- **Transparency & Integrity** – good stewards of all gifts given to us
- **Community Involvement** – giving a voice to those we serve
- **Simplicity & Flexibility** – keeping our work efficient and effective

Our PROGRAMS

**Life Skills/Day Laborer:**
From job-placement assistance to health services, education to advocacy, this program helps economically disadvantaged immigrants and their families.

**GED Preparation:**
Prepares adults for the Spanish-language GED exam, leading to new employment and educational opportunities.

**Business Skill Development:**
Offers Spanish-language intensive short-term courses in business planning to increase capacity, track expenses and income, file taxes, and build clientele.

**MENTORING FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS (MAS):**
Established in 1999, strives to eliminate the educational inequity gap by helping students set and achieve academic goals through tutoring, enrichment activities, and parental support. We assist students in becoming eligible for post-secondary education.
THE YOUTH WRITING FESTIVAL (YWF):
The Youth Writing Festival (YWF) offers elementary and middle school students an
exceptional opportunity to build literacy skills during the summer. Students write essays,
stories, and poems, they benefit from individual instruction, the camaraderie of small
study groups, and the rare gift of enough time to make real progress. The result is
extraordinary -participants uncover new creative impulses, develop confidence in
themselves, and in some cases, compose their first pieces of writing ever outside of
assignments for school.

MI STAFF
Fr. Rigoberto Calocarivas, PhD
Founder & Executive Director
Mirna Cervantes
Associate Director
Phurbu Tsewang
Accountant
Cesar Meza-Esveile
Day Laborer Program Director
Rudy Lara
Day Laborer Program Director
Josue Revolorio
Day Laborer Program Director
Stephanie Martinez
Program Assistant
Oscar Macias
Program Assistant
Blaythe Ayala
Site Coordinator
Maria de los Angeles Caloca-Rivas
Site Coordinator
Jessica Solis
Immigration Program Coordinator

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Les Guliasi- Co-Chair
Transbaycable/steelriver Partners
Jacqueline De Anda- Co-Chair
Wells Fargo Senior VP Senior Trust
Lonjino Lazcano- Treasurer
Consultant, Deloitte & Touche
Charlotte F. Terkeurst- Secretary
CA Public Utilities Commission
Eugenia Bowman
Founder, CORE
Marco A. Garzon
A&G, Immigration Attorney
Nicki Ghafari
Associate, Political Media
Martín González
Owner, Gonzalez Landscaping
Lee Medina
IT Manager, E.A. Bonelli
Victor Robert Weisser
Community Advocate
Janet Whittick
Policy & Communications Director, CCEEB
A LETTER FROM THE YWF SITE COORDINATORS

For many years the Youth Writing Festival (YWF) has successfully offered a way for youth to explore creative writing and self-expression. Incorporating a Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematic (STEAM) focus to the program curriculum has enhanced that experience. Developing a combined STEAM and writing curriculum allowed for an opportunity to engage students in fields that relate to today’s work opportunities while improving their writing each day. The participating youth not only gained more confidence in their writing but they began to cultivate an early interest in STEAM concepts. We witnessed each student improvement as the days went by.

Thank you YWF writers for being part of this exciting summer experience! We truly enjoyed sharing our summer mornings, getting to know each and every one of you, working with you on your writing, and experiencing the excitement of all STEAM activities. Together we unlocked our creative minds by exploring the different results of each hands-on experiment, we brainstormed and reflected on different writing prompts and challenged ourselves to think outside the box. We hope you enjoyed this summer as much as we did.

The summer could not have been this successful without the hard work and dedication of the YWF tutors and volunteers. Each tutors’ patience, guidance and support throughout this month allowed for real mentorship to occur. We thank every tutor for positively assisting each writer and contributing to their academic enrichment this summer. It was a great pleasure working with you all. Parent support and involvement is crucial to any students’ success so we would also like to thank the parents for trusting that our program will make a positive difference in the lives of their children.

We thank the Black Pine Circle and North Fair Oaks Community schools for their hospitality and generosity, the MI Board of Directors and Staff for all guidance and support. Our participants were inspired by Facebook, Barracuda Networks, National Park Services-Marin Headlands, Google, Waterside Workshops and BAMPFA. A special thank you to MI’s Founder and Executive Director Fr. Rigo, who continues to guide MI’s work with unwavering vision and dedication. Until next summer!

Sincerely,

Oscar Macias, Stephanie Martinez, Blaythe Ayala, Maria de los Angeles Caloca
Mike Alvarado

What I want to be when I grow up

When I grow up I want to be a YouTuber. I want to show people how to play games. I would give information about the video game to help other people play it. I would show them how to pass all the levels of the game.

Barracuda Networks Fieldtrip

Barracuda started in a garage with three workers. They make units to stop people from hacking others. They gave us a tour and we saw people putting together computers. They gave us pizza and prizes for asking questions.

What I like about the YWF

I liked that we made volcanos that erupted. We used clay and a water bottle to build the body of the volcano, it was fun. I liked that I made a new best friend in the program and his name is Angel. Angel and I played basketball and soccer together a lot during the program.
Sonnet

There was a rat
When I saw it, it ran
It ran on the mat
I got scared so I got a pan
I packed my backpack for class more
I sat on my little sister’s back
I went to the bathroom with a pass
I sat on a thumbtack

When I Grow Up

When I grow up I want to be an artist.
I want to be a painter and paint people.
I want to paint people from my neighborhood because they are nice.
My neighbors are fun to play with and they have become a part of my family.
I want to stay where I am out and give back to my community through becoming a painter.

Letter

Dear Mom,
Thank you for cleaning my toys and cooking for me. My favorite things that you cook are soup, enchiladas and tamales. Also, I thank you for taking care of me when I am sick or sad. When I am sick you give me medicine and help me get ready for school.
Thank you for all that you do!

Love,
Victoria

Google Trip

I wanted to see people working and I want to see how the company is run. I wanted to see all their employees and discover how they help one another. I liked the burgers and I liked the fries. I liked the place Google. I am going to work at Google.
First, I woke up.
Second, I ate breakfast.
Third, I changed my clothes.
Fourth, I went to the program.
Fifth, I went to the bus.
Seventh, I went to the visitors’ center.
Eighth, we went on a hike.
Ninth, we went to the Pacific Ocean.
Tenth, we looked at the special sand.
Eleventh, we ate lunch.
Twelfth, we went to the water.
Thirteenth, we went to the bus.
Fourteenth, we went back to the program and Gassed and I had a play date at his house. I had a lot of fun with him.

Where I would live
I would rather live in GameStop so I can get a lot of games for free. I love video games. Another reason is there are many games there. There are a lot of video games like: Kirby, Zelda, Youkai Watch 1 and 2, Alpha Sapphire, Pokémon X, Pokémon Y, Pokémon Moon, Mario Kart, Mario Land, Mario Star Rush and a lot more. I will have a pet dog that is named Natsa. My house is going to be really, really big. I can get all the video games and I won’t have to pay. That means I won’t have to waste money.

UC Berkeley
Yesterday, we went on a field trip and it was fun. First, we went to Starbucks. I got some hot chocolate from Starbucks. At UC Berkeley, we saw a ball, that if you step on the seal, you must lick. I stepped on the seal but I did not lick the ball. If you don’t lick the ball you will get bad grades. I also saw the Strawberry Creek. We went to the UC Berkeley science building and saw dinosaur bones. Then, we went to BAMPFA. We saw a lot of clowns, and we played with blocks.
Paola Calderón

Letter about the MAS Program

A mí me gustó mucho el programa de MAS porque me ayudaban mucho con la tarea. Ahora que lo pienso, creo que me portaba mal. Yo quiero volver a este programa MAS. Espero que un día el programa llegue a la escuela Kennedy, porque voy a ir el año que viene. Quiero que este el programa de MAS en la escuela Kennedy, porque quizás me vaya a costar mucho en matemáticas. Matemáticas es la materia que no me gusta mucho.

What is Art?

Arte es algo muy bonito que con tu imaginación hace cosas muy bonitas. En arte se ocupan colores, plumones, papel de color o papel blanco. Arte es muy impresionante y a mí me gusta mucho el arte. Me gusta dibujar, no sé porque, pero me atrae mucho. El arte es muy bonito.

Where Would I Live and Why?

Yo viviría en España porque es un lugar muy bonito. Quiero aprender la forma que ellos hablan ese idioma. Siempre he querido visitar a España. Esa es mi segunda meta porque la primera es ser arquitecta y la tercera es tener un tigre de Bengala en mi casa.

What is STEAM?

Science is cool because of the experiments
Technology is something important because you use electricity, computers and projects
Engineering is something useful because you use it to build
Art is beautiful and I also like to draw a lot.
Math is very important in everything and it is interesting
If I could live anywhere, where would I live?

If I had one place to live it would be where I live right now because I do not want to live anywhere else. I would want to stay where I live because it is a wonderful place and it is fun to be there. I would not live anywhere else because it is fun going outside and playing with my dog. It is a quiet place and a quiet neighborhood. I would stay where I live because there is room to play and I could play PlayStation and I could watch my favorite sports. The only terrible thing about staying where I live is that Trump is our president. I would want to stay where I live so I could play soccer with my friends and I could do fun things with my friends.

Berkeley Field Trip

My favorite part of the museum was looking at the clowns. I liked it because it was kind of creepy and it had lots of colors. The clowns were sleeping or thinking and they were sad or happy. There were also some optical illusions which were cool. Something that was fun was building something with blocks. My favorite thing about the school was the dinosaurs. The T-Rex was big and it was cool. There were also three sizes of triceratops heads. There was also a Pterodactyl above the T-Rex. The dinosaurs were very cool. It was cool looking at the clock tower. It was very tall and it was loud.

