

# Youth Writing Festival

A program of the Multicultural Institute



Anthology of Students Creative Works  
Summer 2016

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## ABOUT THE MULTICULTURAL INSTITUTE

The Multicultural Institute is a 501(c)(3) non-profit 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, religious 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 PROGRAMS

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): Offers academic support to students from 3<sup>rd</sup> -9<sup>th</sup> grade. Its goal is to reduce racial inequality in education, leading to readiness for college success.

### 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*

## ABOUT THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

### 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 YWF gives students an exceptional opportunity to build literacy skills. Students meet each weekday morning during the months of June and July. Participants write essays, stories, and poems, benefit from individual tutoring, and the camaraderie of small study groups. This summer we will focus on providing Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) related activities, have expert visitors, and there will be a few field trips. The result is extraordinary—participants uncover new creative impulses, develop confidence in themselves as writers. In some cases, participants compose their first pieces of writing ever outside of assignments for school.

## MI STAFF

*Fr. Rigoberto Calocarivas*  
*Executive Director*

*Mirna Cervantes*  
*Associate Director*

*Merced Truax-Padilla*  
*Office Manager*

*Phurbu Tsewang*  
*Accountant*

*Rudy Lara*  
*DL Program Director (Richmond)*

*Cesar Meza-Esveile*  
*DL Program Director (North Fair Oaks)*

*Josue Revolorio*  
*DL Program Director (Berkeley)*

*Juan Carlos Ortiz*  
*Day Laborer Program Assistant*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## From The Youth Writing Festival Director

The Youth Writing Festival strives to give students the freedom to express their creative thoughts and imagination while allowing them to strengthen their writing skills. Through free-writes, short stories, poetry, and other writing techniques they were encouraged to become stronger writers. And we succeeded!!!

Congratulations YWF Writers! I appreciate you giving MI an opportunity to help you grow in your writing. These four weeks flew by and I can't believe this summer writing journey has come to an end. I enjoyed seeing each one of you grow in your writing and public speaking skills. Some of you were shy and insecure of your writing and to present in front of others, but as the month unfolded you all grew comfortable with yourself, fellow writers, and your tutors. Thank you for being part of our program! Always remember writing is an outlet that allows you to express your true self in countless ways.

It was exciting to bring a Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematic (STEAM) focus to the program this summer, with all writing prompts relating to interactive and stimulating STEAM related hands-on activities, on-site visits, and field trips. It was great to watch you all engage in many STEAM lessons and cultivate an early interest in these fields.

YWF tutors and volunteers were tremendously passionate, patient, and dedicated to each writer's growth. I thank you all for your hard work and contribution towards making this program a true success. I enjoyed watching you create special bonds with your students while assisting them in becoming the writers they aspire to be. It was a great pleasure working and learning with every single one of you. The program wouldn't be possible without your help. Thanks to you, the YWF has a positive impact in the lives of our students.

I would also like to thank the parents for wanting the best for their children. Thank you for always believing that our program can help them grow and strengthen their writing, presentation, and social skills. Without your unconditional support, they would find it harder to believe in themselves and programs like ours would not be able to impact our youth. You are an inspiration for your children and their success.

A final thank you goes to the MI Board of Directors and Staff for all their help and support. I would also like to thank Fr. Rigo for envisioning this program and what it can do for our youth.

Sincerely,

*Merced Truax-Padilla*

Educational Program Director

# Santiago Aceves



## **Terrarium Activity**

El primer paso para hacer esta actividad es poner rocas encima de una manta. Luego agregar un poco de tierra. Usando el mismo material para hacer un nido, le cubrimos alrededor y le pusimos tres rocas en el lado y una porción pequeña de las otras plantas. El propósito es plantarla individualmente. Esto es todo.

## **Reflexión de Excursión al Parque Presidio**

Lo que aprendí en Crissy Fields es mucho para recordar. Los que viven en esa área son los cangrejos y pescados. Mientras comía mi lonche junto al mar observe un gran bote sumiéndose en el agua. Además, me gusto el paseo porque era muy divertido y nunca he ido a un lugar tan extraordinario.

## **Reflexión de Actividad Física**

Hoy hicimos ejercicio entre equipos como la carrera, corriendo en lugar y brincando en lugar. Cuando corrí en lugar mi corazón latió a ciento once. Yo pienso que mi corazón latió así porque estaba respirando mucho.

## **I am from... Poem**

I am from the soccer fields,  
I am from Adidas,  
I am from the beautiful place of Berkeley,  
I am from two lovely parents,  
I am from a family of five,  
I am from horseback riding,  
I am Santiago.

## **El Sistema Inmunológico**

Las células blancas de la sangre pueden derrotar los virus. Pero si pierden la batalla las células blancas entonces la persona tendrá que ir al doctor para que le inyecten una vacuna. Así poder combatir el virus.

## **Sistema Esquelético**

Lo que deja tus huesos y músculos bien formados es tomar bastante leche. Cuando las personas tienen una lesión en los huesos deben atender al doctor inmediatamente.



# Mike Alvarado



## **Autobiography**

I am Mike Alvarado. My favorite food is Taco Bell. I like to play on the computer and on the iPad a lot. My favorite basketball team is the Warriors and I like the Barcelona soccer team. I also like Argentina because Messi is the best player from Argentina. My favorite thing is my family. I'm 7 years old. My favorite activity is playing tag. The best thing is writing.

## **YWF Reflection**

What I like about the program is doing the experiments. What I liked about the program is making the cars with water bottles. I also enjoy break time because I like to play soccer and because we get to eat snacks. What I liked about the field trip to Barracuda Networks was when we saw their workers making the computer. My favorite part about the program was driving to Facebook. Facebook has a lot of workers. They work very hard that Facebook lets them have all types of cool shops. They have an ice cream shop, an arcade and a lot of food places. Facebook has over 1,000 workers. I enjoyed the smell of yummy food that the workers get to eat. Facebook let us have free ice cream from the ice cream shop. I also liked our tour guides, they were very nice. I met new friends here at the program. Some of my new friends are Diego, Elvis, Juan and Cesar. Abel was my tutor, he was nice and made the projects fun. Cesar helped me with my spelling when I didn't know how to spell a word. I like to work with the other kids but I like to write in quiet spaces. It would be cool to learn how to make a helicopter out of Legos. The cell activity was fun. We used Cheerios for the cells and we used red dye to make blood. I want to come back next year with friends.



# Nayali Andrade

## **The Human Body**

Today I learned some of the organs of the skeletal system. Their names are cartilage, muscles, tendons and ligaments. I also learned that I have 206 bones in my body. The purpose of the skeletal system is to protect your organs and body tissue and it also gives you structure. Some major organs are bones and joints. Cranium – Brain, Ribs – Heart and Lungs, Vertebrae (Spine) – Spinal Cord. These are things that help connect to the other parts like the cranium is somewhat related to the brain and it helps it.

## **Autobiography**

My name is Nayali Andrade Gomez and I was born May 16, 2004. I have 2 brothers and 3 sisters. I went to Leconte Elementary School and now I go to Longfellow Middle School and this year I am going to the 7th grade. I have 4 close friends and their names are Celine, Eva, Sophie, and Rahma. My favorite stores are Target and Old Navy. My favorite fruit is pineapple. One of my brothers just had a baby, it's a girl and they named her Itzel. When I grow up, I want to be a lawyer. I want to be a lawyer because I like to argue. I also want to be a lawyer because I want justice.

## **My Neighborhood**

I live near the laundry mat, a pizza place and a small store. I usually hear loud music playing from outside of my house or people fighting. I don't really like my neighbors because they always stare at me. When I look out of the window, I see cars and a restaurant across the street. When I go outside for a walk, I see plants and I like to take pictures of them. But what I do like is watering the plants outside.

## **Reflection on the YWF**

What I liked about this summer program were the projects that we did. I like the projects that we do because I feel that we learn how to work as a team and be colleagues. What I would like to learn about is history, about the ancient Egyptians or world war two. I would like to learn about that stuff because I am interested in learning about the past so I can see how different it was from today. I think this program helped us in writing and doing fun projects. It was also a good way of starting my summer.

# Elvis Argueta



## Autobiography

Yo me llamo Elvis y tengo 8 años. Voy a la escuela de Hoover Huskies y mi mamá se llama Senovia y tiene 31 años. Mi papá se llama Carlos Hernández y tiene 43 años. Ayer fui a In-n-Out y me comí 20 hamburguesas y me tomé 2 vasos de Dr. Pepper. Me gusta comer pizza y ice cream. Le ayudo a mi mamá a cuidar dos niños, los cambio y juego con ellos. También vamos a la Iglesia.

## YWF Reflection

En este programa yo aprendí acerca de STEM, es Ciencia, tecnología, ingeniería y matemáticas. Fui al Golden Gate y a Baracuda Network y al parque.

Este programa es el mejor del mundo porque hacemos tecnología y experimentos, como cuando hicimos sangre e hicimos carros. El primer día aprendí sobre los huesos del ser humano y del sistema digestivo. Aprendí que si no tuviera huesos y un sistema digestivo no pudiera jugar y hacer todas las cosas que me gustan. En el programa hice amigos. Me hacían reír cuando yo me sentía mal.

Ms. Stephanie me hacía sentir feliz con sus palabras al final del día.

## Fascinating Friction

Fast  
Apple  
Scissors  
Car  
Iguana  
Note  
Alien  
Tomato  
Intense  
Nose  
Gril

Funny  
Robot  
Inside  
Corner  
Train  
Igloo  
Orange  
Nice

## Heartbeats

Si no tuviera un latido del corazón: Me podría morir.  
No podía jugar. No podía caminar.  
No podía jugar tenis.  
No podía jugar video games.  
No podía escribir.

# Diego Armenta



## **Autobiography**

My name is Diego and I like playing soccer and playing on my cousins' XBOX. I like going to the amusement park. I was born September 1, 2006. When I grow up I want to be a professional soccer player. I want to go to Barracuda Networks and then go to an engineering place and build a giant robot and rule the world. My favorite food is tacos and I have one brother. My favorite team is Argentina, Barcelona, Portugal and Real Madrid. I'm nine years old. I live in Redwood City but my parents are from Mexico. I've been to Mexico for 8 days. I go to Roosevelt and it's close to Red Morton.

## **My Neighborhood**

I live on Oak Avenue and in my neighborhood there are many trees and bushes. There are a lot of apartments and houses and people walk in pairs with their dogs or by themselves. Many cars and strangers pass by my apartment. I love my neighborhood because I have a lot of friends and we can walk to Red Morton Park where we play soccer.

## **Time Machine**

Today is my birthday and my best best best present is a time machine! My alien brother gave me that time machine and he gave me nine more presents. The second best present was a dinosaur. The dinosaur was a T Rex. I nicknamed it Messi! My next present was 23 ultra-balls. I went to the time machine and I went to 2121 and there was real Pikachus!!

## **YWF Reflection**

My two favorite things about this program were going to Barracuda and Facebook. I liked Barracuda because they gave us free stuff. I also liked that we got free tours. It was cool that someone made a talking box. On the tour of Barracuda we went to the cafeteria and got free soda and got free pizza. At Facebook we got free ice cream and Kristin gave us chips. I liked Facebook because there is pizza and a hamburger shack. My favorite thing about Facebook was that we went to the sweet shop. I got strawberry ice cream with sprinkles. My favorite favorite thing that we went to at Facebook was the arcade.