Short Poems

Dogs:
Dogs are cool pets
Dogs can be big
Dogs need to be taken to vets
Dogs can dig

Cookies:
The best dessert is cookies
Cookies are cool
Other types of desserts are for rookies
Not eating cookies is cruel

Marin Headlands Reflection

I think that the trip was fun. I learned about lots of things on the trip. I learned about the rocks at the beach. The beach was fun to be at. I learned that the whales were migrating north. I learned that the Ice Plant has toxins and it is an invasive plant.
Yesterday was fun and I learned about an ice plant. I had to walk a lot and we looked at rocks and many plants. We also went on top of a hill and I saw a very big gun and where it was used. I also learned that whales are migrating north. The hike we took was very tiring. The beach was very nice and it was fun running away from the tides and I almost got wet. The rocks on the beach were very smooth. I got a small book to find out what types of rocks they were. My favorite part was when we got up the hill and looked at the cannon. The cannon was never used. It was to care off any enemy ships. I wonder how many ships they scared off with the big cannon.

If I could live anywhere, where would I live?

If I had any place to live I would live in England. I would live in England because I could go to lots of soccer games over there. Like watching the Premier League. I would go watch all my favorite team games. I also want to go to England because I want to go to all their famous buildings and places. I would want to have a mansion in England with a soccer field in it. I would also have a room with my console in it. I would also have a basketball court in my house so I can play basketball. I would also go around and try lots of the food they have in England. I would want to try a new plate of food and I would see if they have any of same foods that they have here and see if they taste the same or different.

My Favorite Animal

My favorite animal is an Orca. Orcas have many nicknames like killer whales and wolves of the sea. They are called killer whales because when they are in captivity they go crazy and sometimes they kill people. Orcas are also called wolves of the sea because they live in pods with up to 40 orcas. Orcas look cool because they are black and white and gray. They also protect each other from predators like all big types of sharks trying to attack smaller Orcas.
Valeria Casas

Unicorns

Unicorns are magical and cute animals. Never think negative about unicorns because they are magical. Incredible unicorns are extraordinary. Careful unicorns are nice and kind. Original unicorns are the best. Ropes are used to tie unicorns. Never give up on your dreams if you want to see a real unicorn.

Where I would live

If I could choose to live anywhere in the world, I would live in Mexico. I would like to live in Mexico because my grandparents live there and I want to take care of them and be with them. My grandparents are like my friends. I can tell them anything and they will help me with the issue or we talk together about it. I talk to my grandparents like a brother or sister because I talk to them with love and they talk to me the same.

I would like to live in Mexico so that I can visit all the other cities that I have not visited yet. I would love to visit all the beaches in Mexico. I want to visit them because people say that they are the best beaches in the world. I would also like to go to the City of Mexico so that I can see the difference between the city and the small towns in Mexico. I would love to go to the border and discover what people do to cross it.

I would also love to know how they make all the delicious food. I would especially want to know how to make tortillas. Mexico is a beautiful place in my opinion, because the first time I went I was five, and I went with my aunt and her family. It was for the fiestas de Octubre. It is like the town celebration. If I had to choose between California and Mexico I would choose Mexico.
The Day I Almost Died

One day I was going to work with my dad. My dad works on smashing and making cars. I was playing around with my sister by going under the cars and making toys with the car parts. My dad told us to play on the other side, but we were not being good listeners. I felt sleepy and I fell asleep on the car smasher. My sister was playing on the machine and the machine got jammed! It was going down quickly, but luckily my sister woke me up just in time. I was so close to being smashed and I was terrified. After that day, I learned to follow my dad’s directions.

The Weirdest Dream

This dream started off fine, but then it transitioned into a visit to space where we discovered aliens. The aliens came down and targeted the chickens - they turned them all into robots. The chickens then began flying and shooting lasers everywhere. The people then invented robot gorillas to destroy the robot chickens. The fight seemed to drag on forever, but after several days, the gorilla smashed the last chicken. However, the gorilla was not the brightest and set off way too many bombs. The bombs resulted in many deaths and major destruction - only a million people and 500 buildings existed in the world. Due to unhappiness, the victims of the home explosions decided to explode Earth up, but as the explosion was occurring, I woke up. That was the end of my weird dream.
Christopher Castillo

Art

Music and dancing are art. Art means to be creative and making things that are different than other people’s work. Art is also the physical expression of feelings and emotions. Art can show many values, and can really show your personality. Drawing is hard and the more you do it, the more people will know about you.

I do Stuff

I like skateboarding and I have 3 skateboards. I have an XBOX One. I play Watchdogs, and I like hacking games. One time, I played GTA IV and I broke the controller. I like swimming and I used to be in a swim class, because I started to forget how to swim. I was in there for the whole summer and when I was done, I was good at swimming. Now, I am good at swimming and now I can swim in the deepest pool. It feels so good to know how to swim.

Facebook

I went to Facebook for the first time and it was fun. I got candy and had the chance to play in the arcade. I played a really fun Army game and when we finished there we went to go get ice cream. I got mint chocolate chip and topped it with NERDS, whipped cream and two cherries. My ice cream turned from minty to sweet and sour. I got a cone, because I’ve only ever used a cup. I want to work at Facebook in the future, because everything is free and my favorite part was the Hacker’s Square. Thanks to Oscar and Stephanie I learned about Facebook and that hackers are cool.

Picasso vs. Da Vinci

The difference between Pablo Picasso and Leonardo Da Vinci is that Da Vinci had multiple talents. Pablo grew up in Spain, while Da Vinci grew up in Italy. Pablo Picasso’s art was influenced by events in his life, such as the death of his friend creating the Blue Period. Leonardo Da Vinci was an apprentice and worked on many revolutionary things - he was more of an engineer. I would rather be Da Vinci’s son, because I love engineering and art. However, I dislike painting so I wouldn’t want to be Picasso’s son.
Bunnies

Beautiful bunnies use the resources near where they live like in New York. They use them to make things. Instead of doing nothing they eat carrots and other foods.

Sadly, I don’t have one.

Animals

I love every animal in the world. I love bunnies, cats, dogs, butterflies, and pandas. I also love bears and all the other animals. I love every animal because they’re fluffy, adorable, cute, and small.

Where would I live?

If I had to live anywhere I would want to, it would be in New York. It would be cool if I lived in New York. I would be fascinated if I lived there. New York is big to me. New York is also pretty at night. It would be cool if I lived in New York because of all the scenes it has. I would be fascinated if I lived there because it’s so big. New York is big to me because of the amount of buildings and how tall they are. New York is pretty to me because at night there are lights and they shine at night. I would like to live there someday. I wonder if it ever gets hot in the winter. I also wonder if it’s cold in the summer. I am curious if the food tastes good. I am also curious if there is good food. I would tell my family about it and we would go and eat. If there is good service in hotels, I would tell my family so that we could stay somewhere comfortable. I think we will all like to live in New York City.

Art

Art to me is handwriting. Art to me is also trash. Art is beautiful to most people. I like art because of everything you can use. I think you can make art out of anything you want.

Art is handwriting to me because of the way you write. Art is also trash to me because you can use trash to make anything. I think art is being artistic and creative. I also think art is using things you find around a place. Art is a great hobby to do when you’re bored and have nothing to do.
Carlos Cruz

New York

If I had the chance to live anywhere in the world, I would live in New York because I love the city. In N.Y.C, there are good site seeing places and many fun events. For example, every year the ball drops in Times Square, right next to the ocean. I love water. However, I wouldn’t want to live in the city but rather near it because there are not a lot of big houses. I want a big house with a huge yard. I want to buy an acre or two of just land. There, I can put grass or build courses for my bike because I love riding my ATV. In addition to the ATV riding course, I would put a swimming pool and leave space for a grass field.

Now, the house would have three floors. The first floor would have a kitchen, living room, other things there are in a house. The second floor would be a bunch of rooms with video games, arcade games, and P.C. and gaming consoles. The rooms would be on the third floor.

U.C. Berkeley

I really enjoyed the U.C. Berkeley experience. I liked being able to go into the rooms and walking around campus. I learned a lot about the school and where things are located. The campus was huge but there were many nice resting places.

Next, we went to the museum. We first sat down and a worker told us the rules and passed out papers. The papers were where we were supposed to draw and write about what we saw. My favorite room was the clown room. It was a giant white room with clowns. There were merely statues of clowns that were sitting or standing, but they looked so real.

After the fieldtrip, we went to Starbucks. I got a Caramel Frappuccino with an iced lemon cake. I learned a new thing about drink sizes. My tutor Erick informed me about the size Trent, which is apparently like an extra-large. All in all, it was an amazing experience.
Carve a Mountain

I learned that being an engineer is hard work because you creatively have to make ways to get to land. You need roads, bridges to cross water, and lots of resources. Models are important for engineers because they make it easier to plan structures and determine locations. I think engineers also build models to make sure the structure is affordable and durable for the people attending the vacation in this case. Being an engineer for me today was easy, but as an engineer you have to make enough space for everything to fit. I feel engineers serve a good purpose in our country as idea makers and creators. Natural resources will eventually deplete so it is hard to balance its use with conservation.

What is Art?

Art is something that helps you express yourself. Say that I am stressed out. I can express myself by creating art to reflect my feelings. I think art helps people work through their feelings and helps them explore themselves. I think art is a fun way to use your imagination. Art is a piece of paper or cardboard with all of your imagination and emotions on one sheet. Art is a masterpiece that embodies fun, imagination, and feelings. Personally, I do not know how to draw and do not use art as an outlet to express my feelings. I like to express my feelings though my face and crying. I am my own canvas.
Barracuda Networks

When I went to Barracuda it was fun and I saw many computers. While we were there I saw people making computers and that’s what made the field trip really cool. They gave us pizza and soda to add to the fun. It is very inspiring to us, because they offer great careers.

Google

I went to Google in Sunnyvale. It was fun because we played games and went rock climbing. I ate hamburgers and fries. My favorite room was the arcade because the games were from the 90’s. I liked going to Google because they allow people to bring their dogs on campus. I wish to be able to work there because it seems like a really good job. If I worked for Google, that would mean I have a great career at a place I love.

Where Would I Live…?

If I could live somewhere I would live in a big house. My house would have two floors and stairs. I would live in LA with my family and work as a teacher. I would love to live there because there are a lot of stores. I would go to the mall and the beach for fun with my friends. Ideally, I would work with kids always, even if I don’t start off as a teacher.