I would come back to this program because it is amazing! I would recommend my friends to come because you do lots of fun stuff. Another thing I recommend about coming here is that you can go on really fun field trips. They were fun because you get free stuff! They are also fun because you get to learn about really cool science things. The best thing about the tutors is that they are fun and amazing.



# Emily Barba

## **Autobiography**

My name is Emily. I live around houses and when I grow up I want to be a cancer doctor. My hobbies are swimming and playing soccer. I like two subjects: math and history. When I am bored, I like to draw. I have two siblings and I have two parents. A tradition in my family is that we go to Universal Studios and Disneyland in the summer.

## **In My Neighborhood**

When I wake up, I wake up to the noises of my dogs barking. My neighborhood is not that noisy. My neighborhood is really boring and it is also small. My house is a two-story house. Before it was a two-story house, it was a one-story house. It was the ugliest house on the block, until my dad built the top part of my house. Then it became the tallest house on the block. We then got a dog and a gate for the dog. Mostly all of the people in my neighborhood have dogs and gates. They are all really nice and adventurous, but also quiet.

## **When I Grow Up**

When I grow up I want to be a cancer doctor. How I plan to get there is by studying medicine in college. I want to go to Cal University. I want to go to Cal because there was an article that inspired me that said "Cal is a really good college". I got inspired from my sister, she is a doctor. I want to follow her path. My sister inspired me because she is good about studying and she wants to be a doctor just like me. She has taught me a little bit about medicine. I think medicine is an interesting subject to study.



# Camila Canales



## **The Body**

Your heart is like a soul in a shallow midnight  
Your lungs are like water that you regularly drink  
Your blood is like a soda that you must drink as an addict  
Your mouth is like the sun as it breaths in the universe and releases light  
The way that you look, the way that everyone looks  
Is like the sun and moon in unison.

## **Máquina del Tiempo**

¿Qué pasaría si la tierra no tuviera humanos? Solo estuvieran los perros de la gente que un día vivió. Los perros grandes se comieran a los perritos chiquitos. Y no me gustaría. Y por eso es que debemos disfrutar de la vida.

## **Reflexión de Actividad Física /Latidos Por Minuto**

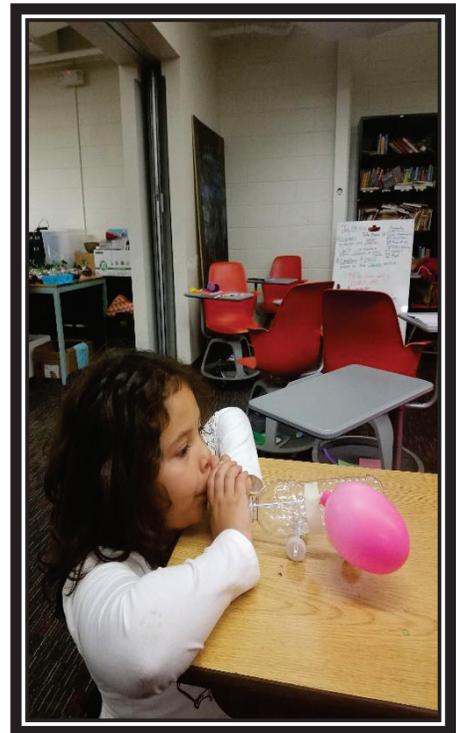
Yo hice mucho ejercicio. Si haces mucho ejercicio vas a escuchar el latido del corazón más fuerte y sonará como si un carro corriera a mil millas por hora. También hicimos muchos tipos de ejercicios como saltos de tijera, una carrera entre mi grupo y corrimos en su lugar. Y al mismo instante mediamos los latidos del corazón por minuto.

## **Sistema Circulatorio**

Yo aprendí del sistema circulatorio. Primero tu corazón es de sangre y hace que tu sangre se mueva a través de tu cuerpo. Las palabras más importantes del sistema circulatorio son venas, arterias y capilares. A diferencia del sistema circulatorio el respiratorio, incluye los pulmones y el diafragma.

## **Sistema Esquelético**

El sistema esquelético se trató de músculos y de los huesos. Aunque la mayor parte se trata de los huesos. Primero es posible que tus huesos se quiebren en alguna herida. Eso le pasó a mi hermano Diego mientras jugaba al baloncesto.





# Aiden Canales

## **Terrarium**

Today, I learned that you are supposed to break down the soil so that the plant can spread its roots around. The plant I chose was a succulent plant, which means that you're supposed to give it a little bit of water, and if you give it too much water it will DIE. This plant is also good because it saves water. I am saying this because California is in a drought. Anyway, I learned something new today.

## **Scale Model of the Earth**

My experience with this project was that, I learned the sections of the Earth like the crust, mantle, inner core, and outer core. My group also made these play dough balls representing the earth and then we cut it in half to see the sections. I also learned that the inner core can reach 13, 000 degrees Fahrenheit.

## **Earthquake in the Classroom**

What happened today, was that we learned about earthquakes and these happen because earth plates collide into each other. My structure fell a few times but I fixed it up. I got a little help and it stood right there in my own eyes. Also I learned about something called, STEAM which stands for science, technology, engineering, art, and math. We built structures and it was based on science, engineering and art and that's what STEAM wants us to do.

## **Engineering for the Earth**

Earthworks are engineering works created through the moving or processing of parts of the Earth's surface involving soil or unformed rocks. We learned about mountain, hills, ocean, plain valley, rivers and canyons. A mountain is like a hill, but it is way bigger and it is made of rocks, dirt, and snow. A hill is almost like a mountain except it is smaller and it is made out of dirt and grass. You usually find them in cities and streets. An ocean is a beautiful place. It has 3 simple things: sand, water and sea animals. It is also huge, way bigger than a lake. A river is like a lake, it is pretty nice. We did a model of the mountains, valley, canyon and river. My favorite thing about the model was the river that was the place with animals, literally it was just animals. Also, a river gets water from the mountains when it melts and it comes down.





# Diego Canales

## **YWF Reflection**

I think that this year's Youth Writing Festival was actually pretty fun. The previous Youth Writing Festivals were still really fun, but I think this year's was the best. I got to meet a lot of new people and make new friends. My tutor this year was a guy named Erick. I think he was my favorite this year. I think the projects we did this year were as fun as can be. My favorite project was the Mountain Project. I think this one was the most fun because I got to interact with a lot of materials and made things exactly how I wanted. The project was to build one to three mountains, a grass plain, the sea, a bridge, and a tunnel. Everyone else worked on the mountains, plains, and etc. while I worked on the bridge and civilization. Overall, I liked the activities and the writing of this year's Writing Festival.

## **My Name Is**

My name is Diego, but my close friends call me D-Go. My hobbies are usually running and video games. I like to keep my life balanced out. I have two siblings, a boy and a girl. I'm the oldest one, so I usually take responsibility over my siblings. The youngest one is my sister. She is seven years old and she likes to watch YouTuber's play Minecraft. The middle sibling, my little brother, is named Aiden. He is usually fun to play with, but mostly shy around other people he doesn't know. He likes to play video games just like me. One time we went to a pool called Strawberry Canyon. There, my little brother and I played tag. It was really fun. My sister wanted to play too but she was still learning how to swim, so she had my dad tag us for her. Those were fun times. P.S. I also like drawing.

## **In My Neighborhood**

I live in a neighborhood not that different from yours. In my neighborhood, it's quiet and everyone likes each other. My house is in the middle of my street. My house is shaped like a pentagon and it is long. The color of my house is international orange with white lines on the angles. On my porch, there are square, column things in two corners. The piece connects the square, column thing to the roof. The roof is white skin color. I have a fruit tree and a garden in front of my house. The garden has multiple plants growing on it. I have two cars, one is a Honda, and the other one is a truck.

## **Dreams and Aspirations**

When I grow up, I would like to be a number of things. I would like to be an artist, an engineer, an architect, an inventor, and a musician. The college I would like to go to when I grow up is Cal in Berkeley. There I could probably study architecture, but I would also like to study inventing and engineering. I think I would need to go to a different college to do that. I think I could learn art in other places, but I think Cal isn't the way to go. For music, I think this one could be do with practice and the right equipment. There is one more thing I forgot to say. I would also like to study how to create video games. I know the place to work at when or if I do learn how to, and that is a place called Valve.



# Giovanni Campos

## Field Trip

My favorite field trip was the Lawrence Hall of Science. I liked all the activities that were there. They were all really fun. We saw some small animals and the view from there was really cool. I saw a cockroach, beetle, tarantula, and a gopher. I wish there were some more animals to see, but it was still cool. I liked the activity where you tried to make the ball do a loop. I liked the whale. The view was cool because you could see the whole city.

## In My Neighborhood

In my neighborhood it is very calm. There isn't a lot of stuff going on. There is a park nearby and I go to it sometimes. At the park there is a playground and a basketball court. It is very hot at night. My opinion is that my dog likes hot weather because he likes to sleep in the sun. When I go outside, I play soccer. Sometimes I play soccer with my dog. I like to play soccer in my garage with my brother. We like to slide tackle and flop in the garage.

## Poem

In the ocean there are so many crabs  
It's like a zoo.  
Too bad the ocean doesn't have giraffes  
The pollution in the ocean is like poo.  
In the ocean there is so much pollution.  
They need an appointment  
The animals can be dying  
The pollution became a disappointment  
The animals began crying

## When I Grow Up

When I grow up I want to be an engineer that makes buildings. I want to help buildings get stronger. I have always liked buildings to be stronger. I have always like designing things from blocks and Legos. I would like to build apartments. I want to go to Cal. I want to study engineering and if I could be anything else, I would like to be an engineer that makes cars. I would like to know how cars are made and how others make cars better and better. I am more interesting in buildings.  
I would like to help buildings stay up strong during earthquakes.



# Jonathan Campos



## Terrarium

I think the terrarium will be okay. Building the terrarium was a lot of fun and not that easy but some of the parts of the terrarium. The hardest part of the terrarium for me was cutting the little net with the scissors because the scissors didn't cut through. The easiest part of the terrarium was putting in the rocks. My plant was very dry, but I put too much water, so I think it might drown, but hopefully it will drink the water and stay alive.

## Poem

In the ocean there are so many animals  
I like to look at the birds  
At the ocean, I like to take Danimals  
This is my choice of words  
Seeing a whale is a rare sight.  
If you see one, remember where.  
When I saw a whale at night  
I was lucky to have a flashlight.  
I saw its teeth. It looked like hair.

## College

When I go to college, I want to study to be an engineer. I want to learn about all the jobs that an engineer does. I want to go to Cal because lots of people that I know go there. I want to be an engineer because I want to help the world and improve it. Also, I think that being an engineer would have some challenges, but that won't stop me. I mostly think that being an engineer would be fun. Being an engineer, I could help people to have a home. I could even help improve things that hold roads, so it would be a lot safer for cars to ride on. Being an engineer, I could help lots of things to be safer for everyone.





# María Isabel Contreras

## **Circulatory and Respiratory System**

The circulatory system is the way to get blood pumped throughout your body. The transportation method is your veins and the pump is your heart. You need your heart to pump the blood all the way down to your feet and to your brain. Also, you use your heart to breathe. This is part of the respiratory system, the system you use to breathe with. Something you need to know about the heart for the respiratory system is that the heart has four chambers: the right atriums, left atriums, right aorta, and left aorta. You need this to pump blood through your chest. This is also part of the respiratory system because it's part of how your transport blood through your chest, which is the circulatory system. The respiratory system has something to do with the four chambers in your heart, two chambers pump oxygen and the other two let out carbon dioxide.

## **Neighborhood**

At night you can hear the barks of dogs, the train as it moves as its destination and cars on the freeway. At night if you feel scare, don't be, because there is a fire department not too far from here. You get awake at 5 am in the morning because the train horn scares you as it drives by. You can imagine how the wind feels as it comes from the ocean. Richmond is the town where I grow up, it is bad and dangerous. Yes it is, but it is where I grow up.

## **Time Travel**

If I could travel back in time I would go to the day where I was hanging out with my friends. That day was the best because I got to spend my whole day with my girlfriends, my boyfriend and some boys that are my friends. It was the last day of school, but it was planned at the last second. My girls and I wanted to hang out but I also wanted to hang with my boys, so we just went to Tay Tan together. It was awesome. This is one day, out of every day. I would travel back to that moment. In my life of 2512 I would be out of school living the life of an adult. I would be around 20 years old. Today is the day before my cousin's quinceañera. I don't need anything. I have my dress and shoes. I don't want to paint my nails. I can't wait until I go swimming. My greatest dream is to travel the world with the love of my life (I don't know who that is) first, I want to go around California, then go up to Afghanistan then across to Maine. From there, I'll go anywhere. My dream place where I want to go to is the Bahamas and Florida. I even want to go to the Gulf of Mexico and learn how to surf so I can ride the waves. I also want to parachute out of a plane, zip line through the forests of Brazil and sleep next to the huge glaciers in the ice land. I want to float in the salt lake thing, ride the waves of Mexico, Hawaii and Florida; to hike the trails in Maine, and build snowmen in the snow of Chicago and I want to taste the "Big Apple." I want to go to Long Island and surf until the night ends. I want to travel to paradise with you. Colleges I want to go to are Miami, Santa Barbara, New York, Hawaii or Cal.

# Saira Cruz



## **Autobiography**

Once upon a time there was a girl name Saira and she was born in the hospital on October 1st, 2006. Her favorite thing to do was to draw animals and watch television. She has one brother and one sister that is 3 years old. Saira has gone to Disneyland, the lake and also the beach. Saira's favorite food is Chinese food and her favorite color is blue. Saira wants to be a doctor in the future.

## **My Neighborhood**

My Neighborhood is filled with houses, it is filled with plants. My apartment is beige and it is big. My neighbors are nice and there are a lot of cars that are parked. But there is not a lot of parking. Kids play outside my neighborhood.

## **YWF Reflection**

What I liked about this program was that we did a lot of activities. We went to a lot of field trips and we wrote a lot in this program. My favorite field trip was going to Facebook because we went to get ice cream.

I will want to come to this program next year because it is fun and we write about fun stuff and more people should come because it is fun and we do a lot of activities. Next year I will try to bring some friends and maybe it will make it more fun when we go to field trips and do activities. In the future I want to make a robot that gives you what you want or brings you food and water. What I will use to make my robot would be:

- Metal
- Electric Stuff
- Clay
- Holder for water and food
- Camera for the eyes

# Jeniffer Domínguez



## **Circulatory and Respiratory System**

The circulatory system involves the heart, veins, blood, cells, breathing and more. The circulatory system carries blood from the heart to the rest of the body. The respiratory system involves the lungs which make us breath. The respiratory system helps us breathe, in which we inhale oxygen and exhale carbon dioxide.

The respiratory system helps us exercise and do physical activities. When I did fast movements, my pulse was fast. In the slow movements, I got a slow pulse. The pulse depends on the speed of the movement.

## **Skeletal System**

Today I learned the purpose of the skeletal system. The skeletal system protects our organisms and body tissues it also gives us structure. The cranium protects the brain, the ribs protect the heart and lungs, the vertebrae protects the spinal cord, and the other bones around our body protect the different organs around our baby.

## **My Favorite Vacation**

My favorite vacation was when I went to Mexico for the first time. I was really scared because it was my first time leaving somewhere far without my parents, and it was also my first time on a plane. The reasons I went to Mexico was to meet my family, visit my grandparents, and for Las Fiestas del Pueblo. The part of Mexico I went to was Michoacan since my parents are from that state. On Friday October 16, 2015, it was time to go to Mexico. I was really nervous, but I was with some of my cousins and some of my aunts, so I was a little relaxed too. When I got on the plane, I thought it would feel weird, but it was actually pretty fun. Finally, my plane landed in Morelia, Michoacan at 6 am on Saturday October 17, 2015. My aunt and my cousin that I had already met before, picked me up at the airport. When I was at my grandma's house, I fell asleep because there were a lot of curves to get where she lives. Around 8 am, I got to my grandma's house in Zacan, Michoacan.

The first person I saw when I walked into her house was one of my cousins and my mom's sister. They were really excited to meet me. Days passed and I had fun and met a lot of my family. At nights I would hang out with my cousins and go to La Plaza. On a Wednesday, I went to visit my dad's parents in Buena Vista, Michoacan. I met my dad's sisters and more cousins. Finally on October 23, 2015, it was time to go back home. I didn't want to go back home because I had so much fun. I got home and told my parents all about it.



# Adrian Fernández

## **Terrarium Project**

My hypothesis is that the plants will probably survive with the light of the room and the water we will give them. The hardest part about making a surface for the plant was cutting a layer for separation because we could have put the whole thing in, but we had to use the bowl so we had to cut the layer in a circle. It was also hard to put all the stuff in a layer. The easiest thing was that the instructions were easy to understand and the surface of the plant was easy to make. I hope my plant can survive, if we give it water, but not drown from too much water or dehydrate from too much light and no water.

## **Earthquake in the Classroom**

What we did for the project was that we would make a structure out of toothpicks and marshmallows. The earthquake was a container filled with Jell-O. What was hard about the project was to keep the structure standing. It was hard because we knew the surface was wobbly and we had to make a good structure surface so it would stand. What was easy was that I had an idea to build a house so we built a house that will withstand an earthquake. I built a house and added two extra surfaces so it can stand and withstand an Earthquake.

## **Scale Model of the Earth**

What we did today for the project was to build a scale model of the Earth. We used red clay as the inner core. We used orange clay as the outer core and yellow clay as the mantle. We combined all our clay to make a big scale model. Our models looked like pizza. The hard part was to make the circles smaller and smaller. The easy part was that we combined all our clay to make a bigger scale model of the Earth.

## **Crissy Field**

What I expect to see tomorrow at the trip is to see a lot of animals. I hope to see and learn about new things. I want to see the bridge and the ocean. I want to learn more about how to protect the animals and also how to protect the environment. I am excited to go on my first field trip with the program. I think it is going to be fun to learn new things about nature.

What I saw yesterday was a lot of animals and bicyclists. I felt like the trip was short because we only did 2-3 things. We went hunting for crabs and our group found a really big crab. We were transported by bus to the park and back to the school. I saw a lot of dogs at the beach playing, running, and walking with their owners. I also saw a dog almost make a bicyclist fall over because the dog was going for his ball. We saw the marsh where freshwater and saltwater meet. The crabs were hiding under rocks and it was sometimes hard to see them. We saw a tiny “palm tree”. I felt and saw a lot of sand.



# Julián Fernández

## **Terrarium**

The experiment I did today was an indoor terrarium. An indoor terrarium is a miniature forest for insects. I expect my experiment to grow and the temperature to rise. I need to water my plant once every two weeks. Something that was hard was making the plant stay standing.

## **Scale Model of Earth**

We made an earth model out of clay today. I learned today that the earth has three layers. It has the mantle, the outer core, and the inner core. Every layer that you go into it gets hotter.

## **Crissy Field**

At Crissy Field we went crab hunting, played loteria, and we played a game where we had to split into three groups. You had to be either a bird, crab, or sardine. What I learned about the marsh was that different animals go to the marsh to live there. Also, the salt water and fresh water can combine to make a marsh.

## **The Human Body**

The skeletal system includes all the bones and joints in our body. The digestive system is a group of organs working together to convert food into energy. The group of organs includes the esophagus, small and large intestine, and the stomach. The respiratory system helps the human body receive a constant flow of oxygen to stay alive. The circulatory system helps transport blood and air.

## **Coke and Crackers Experiment**

The coke is absorbing the food. The coke is representing acid, the bag represents our stomach and the crackers represent food. What the coke did to the cracker was it made the cracker bigger and it left cracks in the cracker. Now I understand why you should eat more fruits.

## **Skeletal System**

The skeletal system is made up of bones, muscles, and joints. The skeletal system's function is to protect all of our organs. It is important to have joints because without any joints you will be as still as a statue.

## **Fascinating Friction**

Today I learned about friction. Friction is when two things rub together. I learned that friction slows you down. I know this because of my tutor and because we did a project with two blocks of wood, wax paper, and oil. The blocks represent bones, the wax paper represents cartilage and the oil represents synovial fluid. I learned that when you put a little oil or synovial fluid on the cartilage it made it go slow and if you put more synovial fluid on the cartilage and rub it more the block of wood would go faster.



# Noelia Gil

## Sonnet

I feel like a tree,  
Being like a bee.  
In the tree,  
Having a little key.  
Being free.  
In the sky as high as a little flee.  
Being easy to catch, so someone can be free  
On the ocean sea,  
Sitting right next to me.  
On the ocean sea.

## Terrarium

I expect my plant's temperature to increase. My experiment went well. We did a terrarium. A terrarium is like a habitat for small plants. For example, it is like an aquarium for little sea creatures and small weeds and plants. The terrarium had a little succulent inside, dry soil, little and big rocks, and a little bit of burlap. They need very little water. When we come in every day we will check for any temperature changes.

## Circulatory and Respiratory System

The circulatory system is a system that includes your blood vessels. The blood vessels you have are capillaries, arteries and veins. The circulatory system also includes your heart, breathing, blood, cells etc. The heart is a vital organ made of cardiac muscle and acts like a pump. The circulatory system includes all of these vital organs, systems and things. It is also the system where stuff goes in and out of your body as it circulates blood.

The respiratory system is a system that helps you breathe. It includes your lungs, breathing, and your diaphragm. Your diaphragm is underneath the heart and lungs. You breathe in oxygen and you breathe out carbon dioxide. Plants give us oxygen so we should take care of the plants. Respiratory means breathing, so the respiratory system helps us breathe. It is a group or set of vital organs that help us breathe including the lungs, diaphragm, our nose and heart.



## Diana González

### **Sonnet**

Snowflakes fall from the sky  
They are beautiful going down  
I watch them go by  
They have a silent sound  
Airplanes fly high  
They go up into the clouds  
People fall and die  
The engine can be loud

### **Earthquake in the Classroom**

My “building” was two cubes with slanted roofs. It survived the “earthquake”. I thought if building the structure that way because they told us to do a cube, so I started to build a cube. Then I thought to make it like a

house, so I made a slanted roof. It looked to simple, so I decided to make another cube side by side, to the first one. I made another roof on the top of that. It looked tiny compared to the others. When I tested it, I thought it was going to fall, but it didn’t and it stayed in place. There were a lot of people who made sustainable buildings. When we were all done, they started passing spoons to eat the jello. While they were competing the jello was already melting. It got all liquidy.