My Masterpiece

For my masterpiece, I built a little house. In it there are little puppies and a portrait. It was hard at first, but then it was easy. I would like to repeat this project in the future, because I liked it. I made a house, because it was the first thing that came to my mind and it was very fun to do it with the help of my group. I really enjoyed how I was able to be creative while having fun.
Leonardo da Vinci

Leonardo da Vinci was an artist inventor and scientist. He was smart and talented. In art, he was good at drawing, making sculptures and painting. He was born on April 15, 1452. He died on May 2, 1519. He had a journal filled with drawings and the journals had 13,000 pages. So that means he had 13,000 drawings. Leonardo da Vinci loved animals. I love drawing and making sculptures. His famous paintings are the Mona Lisa and The Last Supper. We colored a page and it was of one of his famous paintings called the Mona Lisa.

Forensic Science

Forensic Science is the use of science in criminal law. Forensic scientist know biology and chemistry. Your body actually uses energy to make your muscles relax not contract. A smart phone has 8 million pixels. Some CSI shows are realistic some are not.

If I could live anywhere, where would I live?

I will live in Scandia because every day when I wake up I can play laser tag, in the arcade, go-carts, water cars, baseball and mini golf. I like playing laser tag because we can have more people and we can get a gun and we can act like we are shooting something when we see a green light. I like to play the go-carts because we can get in a car, we can race and we can bump other cars. I like to play water cars because we have a little boat and it has a water gun to shoot other people with the water gun. I like to play baseball because we have a bat and we can hit a ball. If we think that the ball is going to go out, it is not because it has a net around the baseball place. I love to play mini golf because it’s like hockey and if you put the ball in the hole you can get it with your hand.

Field Trips

Yesterday, we went to a field trip. We went to UC Berkeley and BAMPFA. First, we went to UC Berkeley and saw a big dinosaur. Then, we went to BAMPFA. We went to the room that had pictures of rainbows. Then we saw the clowns, I was so scared.
Summer

I am going to tell you about my summer. I might go to Great America. I am going on the Ride Revolution. I might go to the parade and sit in the middle. I am going to Rock and Jump for my birthday. My little sister is turning one on Friday and her party is going to be at a place with a swimming pool. I am also trying to go to the beach before the end of summer. In conclusion, I am looking forward to all of these things!

What is Art?

Art is coloring on a paper with crayons. Art is to add pieces together. Art is colorful. There are many different styles of art and it can also tell your feelings. Art always has different meanings. People make art in many different ways.

My Little Sister!

My little sister is turning one today. She is the first little sister I have ever had. She is my favorite person because she is so cute and funny. She crawls like an ape. She needs help to walk. She can eat solids now, and she only has two teeth. Her first work was “What!” I love my little sister!

Facebook

Facebook was really fun, because the arcade was free. We ate ice cream and that was also free. I was happy, because everything was free and my dad was happy, because he didn’t have to pay for anything. I had fun at the arcade, because I played against my friend, Aldo. I want to work at Facebook when I get older so I can get free ice cream during my breaks!
Andrew Estrada

Leonardo Da Vinci

Looks good in Italy
Expert in art
Other famous artists
Nice art
Art is cool
Recreate important art
Doing art is amazing
Often, he is admired for the Mona Lisa
Do good art
Amazing art pieces
Vicious and competitive
Imaginative
Nice art
Calming art
It is all art

Volcano Experiment

My hypothesis was wrong because I thought that my volcano would fall when it erupted. When I poured vinegar with the other chemicals the explosion would not rise. However, when I mixed the vinegar with the other chemicals using a paintbrush the explosion began to rise.

Emoji’s

I draw an emoji to represent art. My emoji is happy because I am happy. Art is a way to express what you write. I think emoji are yellow because it makes them pop out. Another reason why I am happy is soccer camp. I go to soccer camp after the program. This is why I am so happy. Art expresses my feelings even when I am stressed out.
Martin García

What I want to be when I grow up

Hi name is Martin and when I grow up I would like to be a firefighter because I want to help people. We are amazing people that should love to help everybody in the world.

What I liked about the YWF

What I like about the program was that it has been great for me and my parents.

Summer Reflection

This summer I went to the pool and I played with my friends. We ate and played hide and seek with my cousins. I also went to Hoover elementary school and played in the water with my friends. After, we went to play in the park.

I made a volcano at the Youth Writing Festival and it was great!
Susana García

**Barracuda**

Our class went to Barracuda Networks. Barracuda is all about people that help us from being hacked. The company makes computers and puts them in boxes to be later delivered. They help people if their computer does not work and they go fix them. They gave us lots of pizza, and soda. When they showed us pictures from last year they were having so much fun in a jumper. The field trip was fun and what was amazing was how they can build a computer in five minutes.

**Summer**

During the summer, I want to go to the beach. Maybe do a little shopping at Hot Topic, the store. It is about a show called Anime. I love that store because when we go I find things I love. I always go there first, and look around. I sometimes stay home and watch some television. I go outside sometimes and play and get wet. I like to read books like comics.

**Where would I like to live?**

I would like to live in a mall because the mall has everything. For example, the mall has beds, food, and it has my favorite stores. When I am bored, I can go build a bear at build a bear workshop. I would work at Hot Topic since it is one of my favorite stores. What I would do for fun is just run around the mall. I would like to live with my family because then I won’t get too lonely.

**Google**

I really like Google because it was fun and cool. They had these seats where you can sit down and the seat made you feel so comfortable. These seats are called night pods. In the kitchen, they had a wall with bubbles that changed into different colors. One activity they had planned was trying out the rock climbing wall. It was super cool. Another cool and super fun activity they had was an arcade room. What was fun is that you can bring your dog into work. We also got to see a volleyball court. I hope to come next year because it was so much fun.
Luis García

What I want to be when I grow up

When I grow up I want to be a hacker and be a soccer player. The reason why I want to be a hacker is so I can hack into different games. I want to be able to hack into arcade games so that people do not have to pay for them. I want the games to be free. I also want to be a soccer player because I am good at soccer and it’s fun. I play defense in most soccer games but I don’t do any tricks because I get nervous. Those are the two things I want to be when I grow up.

Summer Reflection

One thing I did over the summer was celebrate Father’s day with my family. It’s important to celebrate Father’s day because they are hardworking people. My dad is the best. We had a carne asada at my house and it was fun because my neighbor let me use his hover board.

One of my favorite parts about summer was that I got to watch Scream on Netflix. I also enjoyed watching Youtube videos because they are funny. I watched Clash Royale videos because I am addicted to the game, it’s my favorite.

My favorite field trip that I took this summer was to Google. I liked the fieldtrip to Google because they took us rock climbing inside their building and I learned a lot.

Where do I want to live?

I would live with my grandmother and grandfather in Mexico because I have never met them. I want to see them because I want to get to know them and my cousins. Next time I go to Mexico, I will play soccer with my family. I will also help my grandmother cook and clean.
Summer

I like to go to the beach and to the pool. I also like to go to the park. Something I would like to learn is science, and I would also like to improve my math. I also want to go camping with my family. During summer I want to go somewhere with a water slide and learn about marine life.

Google

I want to know what they do there. I want to know if they have a ball pit and see people working and running Google. I want to see people help others and I loved eating hamburgers and playing in the arcade. When I grow up, I want to work at Google, because they let you bring your dog.

Pablo Picasso

He was born in Spain and died on April 8, 1973 in France. His father was a good painter and art teacher. Pablo became very sad when his friend Carlos died and that showed in his paintings. However, Pablo began using warmer colors in his paintings once he had fallen in love with a French model. He began using pink, reds, oranges and beiges, and started using cubism.

What is Art?

I see art at school and at stores. Art is when you paint pictures, and when you make crafts, such as friendship bracelets. I like singing songs and knitting. I also enjoy baking cookies. All of these things are my art and they make me feel happy.
Gabriela Gochez

Youth Writing Festival 2017

This summer has been the best! My friends and I love S.T.E.A.M. When my friends and I found out about the program Youth Writing Festival we told our moms to sign us up right away. All of our moms said, “Yes”. We were super excited. Our first week was fun because we were able to make slime, build our own Fizz Inflator, and go to our first field trip Barracuda Networks. We got to eat pizza and a soda on the side. The next week, we went to Google, but I did not get to go because I went to Star Camp. This week we have been working on a nature 3D model. It was super fun!!!

Star Camp

Last week, I went to Star Camp and it was really fun to go for a whole week. The first thing we did was get into our groups, and go to our cabins. We went to meet other groups and get to know each other. We went to the cafeteria and ate. Later, we all got to play a game in a circle. There was also a swimming pool at the campsite, and we had to take a test in order to swim in the deep end. When I put my feet into the water, the water was super cold. After we were done swimming, it was time for us to go get dinner. For dinner, we had spaghetti and it was good. I also got to play again after we were all done eating. In the night, we all got ready for bed, but before we went to sleep we went to a campfire. It was fun to be under the stars and be warm with the stars. After the fun was over, we all went to sleep.

Exploring the Land

Yesterday on July 6, 2017, we went on a field trip to the Marin Headlands and it was fun! We went to San Francisco to see rocks, and find out the names of the rocks. We walked half a mile. We saw a lot of poison oak. We saw a tree and started to make a circle around the tree and hear nature. Nature is important and we should take care of it. We heard birds, airplanes and the water. We saw a lizard and it was camouflaging. We ate our lunch and looked at the ocean in front of us. When we were done we went back to the school bus and came back home. It was amazing to see the water and see how peaceful it was.
Where I would live

I would live in Las Vegas because my house would have a pool with toys. One reason I would live there is my parents would leave, so I would have the house to myself. Another reason I would live there is the weather would be hot. I could swim a lot. Lastly, the parks and the city are cool. The parks are huge and at night the city lights up.

Art

Art is imagination that comes from the brain and it helps make everything better. It makes technology, painting, food, and building better. A person used their imagination to build a phone. Painting is a person in a room who started to draw. Food is a person in a kitchen with different ingredients coming up with something new. People came up with an idea for people to cross and built bridges like the one in San Francisco.