### **Crissy Field**

Yesterday was windy and kind of cold. When we were on the bus, it had cool air conditioning and when we got to the place and got off it got colder. At first, it wasn’t that cold but then it started getting chillier. People who worked at Crissy Field, started telling us about the place. Then, we played a game. We were either a crab, heron or a sardine. They called out low tide, high tide, windy, construction, or restoration. If you were a crab and they called low tide, then you would go fast. If you were a heron and they called windy, then you would go fast. If you were sardine and they called a high tide, then you would go fast. If they called construction, then we all go slowly. If they say restoration we all go fast. If they called something for an animal like windy, heron goes fast and the other go slow. Same with the other animals. Our goal was to go to this dirt path. After that, they split us up into two groups. I stayed with my cousins Pablo and Isabel. We went with one of the ladies who worked there. We split into smaller groups. I was a lonely because I wasn't with my cousins. We played a big version of loteria. We tried to find things like a bike, a pelican, a dog, flowers, seagulls, a wind sock, barnacles, waves and I think there was something else. After that game, we went down to where the rocks were, to looks for crabs. Some people held the crabs from the back because if you hold it from the front, it will pinch you. Some people got scared of the crabs and threw them in the water. My cousins and I tried to catch the crabs but they were too fast and i'm pretty sure they were scared to hold one. Then we went to go eat lunch in the beach. I laid my sweater down and sat on it. Sand got in my water bottle and my sandwich was squished.



# Marco Guerrero

## Poem

I am from soccer and drawing.  
I am from the roses that smell good.  
I am from my dad Manuel and my mom Erika.  
From: *“ve a dormir and vente a comer”*.  
I am from family, friends and futbol.  
I am the best!

## Terrarium

Today, I was planting a plant. First, we had a little bowl and we put some pebbles, then we had this like-cloth thing and we put it on top of the pebbles. After that, we put soil and then we planted our plant. Finally, we put some rocks and pebbles around the plant so it could stay straight. I liked the whole experiment.

## Earthquakes in the Classroom

Today, we were doing an experiment. We had some marshmallows and some toothpicks. I made this kind of house and when I finished I put toothpicks and a marshmallows touching the table, so it could stay straight. Then, there was a tray with Jell-O inside and we put our structure we made. Then, we shake the tray and we saw if it fall. When all of us finished we were watching some of the kids shaking their structures they made and I did it too. Mine did not fall but about 2-3 kids' houses fell. It was still really fun!

## Autobiography

I am Marco Guerrero. I am 10 years old. I was born on July 6th, 2006. My favorite hobbies are playing soccer, going to other places and drawing. My favorite food is pizza and *carnitas* that my uncle cooking. My favorite color is blue and white. I am on a soccer team. I will like to be a soccer player when I grow up. I have a sister that is 6 years old. My family is nice to me. My favorite sports are soccer and basketball but I like soccer more. My favorite soccer player is Lionel Messi. My favorite soccer team is Mexico and FC Barcelona.

## Engineering of the Earth

Today, we were making an experiment of a landscape. There was this plain cardboard that was white and we needed to have mountains, valley and a river. First, Andrea and I were making 2 mountains. Then, I was making like this bridge so people could cross the water. My group finished, we saw what there was on our landscape. We had two mountains, a river, 2 houses, a canyon, animals and a little bridge. They were all amazing! We continued our project from yesterday but we put more structures. First, Andrea and I made a tunnel, a road and we also made a bridge that crosses the ocean. We also made lights, trees and some more animals.



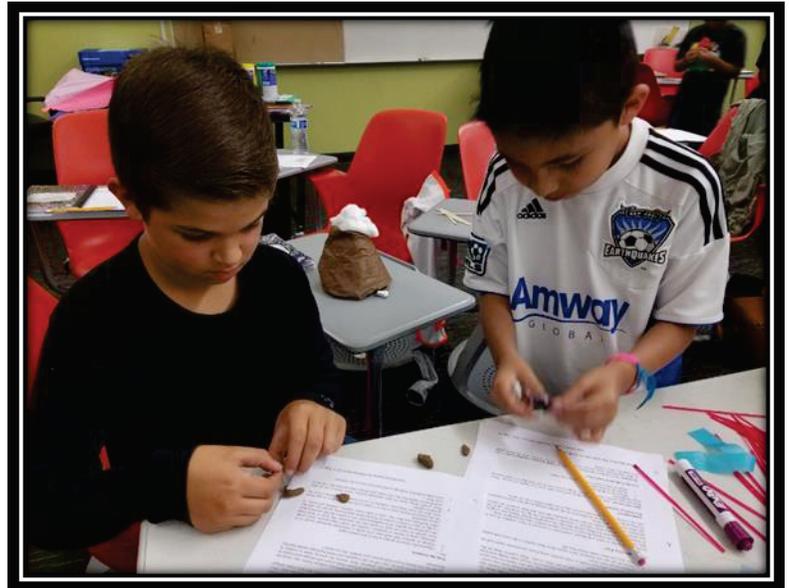
# Julián Felipe Gutiérrez

## Field Trip

At Crissy Field we went crab hunting and learned about the different animals that live or visit the marsh. I learned that the marsh is fresh water and salt water come together. There were many animals at the marsh: tadpoles, pelicans, black birds and dogs. I also saw barnacles, people, trees, the fog and a helicopter. We all played a game pretending to be either birds, crabs or sardines.

## The Human Body

We learned about the 5 systems: skeleton, digestive, respiratory, circulatory and the immune system. I was glad to find out how important is to have joints in our fingers, toes, knees and shoulders. When two things rub together it creates friction. I did an experiment with blocks of wood, wax paper and oil. I observed that friction slowed things down and the oil made things go faster.





# Darío Guzmán

## **Sonnet**

I like turtles  
They can swim fast  
Ones called Murtles  
If I chase them I come in last

## **Earthquake in the Classroom**

I decided to make a pentagon base because it's less susceptible to falling than a square base. I stuck about five marshmallows into one toothpick. Then I poked toothpicks into the marshmallows then put marshmallows into those toothpicks. At the end it looked like a jumble of

## **Crissy Field**

First, we left on a half an hour bus ride to Crissy Field. When we got there we played crabs, birds and fishes. After that we walked around as they told us about plant and wildlife there. Then we inspected rocks looking for crabs. When we did that, I found one five inches big. A few dead ones were white and turned upside down. After that was lunch and I went passed the fence and sat down. There, I ate my lunch.

## **Autobiography**

I was born on March 11, 2005. But before I get into my life, let me tell you how my parents got to America. After my grandmother and grandfather crossed the border, my mom was born in California. But since my grandparents were illegal, they were deported six months after my mom was born. When my mom was about five years old, she and her younger brother and younger sister and her parents crossed the border again. A few years later she had another brother. I don't know how my dad got to America, but I know he crossed the border with five other siblings. When my parents married, they had my sister. Then four years later, they had my brother. Then six years later, they had me. Now at age eleven, I'm going into middle school. I like to skateboard. I like exploring the wilderness. I like reading fantasy books. They're my favorite. I also like video games, board games, and card games. I like role-playing games, and I especially love art and music. I was very attentive in my classes and every time I took a test.

## **My Neighborhood**

In my neighborhood, I wake up to the darkness of my room and the smell of smoke. But when I smell smoke, I either think of barbecue or I think of my mom cooking something good. After I'm awake, I step out of the house for a brief moment and just listen. I hear crows and cars and the nice sound of the wind. Then I turn around and walk into my blue house



## Sofia Harris

### **Terrarium**

Today I made a plant thing in a bowl, which was quite a challenge in my opinion. Although it was difficult, it turned out pretty, besides the mossy stuff. What was most challenging was getting my nails dirty. That was a sorry sight. Also, filling the bowl with soil was also hard to do. I practically coated the desk with soil. It's a shame these plants will most likely die. We're keeping them indoors without the soft touch of the sun. Not only that but it will probably dry up without water. The only thing they have is a butterfly, a fake plastic butterfly. May these plants, rest in peace.

### **Reflection**

My plant is a survivor, not to brag. Everyone else's plants were pretty dry. My plant looked good as new. Nothing changed.

### **Earthquake**

I made a structure out of yummy marshmallows and toothpicks. The biggest challenge was building them without eating any, which failed. The other difficult thing was keeping my structure up, which also failed. In conclusion, I failed this experiment, this delicious experiment.

### **Crissy Field - Expectation**

Tomorrow I'm going to Crissy Field. I expect to see lots of crawlies, birds, shells and maybe bunnies and I'm hoping to see lots of shells and snakes. I hope not see any bugs, but I know I will.

### **Science**

Science is the intellectual and practical activity covering the systematic study of the structure and behavior of the physical and natural world through observation and experience. Science is experimenting with things and inventing stuff.

### **Poem**

The soft tweets of birds bring out the good in nature  
The slimy snails maybe not so much.  
To keep my mind off them, I sometimes draw a pretty Easter.  
But if a crawlie appears, I'll always give a vicious punch.

### **Freewrite: "If I could be a superhero"**

If I were a superhero, I'd be an evil one. I'd steal candy from See's Candy. My name would be Sofia. My powers would be invisibility, flight, weather control, and all the powers. I'd be that because it's full of candy.

**Immune System** I think the immune system is the system in our body that fights all viruses, sicknesses, unnecessary germs, and all the other things our body needs to keep out. I'm not sure, but I think it might also balance germs in our body.



# AdriánAntonio Hernández

## **Sonnet**

Our group learned about the Earth.  
We all like nature.  
We drove to the north.  
Nature has more than one creature.  
My brother is as light as a feather.  
He brought a potion into the ocean.  
So he always gets blown by the weather.

## **Terrarium**

I liked doing that science project today. First, I thought that putting the rocks and the cloth was easy.

I have a question, why did we do this science project? Second, I thought putting the dirt into the bowl was challenging to me but I like doing challenging activities. Next, I had a great time trying to make the succulent plant stand up, just like I said I love challenging things. Almost done, I think that it was creepy that turtles, amphibians, snakes, and lizards can live in terrariums. Last, I thought it looked pretty when it was done. It had pebbles, cloth, soil, more pebbles, the succulent plants, rocks a fake butterfly and we/I put it into a bowl and that's how you get the pretty plant. I think that the project was OUTSTANDING! You should try it sometime, too.

## **YWF Reflection**

My experience of the whole program was one of the best. First, my favorite field trip was to the Laurence Hall of Science. I like it because you saw some living bugs, you could make a little dam with boards in the water. You could play with a little sized version of the world and the solar system. You could experience how it is to have lizard claws that was the best field trip I had in this entire program. Next, my favorite project was the earthquake in the classroom because you have to make a structure of marshmallows and out of toothpicks. After that, I liked it because I had the best tutor ever, Andrea. When we needed help she helped us and she was always nice. She is a really great artist. I think she will be one of the best artist ever in the world. My grandma was the director of the program. Last, I liked the program because my younger brother comes here too. He was one of my friends here but I have a lot more friends which I love playing with them and spending time with them. This is my experience of the summer program.