Sonnet

I had shiny pots
They looked like soccer balls
I had lots and lots
But I lost them in halls

I wish I had a fish
So, I could put in my bath
That would be my wish

But now I need to improve math

I wrote a book
I used a pen
So, I look
And put in a den

I had a phone
But it looked like a bone
Sonnet

People eat tomato
People walk dog in the rain
But I like to eat potato
They don’t suffer because the dog has most of the pain. I like banana
People suffer from getting fired
Some people wear bandanas
I help people get hired
My mom uses a book
Everyone eats food
To help her be a cook
But sometimes don’t because they're in a mood. I ate a bean
But sometimes my friends are mean

Summer

Over the summer I wanted to stay home. When I get home, I eat Nutella and ice cream. I am going to go play soccer. I am going to spend time with my dad. I do not want to go back to school. My dad and I are going to see a soccer game. The teams are Real Madrid vs Manchester United. We are going to go see the game in a month or so. In the summer, I want to spend my time playing Xbox 360, and play Clash Royale. I must appreciate my parents because they are hard workers.

Volcano

We got a water bottle and wrapped clay around the bottle to make a volcano. We put vinegar first into the water bottle and food coloring before adding baking soda. We had to go outside to see the volcano erupt because our group added lots of baking soda. My group poured the baking soda little by little unlike other groups because they poured all the baking soda at once.

Where would I live?

I would live in an underground house. I would survive a tornado. I would want food, have a television, and everything that I may need. I would have an underground garden to get oxygen. I would like to live with a K9 police dog. My house would have a pool, soccer field, basketball court, and a game room. For fun, I would play soccer and play on my phone. I would not go back to the surface because it is boring, and the only reason I would come back to the surface is for food.
Favorite Artist

I like Leonardo da Vinci better than Pablo Picasso because his art looks cool and drew stuff that were not even invented. Some of his paintings were more popular like the Mona Lisa because he drew her smiling but not actually smiling. If I were an artist I will invent things so I can be famous! I will invent a hot tub car. Another thing I will invent is a robot that does everything I say.

Where I would like to live

I would like to live in Los Angeles. One reason is because there is good food to eat. Also, because there is tall and big buildings and there are theme parks with rides. Another reason is the weather is good and there are a lot of stores around.

What is Art

I think art is cool. Art could be painting, drawing with your imagination. I like drawing with a pencil because you could just draw whatever you want. Technology, a phone, legos, house, and stuff. Other things that you can use for art include a pencil, pen, balloon, brush with paint, cotton, paper and some other things.

Engineers

I think it is important for engineers to build models because they get an idea for their plan and build what they need to build. Without a plan they might make a mistake. For example, if they are making a road and then there is big mountains blocking their way. They would to make a big curve so they can keep on going. That is why engineers need to build a model instead of doing more work.

YWF

When I first started the YWF I imagined it would be boring because I thought we would have to write and write every day without doing activities and other things. But I was wrong. We played games, did projects, and went on field trips. I began to feel comfortable and began to think it was fun to be in the YWF. My favorite was the three field trips we went to because I went to two places I had not been before and they were fun.
Art
Art is being creative and expressing your feelings in art. Art is fun because you can do a mosaic. You can use lots of colors. By your art you are expressing yourself. Art is not perfect, it's your own, it can be messy, and it sometimes is about your emotions.

Leonardo da Vinci
I like Leonardo da Vinci because he painted the Mona Lisa. I like the Mona Lisa because it is so tricky because it looks like she is smiling but she is not really. I would invent something that no one has ever seen. I want to be creative. For example, a car that has a pool inside or a chair that has a fridge and you can put waters in it. You won’t have to go get water all the way to the fridge and attach a TV to the chair.

My favorite Animal
I have three animals that I like so I am going to tell you those three animals. They are dogs, cheetahs, and horses. But I am going to choose dogs over all. What do dogs eat? They eat frijoles / beans mostly what humans eat. If I had a dog I would take him to on a walk. I would name him Estrada. How would I spend the day with Estrada? I would spend it playing ball.

Engineers
Before you want to build a road you have to plan it then you will know where to put your road. For example, if you put it in the middle of a mountain a rock can fall on your building. So, this is the reason why you should plan your road on a model.

Forensic Science
Forensics is the use of science in criminal law. To be a forensic scientist you need an undergraduate degree in science for example in biology. Some have graduate degrees. The body in the crime scene was dead for less than 12 hours because the blood isn’t dry they have been dead for less than 12 hours. Your body actually uses energy to make your muscles relax not contract. The body was dead more than 2 hours between 5pm and 7pm. DNA can be found in your blood.
Elvis Hernandez

Facebook Fieldtrip

What I learned was that Facebook has more than 70,000 workers. I saw that they have bikes and they have a lot of fun. We got to eat ice cream and I got a lot of the vanilla flavor and I got to be with my best friend.

Summer Vacation

What I did on my summer vacation was wake up six o’clock and go to Monterey Bay aquarium. It took us about an hour and a half to get to the aquarium. We got to see a lot of different fishes, some that looked like Dory and Nemo. We got to color our own fishes and then we saw snakes. We also went to the beach and we saw dolphins and sea lions, everything was fun! At the end, we walked around the city.

What I want to be when I grow up

When I grow up I want to be a police officer because they always help other people and make the world a better place. I like helping people and making my world the best place it can be.

I Do Stuff

I like skating and I have a bike, a computer and two basketballs. I like going to the park and I like going to Six Flags. When I go to the park, my mom will play with me. We like to play basketball, sometimes we play tag, and when I get distracted she runs quietly and tags me. When I am sick, she always takes good care of me. For my birthday, my mom and dad gave me a big surprise and took me to Six Flags. It has been a really great summer!
Emir Juarez

Favorite Animal
My favorite animal is a panda because pandas live in China.

UC Berkeley / BAMPFA
UC Berkeley was fun because there was classrooms and we saw a dinosaur. It was so cool and good. In BAMPFA, we solved a scavenger hunt. We saw art and we saw a squirrel. It was cool. I wanted to have him and we saw him again when people were leaving the building. The squirrel followed us to the campanile. It was kind. We saw people walk to their classrooms

Leonardo da Vinci
Leonardo da Vinci is a good painter and made a painting of God which people come and see.

Where I would live
I would live in Legoland because it is made of legos and it has a pool for me to play in. However, the best thing is found in the room it has a treasure and it has chocolate. I would live in Universal Studios because it has games to play with and I can see transformers more.

My story
Me and Pikachu were best friends and Pikachu was mine. First, I went to catch more Pokémon and I went to the Temiwon with all of them. Then, on the final I choose Charmandre vs Jellpuff and Charmandre won Jellypuff. For the last Pokémon battle I choose Greenninnaa vs Onex and Greenninnaa won Onex. I got my jem. People would battle me but nobody won me. I earned a rich house and every morning I eat breakfast in my rich house. At night me and Pikachu have parties at our rich house and have fun. We have games we like to play. Our first was hide and go seek. Me and all my Pokémon helped me look for people and my friends came to have fun. Pikachu was happy to go in the pool. When Pikachu is sleepy then I take Pikachu to bed. At night I read a book. Then, I went to sleep.
Barracuda Networks

The company is about helping other companies not get hacked. However, they have also expanded to helping people with security from their homes. The company first started in a garage by three people. Then, the company got bigger and became a worldwide company. For example, the army, Facebook, and other company are being helped by Barracuda. Overall, I liked the field trip Barracuda.

Volcano Explosion

What we did was build a volcano out of clay. When we were done constructing it, we put baking soda - a lot of baking soda so it can work better. After that, we added food coloring, vinegar and dish soap. This mix created a small explosion. I predicted that the more baking soda we added, the bigger the explosion would be. However, I then realized that the combination of the vinegar and baking soda would make it explode and all the dish soap did was make it bubble up.

Where Would You Live...

I would live in Paris, because my mom has always wanted to visit, but cannot. I would also live there, because I want to visit this very popular city. I would live in a beautiful house with my friends and family. The city is known to be very nice and just seems like a great place to visit.
Angeles Márquez

**Marin Headlands**

I didn’t really see many things but I got to see many plants. I didn’t get to see many animals. When we got back from the hike, we went to the beach. The beach had Rainbow Rocks and the waves were cool. There were so many waves that I had to run many times. When we went back on the bus, I listened to music and I got tired. When we were going up the mountain, it was so high up I saw a dog all the way at the beach by the water all alone. When we were going back down, the dog was not there anymore. I think it went back to his owner or something. I had a great time at the Marin Headlands.

**If I could live anywhere**

I would live in LA or Hollywood because I want to be close to my cousins. Also, I really want a chance to meet one of my favorite YouTubers. I love the sun there. It feels nice and cool. I also love going to Disneyland with my family. I love the food there. I love the tacos, pizza, ice cream, and their cakes. I also love the parks there because they have better equipment to play with. I also like to go there because they have buried my uncle there. I love to visit him all the time. Sometimes I don’t have time to visit LA because I have school, my family and friends. I really want to live in LA when I’m older.

**UC Berkeley and BAMFA**

When I went to the museum, the first thing I did was go in the room full of clowns. There were two of them that were real. Some of them have different kinds of colors. There was another room with drawings. The room was full of drawing with rainbows on it.

There were so many paintings that look like anybody could draw. Some paintings had poems on them. I took some pictures of the poems. They were good poems. They gave us a paper to fill out. When we went to the gift shop they would not let us touch the books.
Camila Márquez

Cheetah Acrostic Poem

C ute animals are found in a jungle
H ere is an example, a cheetah
E ars of a cheetah are yellow
E ars can hear everything
T igers are fast like cheetahs
A re found all over the world
H abitats are over in Africa.

Favorite Artist

My favorite artist is Pablo Picasso. He’s my favorite because he has more paintings than Leonardo da Vinci. He has beautiful paintings. I like Picasso because he was a wonderful man. My favorite period is the Rose Period because I like the color pink.

Carve a Mountain Reflection

In my land form, I put a tunnel, a store, a school and a mountain. I also put a car so cars can drive on the road. I put trees and a parking lot. I could add more tunnels and mountains. I want to add a shopping center and reading center where people could read books.

Forensics

You can use blood, hair, and fingerprints to know the burglar. Forensic science is the use of science in criminal law. You have to have an undergraduate degree to work in this. Blood dries in 12 hours. The time of the death was between 5pm and 7pm. Phones have 8 million pixels. I have more ridges in my fingerprint.