## **Autobiography**

I am Adrian Antonio Hernandez, I was born in America. My hobby is to play basketball. My favorite food is mango and raspberry sorbet. I have one pet, he is a bunny. I have two brothers. I am the oldest in the family. I want to go to UC Berkeley when I grow up. My birthday is on April 18th, 2007.

# Ami Alexander Hernández



## **“I am from...”**

I am in second grade.  
I am a boy.  
I love to go to the pool.  
I love pizza.  
I love bunnies.  
I love Santa.  
I love the YWF.  
I love my family.  
I love to draw.  
I love the Earth.  
I am from California.  
I love my life.  
I love cake.

## **Crissy Field**

Yesterday was amazing. We went crab hunting at Crissy Field. We played a game where you had to spot everything that was on the map. We ate on the beach. Brandon played fetch with a golden retriever and he threw the ball into the water. Jonathan got splashed by a big wave.

## **Scale Model of the Earth Reflection**

I learned about the Earth. The first layer is the inner core. The second layer is the outer core. The third layer is the mantle.

## **Digestive System (crackers and coke Reflection)**

It looks like barf. It smells like barf. The coke is acid and crackers are food. The bag is the stomach in the digestive system.

## **My Life**

I am 7 years old. My birthday is on December 8th, 2008. I have 2 brothers. I go to school at Hidden Valley Elementary. My classroom number is H4. I like playing with my toys and my Legos. I like playing Lego city with my brother. I love to feed my baby brother treats. I love to sleep over at my Grandma’s house. I love to play with her dog.

## **Beats per Minute**

The least amount was 35. The most amount was 96. The bridge was just on the floor, so my heart didn’t beat more.



# Anahy Macías

## **Earthquake in the Classroom**

I think this project was exciting. When we first started this project it seemed really fun. In my opinion to make it better I could have added other things to it. Moreover this project helped me with: Crafting and use of imagination. When crafting my structure and imaging it inside the Jello, without knowing, I made a heart. It was also fun creating it because you did not know if it was going to fall or survive, when you left it in the Jello or when you started shaking it. When I was making the marshmallow craft I thought that it was going to fall and break apart. But, to my amazement it stayed up within the earthquake.

## **Time Machine**

I can still remember how I traveled back in time. It started when I was in my room reading a book. An hour later I went to the back of my room and started to wonder how it would be going back in time to a different century. I became interested in this idea that my thoughts kept drifting to an imaginative past. So just right there, I closed my eyes and started to wonder even more about it. I opened my eyes and I was in a dark place. There was nowhere to look.

## **Autobiography**

My name is Anahy Pamela Macias Mandujano. I was born on 2006 in a hospital in California. One of my favorite things to do is to go outside my house and read a book next to my plant. Another thing I like doing is watering the plants. Of course playing with my table at home in my sofa too. My favorite colors are sky blue, nova white and sugar plum. My favorite thing to eat is pizza and I love eating it. When I grow up I would like to help the kids who have cancer or have any other problem with their health. I would like to help kids who have cancer so I am able to see them run, laugh hear them saying bye when getting out of the hospital. I am not sure how many siblings I have but I can say there are about 23. My family are my mom, dad, brother and me. Most people tell me I look like my mom and my brother like my dad. Other people say that my brother looks just like me when I was little. I used to have 5 fishes but all of them are dead by now. I also play an instrument and I love it.

## **Engineering for the Earth**

Earth works are engineering works created through the moving or processing of parts of the earth's surface involving quantities of formed or unformed rock. For me engineering for the earth means to fix things in other words to repair something. Something that is broken or in bad conditions and I have been to valleys rivers and also I have been to the hill.



# Angeles Márquez

## Terrarium

I had fun making the terrarium. The rocks were the ones that were easy. I will plant food just like my grandpa.

## Free write

I want to see all the plants then have some of my food too. I think I want to see a plant that can help I don't want to see a skunk

## Crissy Field

I see the dog when he runs in the water and I did the same thing. I see the water. I see the sun. When I see them both I feel love. Then I was looking for crabs. They are so cool, but they are sad too.

## Poem

Science is the Sun  
Science is the sky  
Science are our birds  
Science is the WORLD!

## YWF Reflection

What I like about the program was that we get to do a lot of fun! I like that we get to have a lot of fun on field trips and I like that we are able to have fun writing. My favorite activity was making a terrarium, because we get to take it home. I like the Earthquakes in the Classroom activity, because we learned and got to eat Jell-O. I also liked the Balloon-Powered Car activity, but my car only moved a little.

## Field Trips

My favorite field trip was to the Lawrence Hall of Science, because there were many cool things to do. I particularly liked that there was a big ball and an iPad that helped you identify different things in the sky.



# Marisol Martínez

## **Sonnet about the Our Fieldtrip**

We all like nature.  
We drove to the north.  
Nature has more than one creature.  
We went to Crissy Field.  
We all saw the ocean.  
Holding your breath under a tunnel was easy.  
Looking at the ocean made you want to put on lotion.  
There were a lot of seagulls,  
small, small crabs  
Maybe small eagles.  
There were a lot of flags.

## **Digestive System and Health**

The organs and glands in the body that are responsible for digesting. The digestive system begins with the mouth and extends through the esophagus, stomach, small and large intestine.  
Health is the state on been free from illness or injury.

## **Terrarium**

Today, the activity was to make a plant home and see how much the plant grow and changes. First, we got a small fish bowl and put some pebbles in it to just cover up the bottom, then we put some tarp on the pebbles and we had to cut the tarp for it to fit in the bowl. We had to add a little dirt and make a hole for the plant, and the teacher Ms. Andrea gave us our succulent. We put it in the hole and then put more soil to cover the tarp. Then, I put pebbles around the sides and some dry grass around the pebbles. We put a little butterfly and finally I was done.

## **Scale Model of the Earth**

Today we made model replicas of the earth. The inner core was red and boiling hot and it is 13,000 Fahrenheit. The outer core is yellow and the crust was orange. People lived on the crust. Park rangers came from Crissy Field and talked about marsh, salt water and fresh water. They showed how the marsh absorbs the water and they showed how Crissy Field was just cement.



# Brenda Monroy

## **Oceanography Poem**

When I was at Crissy Fields, I felt free.  
I wanted to climb a tree.  
The waves had a lot of commotion.  
The wind showed its emotion.

We didn't get hurt.  
There was a lot of dirt.  
There wasn't any frying.  
Lucky for us there wasn't any crying.

There were a lot of creatures.  
We didn't know we could be  
there in our futures.  
We saw the ocean.  
We used lotion.

## **Terrarium**

First, we had to put five things into the bowls. I think the plants are going to die because the temperature in this room might be too cold or hot for them to grow. I think we should add water because without water they won't grow enough. The plants look pretty with the butterfly because with the butterfly, the plant has more greenery. Why did we have to put rocks on the bottom of the bowl?

## **Observation**

I saw that my plant was very dry, but now it's not because I added water. I think it's going to grow now, but it still needs sunlight and air. I noticed when I put the water in, the plant sunk a little, so now it looks smaller.

## **Mountain Scale Model Project**

I think it's important to build a model because later on someone would put a road in front of the two mountains. What I would have done differently with our scale model is that I would have put sticks under the road so it wouldn't look so simple. I would have put green tissue paper around the trees and put brown clay around the straws so it could look more like a tree. I would have put bluer tissue paper around the board to look like there was a lot of melted snow. I would also put a strip of blue on the mountains so it would look like the snow actually melted and formed a river.



# Brandon Monroy

## **Digestive System: Crackers and Coke Reflection**

I mixed the coke and crackers. It smells like cookies. It looks like barf. We were pretending that it was the stomach.

## **The Skeletal System**

I learned that there are joints in my body like the hinge joint, the sliding joint, and the ball and socket joint. And, if we don't have bones, we would be a blob like Jell-O. Cartilage disappears when you grow older and that's why you need canes.

## **Crissy Field**

I saw crabs and I saw dogs. I did crab hunting and I saw the big ocean. I ate at the beach and I played at the beach. I got stabbed by a rock or a crab, when we were crab hunting. I saw dog dig and it was very easy for dogs to dig. It was boring because they told us stories and we didn't do anything fun except for that crab hunt we did. I played fetch with a dog. I threw the ball as far as I could in the water.

I was in San Francisco. It was not scary when we went through the Golden Gate Bridge. And I learned that the water below the Golden Gate Bridge is called the Golden Gate. I saw a whale when we were at the Golden Gate Bridge, and I saw two prisons. And I think it was Alcatraz and some other prison. I didn't know there were prisons in San Francisco. If my dog was there she would have bitten the other people and eaten everybody's lunches. She would also fight with other dogs. My dog is a pit bull mixed with a husky. She does bite if you kick her and if she wants to play, she will jump on you. My dog is called Balyin and she likes to play.

## **The Skeletal System**

I learned that there are joints in my body like the hinge joint, the sliding joint, and the ball and socket joint. And, if we don't have bones, we would be a blob like Jell-O. Cartilage disappears when you grow older and that's why you need canes.

## **Park Field Trip**

I went to a park. At the beginning, we played a soccer game and we lost. Then we ate our lunch. At the end, we took pictures and we left, and here I am writing this. After this, we are going to eat popsicles. I only drank water for lunch.



## Brayan Monroy

### **Sonnet of Oceanography**

Megacolons are big but not like you  
Squid is bad for you if you are attacked,  
You are doomed and must run for some help.  
The ocean is fun to study sometimes.

### **Digestive System Experiment**

When I was doing my coca cola and crackers  
experiment, the acid of the cola was burning it and  
made it all soggy. When I smashed it it looked like my  
dogs skin. It was so cool. I must admit it smelled kind  
of good

### **Circulatory System**

#### **(6 new things that I learned today)**

1. The heart is like a pump pumping oxygen but pumps blood.
2. If someone is choking you because your wind pipe is in the center, we can't breathe while they choke us.
3. Arteries are like blood vessels.
4. Veins are those blueish-red things behind your hand.
5. Capillaries are tiny things you can't see.
6. When you breathe in you inhale oxygen or O<sub>2</sub> and when you breathe out (exhale) you blow CO<sub>2</sub> or Carbon Dioxide.

### **Immune System**

I think the immune system is a thing that fights off infections. If you had the flu it tries to fight it off. If the white blood cells lose, the person gets the flu. But there is another way to be safe. The doctors must inject the flu shot in to your arm so the infection gives up. I think that is what the immune system does in our body. And it gives the white blood cells more power.

### **The Skeletal System**

The skeletal system is the bones. For example your rib cage holds the organ up so you won't feel any pain. You see it's what makes you a human. The skeleton is the one to shape you. And if you went on those bungee balls and went all the way up. That will make you die without skeleton.

### **Buildings**

I think engineers have to build models so we can eat in it, so we can sit in it, so we can live in it, so we can stand on it. There are so many needs to building models. I think that's why engineers have to build models and do stuff within them. Even though it might be hard because you might get kicked out of your house. Well that's where work comes in, engineers must create stores and parks so people can work in them to help society out.



## Leslie Orozco

### Sonnet

I had a tasty  
Pastry  
At the park  
With my friend named Mastry  
When I was sleepy  
I met a guy  
Who was very creepy?  
And he asked for my leaky container  
Jenny introduced me to her brother  
Who had a turtle?  
Its name was Lenny  
He bit my nose "ow"  
I ate ice cream  
While I watched scream

### Crissy Field

I learned Crissy Field used to be an airplane landing a plane. I also learned what a marsh is and how it helps us and many other living things in Crissy Field. I also learned how to play a new game with just animal card which was actually pretty fun and I enjoyed it. I'm excited to go tomorrow and see what there is.

### Circulatory and Respiratory Systems

The circulatory system is what distributes blood all over your body from your heart. The respiratory system is what brings oxygen into your lungs so that you are able to breathe in oxygen and breathe out carbon dioxide. When this happens, plants can produce glucose and go through the process of photosynthesis so that plants are able to produce oxygen for us to live off of.

### Autobiography

My name is Lesslie Orozco and my birthday is May 2. I was born in 2003 and my zodiac sign is a Taurus. I am a second child and I am the youngest. I have an older sister named Juana and she is 15 years old. I also have a Shih Tzu named Bailey who is 2 years old. I have two major ethnicities being Mexican and American, but a small part of me is from Spain. I like to do gymnastics even though I stopped going to classes, and I like to listen to music. I have 3 best friends and their names are Ariana, Bianca, and Luna. I get along the best with Ariana and I've known her since 2nd grade. We've been best friends for 7 years counting this one, but we don't go to the same school anymore which is awful but I still see her. I have a scar next to my eye and a lot of people ask me what happened. So if you wanted to know, I was climbing some concrete stairs, my left arm slipped and I fell and well now I have a scar because I didn't get stitches. I've lived in the bay area my whole life and I would like to travel a little more, but I really like it here. Anyways, I hope you enjoyed learning a little about. That's all, thank you!

# Gabriel Lopez Ortiz



## **Autobiography**

Hi my name is Gabriel and when I was 10 months old I hit my brother. And when I was 2 years old I played and watched television. I was born on July 25th, 2006. I love to watch TV with my dad and I like to play tag with my mother. I also like to play video games with my brother. I like to eat everything but my favorite food is the food my family and I make. I have two friends and my favorite things to do with them is to sleep, to play outside, play with my nerf guns, video games and Legos. I started to cook when I was four years old and I still cook. I like to cook sushi, tortas, guacamole, pupusas, pizza, and everything else. My favorite thing to do in the kitchen is to invent foods like sauces, sandwiches, and other things. I want to learn about Star Wars because we are making lightsabers to play and they could buy us some NERF guns to decorate them to play. Then I can break it down to see all the technology and how far we they go and how strong it is.

## **My neighborhood**

In my neighborhood and my house when we have a guest in our house we greet them and then they are part of my family. I like to play with my family Pirates vs. Swat and we are the spicy family because we eat anything spicy like Valentina, Cholula, and Siracha.

## **YWF Reflection**

Two things I liked about this program were the field trips and the mentors. I liked the first two field trips because we were in nature. I liked the Crissy Field trip because we got to go crabbing and see lots of birds. I liked the last two field trips because they were about technology and we had really yummy snacks. I liked the mentors because they were really fun and brought a lot of goodies to the field trip. I like Monique she is unique!

I would come back next year because we had fun field trips. We also had really good mentors that who were fun and brought good snacks. I really liked this program because I love writing. I got to write a lot of stories and talk about my life. I would also come back because I love making new friends. I would recommend this program to my friends because they really need to work on their writing and make new friends.

# Armando Pantoja



## **YWF Reflection**

I liked the program because people are really nice and because we do a lot of work. I like it because we write and do a lot of fun stuff. Breaks are fun, we play soccer and Frisbee. I liked when we built cars, and when we made blood because we studied cells and made it fun. I still have my experiment. My favorite field trip that we went to was Barracuda Networks. My favorite thing there was the talking box. I really liked the different phrases that it said. Next time I would like to build a car to get more practice with engineering. I didn't just like this program, I loved it! I really wish I could come back next year. Next time I would like to write more and go to more field trips because they are fun! This program is the best program! I will always remember everyone.

## **Autobiography**

Hi! I'm Armando. I like pizza and I also enjoy stuff about the world. I was born in 2008. My full name is Armando Pantoja Hernandez. My

favorite thing to do is going in the pool. I like to practice my swimming there. I also like to drink juice. My favorite juice is watermelon. I love to play puzzles! My favorite types of puzzles are map puzzles because they help you learn about the area. I also like video games. My favorite video games are Pac-Man, Fifa 15, and Super Smash Bros. My favorite subject in school is science! I love science class because we get to do activities and learn about new and interesting things. I am looking forward to being in the 3rd grade because I want to make new friends and learn about new things! I like oranges, apples, and watermelon and I like to mix them together to make some yummy juice.

## **Facebook**

Yesterday we visited Facebook. I went with my brother Jesus, and my mom, and the rest of the class. I was really, really excited because I thought there was going to be videogames there. I liked Facebook because we had ice cream, and it was really, really cool inside and outside. Facebook is like a small city. There are little restaurants, some of them are free and some of them are not free. There are bicycles and skateboards to go from one place to another. There are buildings, trees, plants, and bees. Facebook is not only work but there is also breaks and fun time. At Facebook you can get money if you work hard and fast. We learned a lot about Facebook and I would like to work there in the future. I love this Program. Thank you everybody in this Program for teaching us!

# Jesus Pantoja



## **Autobiography**

Hi my name is Jesus and I am 9 years old. I play soccer, baseball, football, and tennis. I even met Buster Posey. He is a famous player from the Giants! I also got to go to the stadium. It looks cool when you're inside a stadium. Other things that I did was when I got my first xbox 360 I was so excited. I automatically started playing the xbox then my dad brought other games that I liked. There were gun games that I loved there. Another thing that I did was when I got my first computer, I did not know how to use it. I figured out how to use a computer now that was fun.

## **YWF Reflection**

My first thing that I liked was when we went to Facebook. Everything was free. Another thing that I liked about this Program is when I felt the little baby crab and we did a lot of fun activities, experiments, soccer, and more.

I think I will come back next year because the field trips were fun and I learned a lot here. Many people say the people who work at Facebook don't want to live there. They want to live there because all the food is free. They want to build a hotel. I also want to work there because they pay you \$10,000. I will also tell people to come to the Youth Writing Festival. If I came back, I will work on engineering and technology because you could make a lot of cool things like robots. It would be amazing if a robot could clean your house.

## **Crissy Fields**

I think we are going to see a coyote and the Golden Gate Bridge as well. We are also going to see the Pacific Ocean and rivers, lakes, and more. There are going to be birds, not like the ones that live here. There are going to be more different species, and it's better. Where we are going it's going to be different. The plants are going to be different from Redwood City. They are different looking from our plants.

## **Time Machine**

(I will travel all the way to 2000 year so then I could see how much technology there could be. The airplanes would fly by themselves, there would be flying cars, the kids would learn more and the people wouldn't fight. The robots will.



# Jackie Peña

## **The Human Body**

We learned about all the systems that we the human body has: nervous system, skeletal system, respiratory system, digestive system and immune system. The nervous system is the system in your body that has all our nerves. The skeletal system is what protects your organs. It also gives you structure. The organs in the skeletal system are: cartilage, muscles, tendons, and ligaments. The major organs are bones and joints. The respiratory system is what lets you breathe. The main organs are the heart and the lungs. When you breathe, you breathe in oxygen and let out carbon dioxide. The digestive system is what lets you digest food. The immune system is what helps you not get sick.

## **Circulatory and Respiratory System**

The heart is like a pump in your body. It moves your blood inside your body. It is made out of cardiac muscle. The lungs are next to the heart. The lungs are what lets you breathe. You breathe in oxygen and let out carbon dioxide.

## **YWF Reflection**

What I liked about the program was that it is only three hours long. Also that there are field trips. I didn't like that we had to be in groups. I want to learn more about animals. I also liked that this program is the whole summer long and how we have a break in the middle of the day.

## **Autobiography**

My name is Jacqueline Pena. I am eleven years old. My favorite food is tamales. Some of the things I like to do are play soccer with my friends, be with my friends, be with my family and use my electronics. I like to be with my family because they are nice to me, they care for me and they are always there for me. When I grow up, I would like to go to UC Berkeley. I would like to be a computer engineer or an engineer who focuses on technology.

## **In my Neighborhood**

I live by 17th street. My neighborhood is really noisy. I hear loud cars passing by. Sometimes at night, I hear fireworks. Sometimes in the middle of the day I hear lawn mowers, the police, ambulance or firefighters. Other times I hear cars beeping. My neighborhood has a school nearby. My neighbors are nice. My mom and dad talk to them sometimes. These are the reasons why my neighborhood is really noisy.



## Arturo Pérez

### Crissy Field Reflection

In Crissy Field, I saw crabs and we ate in the sand and people got wet when they were in the water. The water was cold so some people didn't go inside the water. Eimi and I got distracted by the dog and we also saw a humongous wave. It got on my shoes and on my pants. Then I put sand on my pants and the sand got stuck to my pants and sand got in my shoes and my plastic bag. I had an apple and some Finding Dory gummies. I also had a bottle of orange juice and Esmeralda, Noelia, and I found 20 baby crabs and the baby crabs were so cute. We played a game and it was fun because some people had to be a fish and the other people had to be a bird and the other people had to be a crab. Brandon was throwing the ball and the ball landed in the water and the dog got the ball.

### The Skeletal System

What I learned is that the bone can connect too many things. What I also learned is that the cartilage helps bones move more easily. What I also learned is that babies have more bones than adults. The action that best describes me is running because in soccer you have to run a lot. Another action that describes me is jumping because at my house I jump a lot while playing with my friends.

### Carve the Mountain Project

It was hard to put the bridge together because it was very wiggly. It would not stand up so we had to put the tape on the clay, and after we had built the bridge, we covered the tape so we can show that we did not use tape. It would not be safe to use the bridge in real life because if people made a turn, the car would start to fall down and the bridge will start to fall down too. That's why our bridge is not very safe to drive on, especially when it is raining, because the car will fall over.





# Jonathan Piedra

## **The Circulatory System**

I learned that the three parts are heart, blood, and blood vessels. There are three blood vessels. The first one is arteries. The second one is veins. The third one is capillaries.

## **Beats per Minute**

I know that sit-ups are the least because you have to go back and forth. I know that running is the most because your heart goes faster. When your heart goes faster and faster, you breathe faster.

## **Digestive System**

First, we put the crackers.

Second, we put the soda in the bag.

Third, we shook it.

Fourth, we did it for two minutes.

Fifth, it looks like baby food.

## **Crissy Field**

In Crissy Field, I saw crabs and we ate in the sand and people got wet when they were in the water. The water was cold so some people didn't go inside the water. Eimi and I got distracted by the dog and we also saw a humongous wave. It got on my shoes and on my pants. Then I put sand on my pants and the sand got stuck to my pants and sand got in my shoes and my plastic bag. I had an apple and some Finding Dory gummies. I also had a bottle of orange juice and Esmeralda, Noelia, and I found 20 baby crabs and the baby crabs were so cute. We played a game and it was fun because some people had to be a fish and the other people had to be a bird and the other people had to be a crab. Brandon was throwing the ball and the ball landed in the water and the dog got the ball.