YWF

I like the program because there is a lot of writing. My favorite field trip was going to UC Berkeley. My favorite project was Carve the Mountain. Yesterday we went to UC Berkeley and BAMPFA. First, we waited outside of Starbucks. Afterwords we walked to the campus. On campus we saw students walking outside and inside VLSB. VLSB has a ton of dinosaurs. Then, we went to an art museum. There we saw clowns. My favorite thing was the blocks.
Where I would Live

If I could live anywhere in the world I would live in New York. I would want to live there because it is big. It has a lot of gift shops. New York would be fun because there are big houses to live in. New York has really cool places to go to. New York would look really nice at night.

It would be my dream to live in New York because I love big cities and fun places. My family and I would be doing fun things. Living in New York would be my dream.

I wonder if New York is hot in the summer. Does New York have good food? How many parks are there in New York? Are there famous people in New York? What are the fun places to go with my family?

What is Art

I think art is something you can use many things to make, like newspaper and pictures. Art can be anything. Some people think art is different things. I think art is music because you hear music and can picture what to draw.

Art can be creative in many ways like drawing, coloring, abstract, and many more. Some Art is made different because people use different materials. Art is a good hobby to do because you can be very creative.

Pandas

My favorite animal is a Panda. Pandas are cool because they are white and black. I am going to design my mask how a panda looks but I am going to add a pink bow.
Leila Miller

Sonnet

Surroundings of sky blue
With a beautiful baby tone
With sun, the great orange hue
Creates a heat that sets alone

With new moon’s light shining down
Seems to turn the world around
Its light bright and dim creating no sound
The sun’s gentle light now hides behind the rocky mounds

The soft whistle of new green leaves
Bring out the radiance of tall trees
With new pigments, the season bring
High perched birds from the branches sing
Nurturing life brings new surprises with new breath and none at all is such sweet silence

Pablo Picasso

Pablo was a very depressed man. This blue period began when his closest friend committed suicide. He began to draw with more sad colors, like blue. But around the time he got love struck, he began to use more warm colors in his paintings.

I don’t have a favorite artist, because I’ve never looked into them. I have distracted myself with sketches so I haven’t been too worried about other artist’s works. I enjoy sketching and consider it a hobby. I have noticed that artists have their own unique sense of style so I never compare their work to mine. I like art, but I have never thoroughly studied it. However, I look at different artists to take note of their styles and sometimes even test them out to see how the styles work for me. Different art studies serve as a frame of reference so that I can advance in that type of drawing.
Sonnet

Ted was dead
He did not get
Under the bed
But he was set

There was a dot
I was carved
On my bot
Then starved

I like mint
Then bit
It did not fit

I have a cook
He used a book

Where I would live

If I could live anywhere in the world I would live in a small house. It would have 3 bedrooms and a bathroom with 3 mini-fridges. I would fill one fridge with drinks like sodas. The other fridge would have frozen snacks and fruits.

Marin Headlands

Yesterday we went to the Marin Headlands I remember that there was a dead bird and I saw a dog try to eat the dead bird. The Ranger talked to us about poison oak. We went inside a placed called the visitors center and I saw a soldier with his gear on.

What is Art?

I like to draw and invent. I like to draw and I would like to invent a hover car and a robot or a laser assault rifle. Art is different and can be anything. Art is everywhere and can be technology. Art can be a car. A person or a plant it can be anything. A book can be art. A sweater can be art. I like to draw with markers.
I would want to live in Los Angeles. I would like to live there because sometimes it gets really hot and sometimes it gets really cold. Also, I really want to go to UCLA because I think it is really cool. It has always been my dream to go there. What I truly like about Los Angeles is the people. I like the people there because some of them are funny, and some of them are helpful. What I am trying to say is that they’re all really cool. The food there is pretty good because I think every cook there has a creative mind.

Art

I think art is what you make with your imagination. What I mean is you can make anything and do anything when you use your imagination. For example, when I was 8 years old I saw a broken Xbox. I drew it and it looked very cool. I liked my drawing because it makes me feel like I am an artist. You know what you can use other than a pencil to make art are is a paint brush, paint, color pencils, crayons, sand, so much more.

Leonardo da Vinci or Picasso

I like Leonardo da Vinci more than Picasso because da Vinci was a scientist, Picasso was not. If I was a painter, I would do more sculpting because it looks hard but very fun. I would do more sculptures with everyday objects. To be more specific, I would sculpt toilet paper and food. Also, I would love to invent stuff like a hover car, or a very cool video game console.

STEAM

My favorite subject is technology because it is cool. I think it is cool because it’s engaging and you can never be bored from it. You can make videos, take photos, and games. I also like technology because you can program for example.

Field Trip

Yesterday, I went on a field trip. First, I remember that there was a lot of poison oak everywhere. Secondly, I remember the big wild mice house. I liked that because they make a lot of rooms to put their stuff in like humans. Lastly, I remember the big wave coming at me. I liked that part because I ran from it and it was really fun.
Yesterday we went to the Marin Headlands and we saw the ocean. We tried to see if there were whales swimming, but we didn’t see any. The ranger told us that the whales were heading North where the water is colder. We climbed up a mountain. It was hard to go up but, it was easier to go down. We went up to a part of the mountain where it was called Battery Townley and we saw a huge telescope. It was a cannon.

What was fun about the field trip was seeing the cannon because I’ve never seen a cannon that long before. I thought it was interesting what people used the gun for. They used the gun to shoot other ships that were coming towards their land. We learned that some of the rocks that we piled up were native. We learned about these plants that are called ice plants and they are invading the space for other plants.

If I could live anywhere

I would live in Mexico because when I went there before it looked really pretty. When I was on the plane I could see the lights of the houses, bridges, stores, etc. We went to visit where my dad is from and my cousins. It was very exciting because instead of stepping on cement when you walked, you stepped on big rocks that were stuck on the floor. There were a lot of houses that were all squished together. Some of the houses were big and small inside.

My dad is from a small town, so almost everybody knows each other’s names or their family. Since my brothers, sisters and I, were just visiting, no one knew who we were. Some people asked us who our parents are because they had never seen us before. Another reason I would like to live in Mexico is because there’s more freedom there than in the United States, because you can walk wherever you want. There isn’t a lot of police there. I don’t know why though. The town has houses at the top and it has stores at the bottom. All of the stores are also squished together. The town calls this a “plaza”. The sad part about visiting a place is that you have to leave. I was sad when we were leaving because we got really attached to our cousins even if it was the first time we saw them. Everybody was crying and hugging each other. The good thing was that we had leftover money for next time we come back to Mexico. This is why would live in Mexico.
Art

Art is paintings that people like to make. They believe in their paintings because they look pretty to them. Art is pretty to most people. Art is pretty to me.

Pablo Picasso

I wish Pablo’s friend was not dead. I really like Pablo’s paintings because of all his happy colors. I don’t like his sad colors. I wish Pablo Picasso would have never died because he was a very good man and he was a good artist.

Favorite Animal

I like baby pugs because they’re so cute and I wish I had one. I want one for my birthday.

YWF

I like the program because I made new friends. I like that everybody is nice to each other. I like it because I am nice to everybody. I am nice to my sister. I love my sister the most and she will always be my hero.

Field Trip Reflection

On the field trip, I went to the water. It was cold and there were big waves. It was very, very fun. We ate on the beach. It was very good. I ate all my lunch. I ate my goldfish, grape juice, my fruit, and veggies.

Volcanoes

A volcano is a mountain that explodes and has lava inside. It is very cool and very fun to make a volcano. I like the volcano because they are cool. It is cool because it has lava flow, magma, craters, and layers of ash and lava.

Where I would live

I would live in Reno because it is fun. In the night, it is even more fun. I would also live in Mexico because at night it is very, very, very quiet and you can sleep well. I like the homes and the little lakes which sometimes we can get into. I could live with my brother and sister. I would like to live with them. I would live in San Francisco because it is pretty.
Marin Headlands

I had fun on the trip. We went through a tree tunnel. We saw birds, plants, rat homes, and an otter. I heard that otters eat inside out. We ended the day by going to the beach. It had rainbow sand and I got my feet wet. There we all had snack at the beach on the rocks.

Where I would live

If I could live anywhere in the world I would live in Springfield. I want to live there because I love the Simpsons. I like Homer, Lisa, Bart, Maggie, and Marge Simpsons. I would also live in Bikini Bottom because I love SpongeBob and I would like to try a Krabby Patty.

UC Berkeley

Yesterday I went to UC Berkeley and an art museum. At UC Berkeley, I saw T-Rex bones, monkey bones. At the seal, if you step on it you will get bad grades. Unless you lick the stone ball. We went to the art museum after. At the art museum, I saw a creepy clown exhibit. After that we went to a building block area. Then we went back to the clown exhibit and one of them moved.

Wolf

Wonderful
Outstanding
Loud
Ferocious

Wolves are my favorite animal
Outstanding when they hunt
Lovely parents
Ferocious predators

My favorite animal is the werewolf. The dog is the descendent from the wolves. Dogs are calm and fun to play with. But the wolf is wild.
If I could live anywhere
One place I would like to live in is the moon because there is no gravity and I could create a teleporter and link it to earth.

Acrostic Poem
Cats are cute and cuddly
Are very awesome
They are terrific nappers

Favorite Artist
William Shakespeare did not know a lot of his alphabet. This means that a lot of times in his life, William had to guess what he was writing. That’s why his plays were sometimes weird to people. A lot of the words in the script were spelled incorrectly. William Shakespeare created many famous plays.

Marin Headlands
What I saw yesterday could only be the work of nature. There were sea otters, woodrats and even mountain lions where we were. However, we didn’t get to see mountain lions and we only got to see a woodrat den. When we got to the beach area, we looked for types of rocks.
What I did in the summer is we picked up my mother’s friend plus her son. We went to the beach to relax from this hot weather. We built sand castles and made pathways for the water to run through. After we went to the circus and got on a ride called the Rock and Roll. Finally, we went to Los Angeles which is about five hours away from here. Long car ride there, but it is tiring. We went to Hollywood and saw the famous stars with their handprints. When we went to Universal Studio we rode three rides since the lines are super long. The first one is called Transformers, the second one is called The Revenge of the Mummy, and lastly on Jurassic Park. After the rides, we decided to go to the gift shop where they had toys, and clothes. We bought a cover for my iPad and went back to the hotel. We packed everything, and came back. We had to unpack everything which took long. The next day we went to the park, and later my mom had to take her friend to the airport. We said goodbye and that is what I did before coming to the Youth Writing Festival 2017! A fun thing to do in the summer is to sleep…. just kidding. What I want to hopefully do this summer is get a puppy. I need to buy dog food and supplies. I’m going to get a puppy!! I’m going to go to my baby brother’s birthday party. His birthday is going to be at my cousin’s house to play.