## **Carve the Mountain Project**

We built a bridge because it would look fantastic and so it can go around the whole entire mountain. To build the bridge, we used black paper to make it look like a rocks and we crumbled it to make it look like real rocks. We pretended that the cotton balls were fake snow, and we put different animals in the water and in the grass. We used the Popsicle sticks to lift up the whole entire road and used a lot of tape to make the road stand up. We put some snow on the rocks, the grass, and the top of the mountain and also one in the water. We also put some rope on the bridge. It isn't safe on the road because the bridge doesn't have bars so the cars will fall and they will get eaten up by sharks.



# Esmeralda Piedra

## **I am from...**

I am from two loving parents  
That love me even when I am bad.  
They hug me when I'm sad,  
And support me even when they are working,  
They kiss me before leaving to work,  
And kiss me when they get home.  
They go with me to field trips,  
And support me with my writing,  
Good education and be happy.  
That they can come to  
They want me to get a  
Good education and be happy.

## **Terrarium**

The experiment that I did today was awesome. We got to do a terrarium, a miniature forest for fake insects or flowers. First, we had to grab a fish bowl. Next, you pour a layer of small gravel in the bottom of the fish bowl. Then, you cut a piece of burlap that is just a little bit smaller than the bowl and lay it on top of the gravel. Also, you put a plant in the middle and cover it with a little soil around. Last, you put gravel on top of the soil to decorate. Finally, you cut out pieces of the moss out in free form, natural shapes. Then, you add in smooth rocks and add a fake butterfly in and you are done. I expect the plant's temperature to increase.

## **Earthquake in Classroom**

The step you do first is grab a bag of 30 marshmallows and 30 toothpicks. Next, you stick the toothpicks and marshmallows together to make a cube, a 3D shape that can stand up. Then, you stick a triangle at the top of the cube and attach it with another triangle at the other side. Last, you attach another cube and triangle to the first one. Finally, you get a tray of jell-o and place it in the middle and shake the tray to see if the building stays standing or falls. I am worried that the jell-o is going to crack and my building will fall. My marshmallow building didn't stand up; it fell down, because the jell-o cracked. If I had other materials to build this, I would use cotton balls because they are lighter and colorful.

## **I am Esmeralda**

I was born in Stockton, but I grew up in Richmond. I have two siblings, a boy that is almost eight and a girl that is almost three. When I grow up I want to go to UC Berkeley. My favorite food is spaghetti. My hobbies are art, reading, and science. I love art because you get to show your creativity. I love reading because you learn new words and your brain gets stronger. I love science because you can learn things about your body to keep you healthy. My parents were born in Acambaro, Guanajuato, Mexico. My grandparents come to visit sometimes. My mom's mom finally got her permission and came on Friday, July 8, 2016. I had never met her so this was the first time to see her. My auntie also came with her and she comes almost every single year so I see her a lot.

# Juan Revuelta



## **Autobiography**

Hi my name is Juan and I am nine years old. When I grow up I want to work to be a soccer player. After that I want to work for Barracuda Networks. After this I just want to build robots and robots. I have two sisters and my parents. Right now I am going to this program. My favorite color is blue. The street that I live in is a pretty lonely street. There is no action there because it is really lonely.

## **Respiratory System and Heartbeats**

The longer the activity the more heartbeats you get. I also learned what is inside our blood. It is red cells and white cells. The digestive system is where some of the food dies/ stays and some goes out and it turns into poop.

## **Time Machine**

If I had a time machine I would go to 1894 to bring extinct animals. After this I would go twenty centuries to see the future games. I want to see my toyota trucks, hondas, and Acura mdx.

Respect  
Energy  
Soda  
Pot  
Icee  
Root Beer  
Apple  
Tip  
Octopus  
Rescue call 911  
Yes

Squirtle  
Yes  
Stem  
Tiger  
Eat  
My cat

## **STEM**

Stem stands for science, technology, engineering, and math. Science is the things that help us survive like electricity, wifi, cars, and cameras. Science can also be used with liquid. Engineering can also be science. Circulatory system is the veins that travel through the body. Respiratory system is when you take a breath.

# Anya Revuelta



## **Autobiography**

Once upon a time there was a girl and her name was Anya. She was born on June 30, 2008. She liked to do art and she liked to draw. She likes Chinese food and she wants to make a robot. I want to make small hearts that make 3D heart homes.

## **Program Experiments**

I want to learn to make small and big rockets. What I liked making is the blood experiment. I want to learn is how to make a little roller coaster. What I liked to make was the car, and I want to learn is how to make a little rockets. The experiment I liked was making a small house made out of toothpicks and marshmallows. I liked the experiment because it was fun. I also like

making the plants because they were really fun to make and I like the plant I made. I like the tutors because they were really nice. The tutors were really helpful. I liked the program because of all of the experiments, tutors and plants. I would like to come back because it's really fun. I would invite a friend next year because I would tell them about making houses out of toothpicks and marshmallows and my sister like Jell-O.

## **Facebook**

I liked the field trip to Facebook because the arcade had games like the dance one. I played Tetris with Saira and I won two times because my side was slow. We went into the sweet shop and I made a pie for my mom. The pie had cream that tasted like lemon with whipped cream. The pie also had a crust that tasted like the pizza crust. I added to the pie a cherry, two blackberries and a little bit of chocolate chips. When I got home my mom ate it. The outside of Facebook was nice because there were a lot of plants and I like nature. When we got to Facebook there were plants on the table that looked like the ones we made here but bigger. What I learned about the outside of Facebook was that Disney helped make it. When we got there it looked like a hotel because of all of the buildings.

# Sofia Rivera



## **Time Machine**

I chose 2099 because I want to see what happens before 2100 with more technology. When I come back I will show the President. The world will be happier and a better world. As I bring the stuff from 2099 I will show the world how they work. When they finish learning the things from 2099 they will know how to use these things. All thanks to me. I can make this world a better world.

## **Autobiography**

In 2005 a girl was born by the name of Sofia. She was born on November 4th in Sequoia Hospital. When I was 3 years old I had an Elmo. My favorite place to go is the mall. I like to draw cartoons a lot because it is a hobby of mine. I clear my mind then I think about what I want to draw. I also love stuffed animals. I have over a million stuffed animals in my room. In my house I like to mostly watch YouTube and play video games. I also like to play outside with my friends all day. In my neighborhood the houses are different colors.

Many different people and many different houses are all the same.

## **YWF Reflection**

My favorite things from the camp is the tutors and the field trips. I like the tutors because they were nice. Whenever we had a problem with something, they would always help us out. I really liked the field trips because they were really cool and we got to see everything. My favorite field trips were Barracuda and Facebook. I loved Facebook because it was like a mini city.

I would come back next year and recommend this program to my friends because it is a really fun program. I liked how all of the activities were done from scratch because they made it easier to learn about science, technology, engineering, and math. You can also make friends here very easily. I feel like I made a lot of friends here and that people who join this program would have a lot of fun. The tutors are awesome, funny, and cool!

## **Crissy Field**

The field trip is about this beautiful little place; the Presidio. The place was a huge mess. No animals or fish could live here. This little place is called the Presidio and was a waste land due to what happened in the past but in 1988 this little place was made beautiful. We saw many things at Crissy Field like the beach, plants, animals, and many people. The first thing that we saw is the marsh. Marsh is mostly in high tide water and there was lots of it there. After that we saw crabs, there was small crabs and big crabs. I like the small crabs better than the big crabs.



# Camila Salazar

## **Terrarium**

What I thought of this experiment was that it was a little easy because in my school we learned how a terrarium looks and how it should be if you saw the layers. It was very fun because it looked very cool as if I saw the earth. I am looking forward to seeing my plant grow a lot and hopefully my hypothesis will be right. My hypothesis is that the plant would get warm because it is very hot and most of us breathe out warm air the room is very warm, not hot or too cold, so our plant would be warm. What I figured out was that in my house I had a tomato plant in a pot and I put it by the window. That day was very hot, so when I looked into the

soil it was hot. I did the same experiment but when it was very cold and the soil was very cold. I think that was going to happen with my plant. The soil would get the temperature of the room and the plant would get the temperature of the soil. I think my hypothesis might be true because I tried this at home.

## **Circulatory and Respiratory System**

The circulatory system is a system that includes your blood vessels. The blood vessels you have are capillaries, arteries and veins. The circulatory system also includes your heart, breathing, blood, cells etc. The heart is a vital organ made of cardiac muscle and acts like a pump. The circulatory system includes all of these vital organs, systems and things. It is also the system where stuff goes in and out of your body as it circulates blood. The respiratory system is a system that helps you breathe. It includes your lungs, breathing, and your diaphragm. Your diaphragm is underneath the heart and lungs. You breathe in oxygen and you breathe out carbon dioxide. Plants give us oxygen so we should take care of the plants. Respiratory means breathing, so the respiratory system helps us breathe. It is a group or set of vital organs that help us breathe including the lungs, diaphragm, our nose and heart.

## **YWF Reflection**

I want to learn more about mountains and how they form. Something I really like about the camp was that we got to do lots of fun projects, we went on field trips and played games every morning. I also liked that they gave us food because the food was better than the one at school. We went to field trips. One of them was Crissy Field and it was really fun because we found crabs, went to the ocean and saw the Golden Gate Bridge. Another field trip was the park near this program and it was fun because the teachers played soccer and baseball with us. Every morning we played a game. What I liked was that there were different games and we used lots of team work to proceed in our game. I liked that we would have a group and write because in writing, you could express yourself throughout writing. In our groups, you would be a team and use lots of teamwork to work together and solve problems. So if one of us didn't know something that rest of us could help that person.



# Emiliano Torres

## Youth Writing Festival

I think the program was fun because we did many different types of writing and projects. The field trip to Crissy Field was fun and my favorite project was the mountain project because it brought two groups together and we all cooperated while having fun. Something important that we learned was the bone project even though I had learned about it at my school. I think it was fun to simultaneously socialize and learn here. This year was different because we did projects like the systems in the body and how the Earth was formed and its layers. This programs has been an amazing experience since I started three years ago.

## Autobiography

I was born on May 16, 2003. I am a taurus and the first born child of my father and second child of my mother's, but her first boy. On my dad's side, I am the first grandchild but the tenth grandson on my mom's side. I was born and raised in Berkeley. My favorite food is tacos de tripa, al pastor, and barbacoa. I also like birria, pozole, tamales, carne en su jugo and tortas de camarón. My hobby is talking and painting. My favorite show is the Kardashians. I am happy and very Catholic. My father is from Arandas, Jalisco and my mom was born in Tijuana but raised in Morelos. My dream car is a Mercedes S-Class. My favorite music is banda. My favorite artist and bandas are Banda El Recodo, La Arrolladora Banda el Limon, Banda MS, La Septima Banda, and Julio Preciado.

## My Neighborhood

I live in Hellis Street in Berkeley. I live in an orange and red apartment on the fourth floor. In my neighborhood I see the Lexus with the 24 inch rims pass by with loud TI or Snoop Dogg music. I walk around the corner and see Malcolm X Elementary School. Then, I walk down all Ashby and see Weatherford BMW.