What I did at Google was when we first entered, we got seated down and the tour guide did his introduction. Once he had finished, he asked us what we wanted to be when we grow up. After we answered the question, we took a group picture and were split into three groups. The three groups were green, red, and yellow. We went into five buildings and went to the most fun places. The first building we went to had chairs that were hanging, then we went to a rock climbing. In the third building, we played video games like fighting, pool cart, Pac man, and more. After all the playing and fun, we were all having, we went to the fourth building to get food. There was pizza, chicken, salad, and lots more. The fifth building was with more food and in that building you can see the chiefs cooking the food in front of you. Finally, we saw a dog because who doesn’t like dogs. The dog’s name is Bruce. I notice that the lights in the building looked funny and unorganized, but when we went to the top it spelled Google.
Acrostic Poem

Pandas are great
Although they have a lot of weight
None of them eat plants on a plate
Doughy pizza they ate
All the pandas live on a state

England

I would want to live in England because of how nice it is. I would specifically want to live in London because it is nice. The Olympics were held there. You can find nice houses and flats. There are tons of local super car dealers. England is in Europe and Europe is known for having many places to go. I would want to live in a 3-story house with a giant backyard. It would have 10 rooms inside and each room would have a flat-screen TV with a hot tube. The back-yard would have a big soccer field and a pool. The roof would be a party place with a giant TV to watch soccer games and play FIFA. The second floor would have tons of food.

UC Berkeley

It was fun, because we went inside the school. We stepped on the seal (which means we will get bad grades.) Then, we talked about different halls. My favorite was Valley Life Sciences Building. Then, we went to the business school. After, we ate we stepped on the seals and saw hobos. Then, we went to the art museum in front of Berkeley. We went in groups. One of the sculptures was of Buddha and alien culture. We saw abstract paintings and it was boring. It was fun when we saw clowns. We saw Erick on La Voz Kids, and he lost. We were about to leave when we saw the building area and my cousins and I played Jenga. It was fun because when we first got there I thought it was going to be boring. The field trip was a little fun but then we left. With the blocks, we played with I would build a big house. I would live in it for two days and then I would destroy it.
Jesús Pantoja

Summer

I like the camp because we have so many activities to do. One of the activities I did during Youth Writing Festival is make slime. My slime came out pretty good, but my friends’ slime came out semi wrong. I followed directions and made sure the ingredients were at the right measurement. Another activity we did was make a volcano, we had to paint the volcano, and later add the baking soda and vinegar. My favorite part was watching the volcano explode. I also like my summer because I am always playing and watching television. I would like to go to Disneyland in Los Angeles because on television it looks really fun and I want to go on the ride with my brother. Another thing I would like to visit while I am in Southern California would be Hollywood.

Activities for the Summer

I would like to go to Hawaii because I hear it is fancy. I also hear about the black sand which it would be cool to visit and see all the fuss about it. I would also like to go to Disneyland because I have seen that on television it is so much fun, but as long as I am with my family playing soccer it is cool.

Camp

I really liked the camp because I made friends, and I learned so much. I has so much fun that I cannot wait until next year. I will like to go to Facebook and Google. My friends and I like to play soccer and sometimes a little bit of basketball. I would like to make cool volcanos and make slime again. I am going to miss my friends, but I will see them around here and during the school year.

Network

Barracuda was so fun mostly because we got pizza and soda. We got so full that we could not even drink water! Well the tour guide showed us where they built computers in five minutes which is awesome and super-fast. This company focuses on stopping hackers from hacking large companies around the world. This company had started in a garage with just three people. The company is expanding and going to keep growing.
Fatima Pasillas

Panda Acrostic Poem

P: Pandas eat bamboo; they’re cute
A: And curious
N: Never read to Pandas
D: Do you like Pandas?
A: Are you curious about Pandas?
   Bamboo and Tiger

Marin Headlands Field Trip Reflection

At the field trip, we saw lot of flowers. We saw a giant gun that was used a long time ago. We went up hills. It was interesting because it was a national park. What I learned is that the big gun was many old. The beach was too sandy. Some students got wet and some did not. We hiked up mountains and also down mountains. We saw lots of things when we were on the mountain. It was fun but it was also boring because we just walked and talked and it was tiring. Afterwards we all met up at the ocean. The ocean was so pretty. We ate on the sand. Then when we were finished eating, we got to play. Some students took off their shoes to play in the ocean and got wet. After that we left. Ranger Rafael and the other Ranger gave us Jr. Ranger Badges.

What is Art?

I think Art is something you do like drawing and music. Art is to create something with different kinds of materials like bottles, paper, and origami. Art can also be shows, TV shows and acting. Art is writing and drawing pictures. You can also reuse cans, plastic bottles to make different things. For example, with the plastic bottles, you can make an experiment. I think art is also doing experiments like making volcanoes. Art is also making slime. Sports are also art.
Poems

I went to the park but it was dark. We had to leave that’s okay because we had to eat. My pencil is sharp like a tooth of a shark. Also, my eraser.

Art

Art is when you paint or draw on hard or soft paper. Art is video games. Do you know why? It is because you have to draw the game. Art is a house because. You need to know how to build it. Art is fun but it can get hard. Also, you can make stuff with clay.

Waterside Workshops

Today we are going to a field trip to waterside workshop. We are going to see a lake. We will see the water. We are going to walk there and I think it is not that far.

A story

It was 3 weeks ago when I left Albany and went to Sacramento. We played a baseball game. We played 4 baseball games. It was super-hot that one game was in 106-degree heat. Then, there was a game that was only 79 degrees. When I left Sacramento, I met four dogs. I met Chaos, Brownie, Rocky, and Bonny. I also went into the pool of a big house. Then, we went back to our normal house in Albany. My dad and I did some training the next day. We trained with no pocket gloves and batting with my bat.

Where I would live

I would live in a water park because I can just go to the water park and swim. Also, there are water slides and we could live close to the water park in a hotel. We could walk there because it would be close. We would not get there late because it is 5 minutes to get there. I like to swim. There will be a little park for the little kids. Also, I would live there right now because it is fun and exciting. In the water park, there is a thing you can jump from and go into the water. There is a water slide that is dark inside when you slide down with a floaty. There is a 50-foot water slide. That one is the biggest.
Victor Quintana

Volcano

Victor is weak at soccer
Often, he misses the ball
Let’s the other team score
Causes the team to lose
Added more vinegar
Nate poured the vinegar
Oh no it exploded

Spain

I would like to live in Spain because I’ve seen many pictures of it. It looks nice and very calm since I never hear about shootings. I would like to live in the rich area of Spain, like in Madrid the capital. I would like a house with two floors and a big garage because, in my garage, I would have a music studio. In my backyard, I could cook carne asada and invite my family over. I want three bathrooms and four bedrooms. One room with a built-in bathroom would be for me, another for my son, and the other two rooms for guests. I want to live next to a Real Madrid soccer player.

What is Art?

Art is paintings, drawings, murals, designs, and sculptures. Music is another form of art. Nowadays, you see art every day. Books, history, and food are other forms are art. The list goes on. Art is visual and is made of symbols. Art does not necessarily have to make sense to us, but it makes sense to the people who created it. If you give it a deep meaning, then everything is art.

Marine Headlands

I recommend Marine Headlands because it has a nice beach, mountains to explore, and overall is a fun place to go. The missiles are big and there are many hills. Upon arrival, guide had a funny beard and his hair was long. We then ate at the beach where we saw many boats and surfers in the waves. Jaws was swimming in the ocean and ate a surfer. The park ranger swam to save the surfer and he was eaten. Everyone jumped in the water to save the ranger so Jaws ate them all too. Thus, the place is nice but dangerous.
Letter to Mom and Dad

Dear Mom and Dad,

Thank you for all the things that you do for me and my family. Thank you for cooking for us. Thank you, dad, for going to work to get money for us. Thank you, dad, for buying us stuff and doing a lot of stuff for us. Thank you for taking care of us.

Love,

Anya.

Facebook

Today we went to Facebook and it was fun. When we got there, we got on a bus and it had big windows and blue seats. The bus dropped us off at Facebook and we went inside for a tour. I saw a lot of shops like a coffee shop, pizza shop and a Mexican food truck. Then we went to the arcade and I played a game, it was fun. Then we went to the sweet shop and I grabbed a cupcake.

Fieldtrip Reflection

Some things that Google and Facebook had in common were that we got to play at both sites. Facebook gave us ice cream and Google did not. I liked Google because we went rock climbing indoors. I also want to work at Facebook because I want to be a designer. I want to design posters and other stuff for Facebook. A difference between Google and Facebook is, Google helps you search stuff and Facebook helps you connect with people.
Juan Revuelta

Fizz Inflator
Today was the first day of summer school and we were able to do an experiment. The experiment we did consisted of putting vinegar in a bottle. After, we funneled baking soda into the bottle. We then got a balloon and placed it on top of the bottle. This process caused a reaction and the balloon began inflating, but it eventually stopped. The activity was fun overall and I was able to learn something new. I am looking forward to tomorrow’s field trip to Barracuda Networks!

Volcano
Today we made a volcano replica. We made the base out of a water bottle and clay. Then, we painted the outside and let it dry before we put vinegar, baking soda, soap, and food coloring. At last, the volcano exploded and we got to see an eruption replica. A thing that I learned was that these things mixed create a chemical reaction.

If I Could Live Anywhere...
I would live in the mountains, because of the view. However, it is dangerous to live out there, because when it rains or when there’s a mud slide, accidents can occur. I would also buy a Nintendo to play for the entire day, even while I am in my swimming pool. I would also buy a hammock to relax and enjoy the beautiful view from my home.

My Day
Today I am going to Spinas Park with the other program I go to after YWF. My mom said she would pick me up from there so I wouldn’t have to walk back to the cafeteria. Today, we played soccer and Pedro beat Adrian in soccer. I am excited that we are going to play soccer again today with our tutors!
If I Could Live Anywhere...

If I could live anywhere I want in the world I would pick LA. I would live in LA, because I could invite my friends and family over. If I could also have a pet, I would have a dog. I would visit my friends and family whenever there was an event. I picture my house with two floors, 4 bedrooms, and a playroom for us kids. I selected LA, because it seems calm. But, this is only if I had to move, if not, I would stay where I’m at.

Google

When we went to Google they introduced us to their staff. We then got into three groups and my group first went to the rock climbing room. After that, we went to a billiards room and a snack room. When we went to the snack room, the employees let us get some and they were so good! After the snack room, we went to play basketball. While we were playing basketball, we saw a gym, but we couldn’t go in there. The last thing we did was have lunch and it was really good.

Summer

During my summer, I like to go to pools a lot. It is also my birthday on July 1st so we all got wet with a water balloon fight. The day before my birthday, we went to Rockin’ Jump and I was also told I would be taken to Great America soon. I also went to Stanford and was able to land a 6-step jump on my scooter. However, the scooter was stolen shortly after, but I will be getting a new one soon. Once I get a new scooter, I want to return to Stanford and continue to practice the landing from the same spot. However, my ultimate wish for the summer is to go paint balling.
Gassed Saleh

Poem

Bears are in the woods
And hunt for food
They run like a tooth
They sleep on the roof

They are scary
Bears are hairy
Bears are cold when it’s rainy
I think they eat cherries

They play during the day
They make some clay
At night, they lay
At night, they play with their slay.

Where I would live

I would live in a Candyland. I like candy they are so good. I will have a dinosaur with me. I will teach him things, like training him when to eat candies. He will not eat the candies if I tell him not too. I will be alone with my dinosaur and everything is going to be candies. Even the Earth will be made out of candy. The house and animals will be candies but the dinosaur is not. The trash will be candies and the water is candy. Slim will be candies. Pens, people, and even my friends are candies.

UC Berkeley and BAMPFA

We went on a field trip. We ate a lot and played. We went to UC Berkeley. I got chocolate. I stepped on the seal and we saw the Strawberry Creek. It was so long. We saw clowns and a dinosaur. It was big and we saw a big light. We took pictures of the dinosaur, clowns, the big light and the Strawberry Creek. We played with the blocks. We saw a crack on the wall and saw big blocks.
Malek Saleh

UC Berkeley/BAMPFA

In UC Berkeley, we saw real T-rex bones. It was the best time of my life and it was my first time seeing a real T-Rex fossil. We saw this huge tower that was 350 feet and every time it strikes at 10:00 o’clock it would ring a huge bell. It was so loud and cool. When we went to BAMPFA I saw clowns and I thought they were real. They looked very realistic but they were not. It seemed like it was a prank because who would have clowns in a museum? It was weird and scary.

My favorite Animal

One of my favorite animals is a T-Rex because they are awesome and cool. They have huge sharp teeth. They were the strongest, biggest, and most vicious animals. However, they are no longer in the world. If they were alive they would kill humans and eat each other.

Leonardo da Vinci

Leonardo lived in Italy
Expert in art
Other good painters
Needs money
Awesome
Really cool paintings
Do care about others
Good talents
Doing a good job in art
Awesome talent in art
Very cool art and paintings
Inventor
New ideas
Care for others
Inventions
Julian Soria

Why I would choose Google over Facebook

I would like to work at google over Facebook because Facebook makes things that help you connect with other people and Google helps find things for people. Google was made to be a website where people can get help finding things by looking it on their search engine. You can search for definitions of words, like meet or heat or get. You can also search for items, images, knowledge, stores and you can even look up locations.

Pablo Picasso

Pablo Picasso was born in Spain on October 25th, 1881. His father was a painter and an art teacher. He also enjoyed drawing from an early age. When he was 14, he attended a famous art school in Barcelona. Pablo’s close friend committed suicide causing the “Blue Period,” which is also known as his era of depression.

What I want to be when I grow up?

When I grow up I want to be an artist. I would try and use techniques that were used by artists like Picasso and Da Vinci. I would work for companies that need models on future items, characters from games and shows. I would also use my skills to draw positive things for people, so they can be positive and be helpful and kind to others, such as homeless or others in need.
Manuela Tafoya

Sonnet
I told my horse to stay
When I went to walk my dog
But instead he went for the hay
    I like candy
I have something back
    And so, does Sandy
It is in my candy sack
My name is Manuela
    Goodbye

Where would I live and why?
I would like to live in Los Angeles because there are a lot of famous people there. For example, like the team 10 house. I would also like to live there because Los Angeles is a beautiful place. There are a lot of activities one can do for fun with their friends or family. Because many famous people live in L.A., there are many tours for basically anything. For example, Vicon and Digi tours. Overall, I would have a wonderful time!

Google
Yesterday was beyond than what I had expected. I thought Google was going to be like Barracuda but it was not. I had expected there to only be speeches and more speeches but it wasn’t. At google there was a rock wall and an arcade as well. I really want to work at Google because I had a great time there but at the same time I want to work for the FBI. In conclusion, this field trip was unforgettable.

Appreciations
Dear Google,
I am very thankful for you guys inviting us to Google. I liked every single minute of it. I hope in the future we are able to go again. My first favorite part was the snack room because there was so much food. My second favorite part was the rock wall. Last but not least my third favorite part was the pool table. What I did not like about the field trip was leaving. I wanted to keep exploring. I would like to go again because it was so much fun. In conclusion, to me Google represents various numbers. It was amazing and I loved it.    Sincerely, Manuela
Yahaira Tafoya

**Barracuda Networks**

The most excited thing from Barracuda was when they told the story about when it was build. The company began to grow from a little garage to now have many companies in many different parts of the countries. Large companies need to have Barracuda because hackers may hack their system. I would like to go back to Barracuda because I would like to see the new inventions and new programs they will come up with. I would like to thank Barracuda for inviting me.

**Volcano Explosion**

The experiment that we did was to make a volcano from scratch. The materials we needed was baking soda, food coloring, dish soap, and vinegar. We did a sculpture and later we had to decorate the cardboard. We put all the ingredients together and went outside to test it out. The last step was to watch the volcano erupt and see a volcano. I predicted that the volcano was going to explode like a real volcano.

**Slime**

Today, we made our own slime. The way I made the slime was use Elmer's glue, borax, water, and food coloring. The glue first went into the mixing bowl. After the glue, I had to put the water and the last step is to put borax. I added food coloring, and mixed the ingredients all together to get my slime. I learned that I can make the slime with materials that are in my house.

**Google**

What I saw in Google and did in Google participating in activities they had planned out for us. The fun activities that I participate was eight ball, basketball, and rock climbing. I wish I could have seen the massage room because they said that they had one. I really loved going to Google, and learn how to play eight ball.
Sophia Thibault

The Philippines
I would like to live in the Philippines because I have family that live there. Some of my family relatives were born in the Philippines and I would like to live there. I want to live there because I could relax, play my guitar while my mom plays the piano. I would also hang out with my family and friends. I like there because that is my peaceful place.

Google
What I like about Google is the rock climbing because it is a little more challenging. Did you know that Google means a hundred zeros? I also like the kitchen because you get free food and snacks! Did you know that there is 150 plus google companies around the world? I like the food there and the machine that takes your plate to wash it. The company started with two people in a garage just like Barracuda did.

Pablo Picasso
Pablo grew up in Spain. He was born in October 25, 1881. His father was a good painter, and an art teacher. The colors on his painting show emotion and have a special connection to him. For example, he fell in love with a model, and started to use warmer colors like pink, red, and orange. He has over 1,800 painting and 1,200 sculptures. His paintings went for over $100 million dollars which is crazy.

What is Art?
Art is your imagination, where you create your own masterpiece. Where you paint, draw, colors, and more! Art is everywhere! Art can be a poster. Art can be an electricity box. Art can be knitting. Everything you make by hand is art. Singing, dancing, playing an instrument, cooking, and building things using your imagination is all ART!
Kimberly Tobar

Sonnets

I went to the movie theater.  
For the parking lot, we took a long time.  
We had to pay for the meter.  
It took a while, but it was fine.  
All I wanted to do is see a good show.  
I wanted to go for a drink.  
All I see is the pitcher throw.  
I thought the fish was going to sink.

Barracuda

When we got to Barracuda, we were waiting outside for the tour guide to come and get us.  
We saw how they build a computer in five minutes which was pretty impressive.  
I got to see how they were manufacturing.  
In order to get a t-shirt, football, and a hand sanitizer, I needed to ask 3 questions which I did.  
The history of the company surprised me because it turns out that the company started in a garage with 3 people.  
Now the company is in many countries and is helping others not get hacked by bad people.

My Summer

What am I going to do this summer?  
I am going to come to the Youth Writing Festival, and learn about STEAM.  
I am going to go to another program after this program.  
In the other program, I am going to go to the pools.  
I am going to read and be productive by going to the library.  
Maybe I will go to El Salvador.  
Today, June 22, 2017 I am going to write a story, draw, color, and much more!

Hawaii

I would like to live in Hawaii because you could swim in the ocean.  
Living on a volcano island would be super cool.  
I would see volcanos and explore.  
I would have invited my family, and friends.  
I would have a dog live with me because I love dogs.  
I would take my dog for a walk and on runs.  
I would visit my mom because she is the best.  
She loves me and I love her.  
My house would be very big and be light blue.  
I would have five rooms and three full bathrooms.  
I would move because California does not have volcanos, and the black sand like Hawaii.

59
Emiliano Torres

Calabasas

I would like to live in Calabasas in an eleven-bedroom house with kids, a Range Rover, and a white picket fence. I would also like my house to be to two to three stories with a nice garden, home to gardenias. My wife would have big kitchen and the garage would fit thirty cars. There will be a fountain in the middle of my driveway. My big house would have a nice entrance with two big staircases and nice flooring. The door of my house will be made out of metal and have my initials. The house door will mirror the design of my front gate. Most of all, I want my closet to resemble DJ Khaled’s.

Julio Preciado

My favorite artist is Julio Preciado who used to sing with Banda el Recodo. My favorite songs are Dos Hojas Sin Rumbo, Por Una Mujer Casada, and Te Quiero Mucho. I like his music along with el Colote, 30 Cartas, El Amor y el Dinero, and Arboles de la Barranca. 30 Cartas is fast and later gets good. I like this music because newer songs have the same beat and meaning, but some are drastically different. I think that some songs this days are real cursi. I think the industry should make more music like my favorite artist because these days MS and el Recodo are whack.

Emiliano

Emiliano is very
Muscular and
Intelligent, he
Likes to
Invent stuff
And he does
Not like the sun
Or the Heat
Rodrigo Torres

Berkeley Field Trip

Yesterday we went to UC Berkeley and Bampfa. First, we met outside of Starbucks, after we walked to campus. We walked to VLSB to see a dinosaur.

Cheetah Acrostic Poem

C: Cheetahs are meat eaters
H: Have black spots
E: Eats rabbits
E: Eats a lot
T: The Cheetah runs away
A: Africa and Asia is their home
H: Hide with Camouflage

Carve the Mountain Reflection

In my landform I put a tunnel, a store, a school, a river and a mountain. I put in the parking because the car needs somewhere to park. Camila and I made the mountain. We should have more mountains. We also should have made more cars because we probably added stop signs.

YWF Reflection

I liked the program because we went on a field trip. My favorite was to the Marin Headlands. I liked this field trip because I like the Golden Gate Bridge. I also like the water and we went to the beach.
Angel Viveros

Where do I want to live?
I want to live in Costco because it has tv’s, beds, and lots of food. Also, they have pizza and one can’t starve. I would also live with my family because there is a lot of space. It would be an awesome experience.

What I want to be when I grow up
I want to be a firefighter because we can use big hoses to put out fires and we get to drive around in a fire truck. We get to save people and sometimes animals. Firefighters help people and I want to become a firefighter to make the world a better place.

What did you like about the YWF?
I liked that we went on fieldtrips and we got to do science activities. I also met Mike Alvarado, we became good friends.

Barracuda Network and Google Fieldtrip
First let’s start with Google. It’s not the same as Barracuda because Google helps people search for things. Barracuda helps people from getting hacked and keeps them safe. Barracuda and Google both started in a garage by college students. I like Google and Barracuda because they both help people.
Carlos Zamora

Volcano

I learned that a volcano can go extinct. I saw the volcano explode after we mixed in the baking soda and the vinegar. I also learned that there are three different states in which volcanos could exist - active, dormant or extinct. I enjoyed doing the volcano experiment, because we got to design it from the beginning.

Google

What I learned at Google is that two grown-up people invented it in a garage in 1998. We when rock climbing and it was hard. There are two sides - a grey one and an orange one. The grey side was really hard, but the orange side was much easier. I had pizza and fries for lunch and it was good. The word Google means a thousand zeros after one. One of my favorite things was that Google does not have many offices, because the company values collaborative work.

Summer

What I want to do this summer is go to Great America. It’s so fun! My favorite ride is the Patriot, because it curves and that made it scary for me. There is basketball, dodgeball, rock climbing, and a foam pit. It was so hot this summer that we had a water balloon fight and also brought out water guns. I also want to get a computer, but I need to earn the money first. Once I have enough for it, I’m going to buy it at Best Buy. On my birthday I might go to my cousins house. I like going there, because I tend to get lots of money - about $700 or more.
Site Coordinators

Blaythe Ayala

Maria de los Angeles

Oscar Macias

Stephanie Martinez
East Bay Tutors

Erick Dominguez  Yesenia Quintero  Daniela Rueda  Esther Guerrero

Cynthia Ramirez  Hope Balatan  Yesenia Verdin
North Fair Oaks Tutors

Jennifer Paulino
Adrian Salvatierra
Pedro Medina
Julio Garcia
Valerie Salvatierra
Melissa Paulino
A Word From The Students

“I like the program because I made new friends. I like that everybody is nice to each other. I like it because I am nice to everybody.” --Estrella Monroy

“When I started the YWF i thought that it was going to be a boring summer camp. I thought I was going to be forced to write all day. I was wrong. I liked the field trips. My favorite part of the Marin Headlands was the beach, where I went into the water. The projects were fun because each one was different. Some were hard some were easier. I liked the maze game because I helped figure it out.” --Dylan Gomez

“The Youth Writing Festival is a good thing for me. It is helping me with my writing. I have learned a lot these past weeks.” --Nancy Cervantes

“When I first started the YWF- I am not going to be honest- I thought it was going to be boring. I imagined that we weren’t going to do anything all day and just write and do nothing fun.

I was wrong because we actually do projects and go on field trips every Thursday. They are fun. I really am enjoying the project we are doing now “Carve the Mountain”. You get to be very creative.” --Milagros Guerrero-Cruz

“When I started the YWF I thought it was going to be a waste of money because I have been in summer programs since I was in the 2nd grade. I did not like them. What I imagined was it was going to be one of those boring programs but it seemed a little cool and at first I really was not trying my best. Yet it seemed good. I think it is cool because you get to make small volcanoes and all of this prepares me for the 5th grade. It prepares me because I will have to write a lot of stories. I think I am starting to try more because of everything going on. I didn’t try before because I thought it would be a waste of my time but that’s what my old self thinks. I have learned that it can be cool when you really put your mind to it.”

--Brayan Monroy
A Word From The Parents

“Hola soy la mama de Milagros Cruz, ha sido un programa excelente pues me gustaría que les ayudaran en matemáticas, gracias” -- Laura Cruz

Soy la mama de Emir Juárez primero que nada me gustaría darles las gracias porque tienen este programa, me parece muy bueno y Emir está muy contento de asistir. Yo veo que le está ayudando mucho.” -- Norma Reséndiz:

“Mi nombre es Melina y soy madre de Max, yo pienso que el programa le ha ayudado a Max tanto en que socializa más como en lo académico está muy contento siempre habla de las actividades que hace cada día, lo motiva a aprender. Me gustaría que el programa se extendiera las horas y que fuera más de cuatro semanas. -- Melina Salazar:

Les puedo decir que es un programa muy bueno e importante para mis hijos como para mí como madre, les agradezco mucho por darnos la oportunidad de ser parte del programa. Gracias a los tutores, coordinadoras y a todo el demás personal que hace posible este programa.” -- Lorena López

“My name is Amena and I have 2 kids in the program. I really saw a change in my kids when I pick them up. They talk about what activities they did especially when they come back from a field trip. My only opinion is that I would like the program to be longer hours in the summer.” -- Amena Ahmed
East Bay

Brusatori Antonio
Campos Giovanni
Campos Jonathan
Casas Valeria
Cervantes Nancy
Cruz Carlos
Daglow Niyah
Domínguez Angel
Estrada Andrew
Gomez Dylan
Guerrero Marco
Guerrero-Cruz Milagros
Juarez Emir
Marquez Angeles
Marquez Camila
Martinez Alexandra
Miller Leila
Monroy Brandon
Monroy Brayan
Monroy Brenda
Monroy Estrella
Monroy Oscar
Mora Matthew
Orgel Miguel
Pasillas Fatima
Polanco Juan C.
Quintana Victor
Saleh Gassed
Saleh Malek
Vega Salvador
Torres Emiliano
Torres Rodrigo

North Fair Oaks

Alvarado Mike
Amaya Victoria
Arevalo Christopher
Calderon Paola
Casique Luis Aldo
Davila Estrella
Gochez Gabriela
Esquivel Matthew
Garcia Martin
Garcia Susana
Garcia Tania
Garcia Luis
Gonzalez Sebastian
Hernandez Elvis
Luna De la Cruz Guadalupe
Morales Melina
Pantoja Armando
Pantoja Jesus
Revuelta Juan
Revuelta Anya
Rodriguez Eduardo
Soira Julian
Thibault Sophia
Tafoya Manuela
Tafoya Yahaira
Tobar Kimberly
Viveros Angel
Zamora Carlos
Our Heartfelt Thanks to Our
2017 Youth Writing Festival Supporters

ABBA Stone and Tile Inc.
Alameda County
Alfredo and Barbara Terrazas
Alicia Aguirre
Amani Fund of BoA Charitable Gift Fund
Argumedo & Garzon Law Group
BAMPFA
Barracuda Networks
Bernard & Jean Elissagaray-Family Fund
Black Pine Circle School
California Department of Social Services
California Endowment Fund
Catholic Worker House
Chancellor’s Community Partnership Fund
Charlotte TerKeurst
Chevron Richmond
City of Berkeley
City of San Pablo
Connie Paniagua
Dagma Abbott
Diamond DSP Inc.
Eugenia Bowman
Facebook
Fair Oaks Community School
Firedoll Foundation
Google
Hagopian- Eknoian Charitable Fund
Ian Linfordb
Jackie & Carlos De Anda
Janet Whittick
Jesús & Elizabeth Méndez -Mi Tierra Foods
Kim L. Malcolm
Les Guliasí
Life Long Medical Center
LISC
Lonjino Lazcano
Los Moles Restaurant
Lucia & Refugio Barba
Martín & Rocio-Gonzalez Brothers
Landscaping
Mathew Hart
Mechanics Bank, Berkeley
Mike Hannigan
National Park Services-Marin Headlands
Philanthropic Ventures Foundation
Recology Inc.
Richmond Community Foundation
Roberta & Gerald Deis
Sabiha Ansari
San Mateo County
San Mateo County Sheriff’s Office
San Mateo Credit Union
Sarah Richardson
Second Harvest-Food Bank
Sergio García-S. G. Auto Repair
Silicon Valley Community Foundation
Silicon Valley Social Venture Fund (SV2)
St Mary’s Work-Study Program
St. Lawrence O’Ttoole -St. Cyril Parish
Stanford Children’s Health
Stefano Bertozzi
Trisha Sanchez
UC Berkeley Work-Study Program
Victor Weisser
W.L. Butler Construction, Inc
Wells Fargo, San Francisco
Wendie Omeara
West Berkeley Lions Club
Y&H Soda Foundation
Yasmeen Sha