# Diego Trejo

## Sonnet

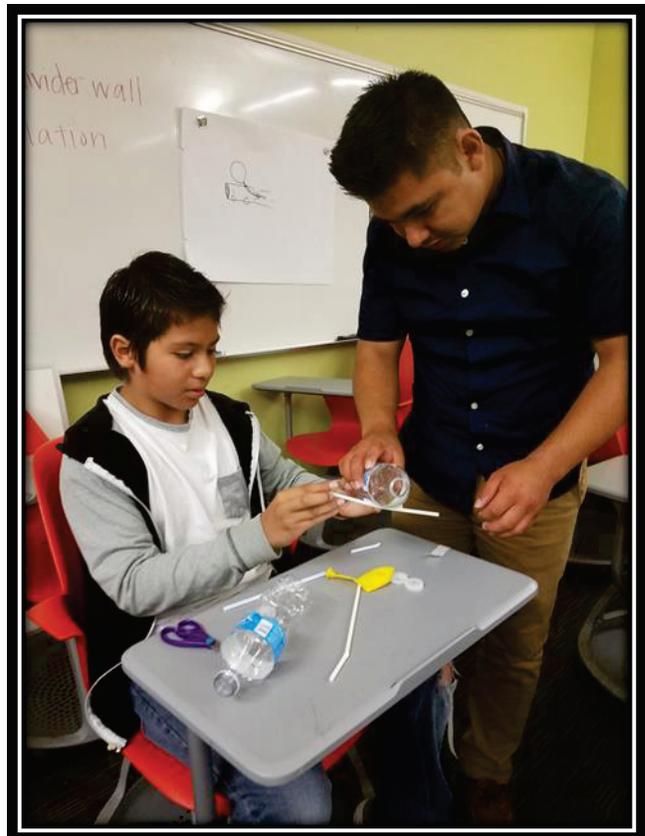
I saw a dog  
It was very still  
It was like a log  
It was not moving it'll  
They threw a stick  
He saw it go  
He was very slick  
He heard the wind blow  
The stick was very thick  
He caught it when it was low  
His name was Nick  
The dog started to glow

## Youth Writing Festival

What I liked about this summer program was that my writing skills improved. Also, everyone was nice, I got better at writing poems, we played fun games and learned a lot about important things like life in or near the water, and out insides. I also liked that if I did not understand something we were doing, someone or a tutor would explain it to me.

## Autobiography

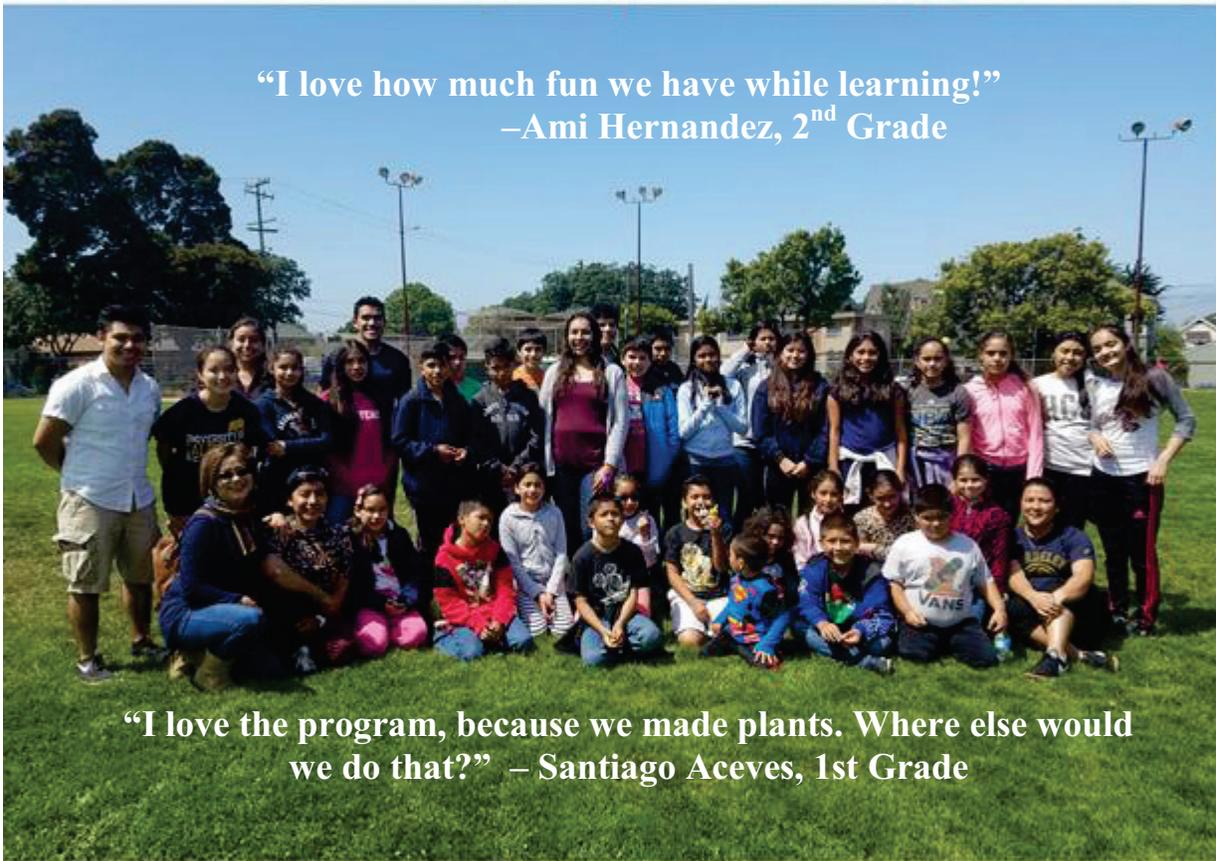
I am a human that is 12 years old and a boy. I have a mom, a dad, a brother and some pets. What I like to do for exercise is swim, run, play outside, soccer, and play Pokemon GO, which is a game where you walk distances and look for Pokemon and Pokestars. Video games I like to play are Smash Brothers, Pokemon and Angry Birds. There's not much family history in my family, but what I know is that my grandpa had died. I don't know why I wrote a poem about him in class when I was in the 4th grade. I was about what it would be like if he was still here. I ended up entering a contest with a bunch of kids and won a prize for the poem. What I do after school is watch TV or play videogames for a while and later I do my homework, which is often just one page of math and reading 30 minutes. Sometimes, I have to one page of history. I was born on August 23, 2003. That is something about me.



# ~A Word from the Students~

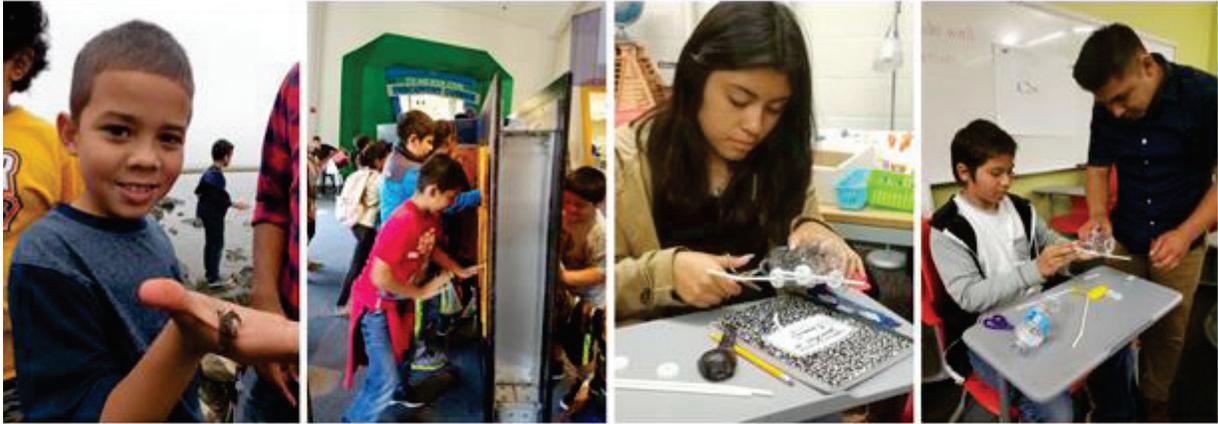


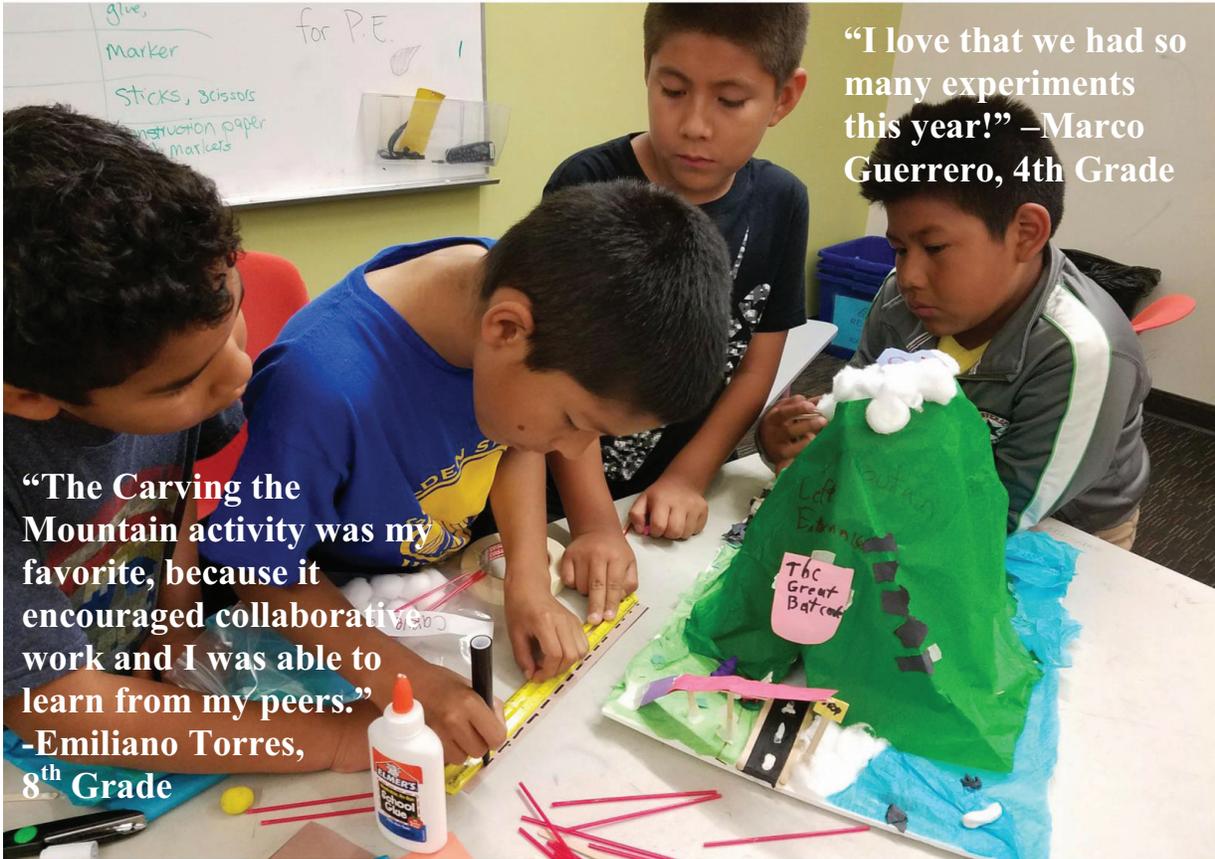
**“I love how much fun we have while learning!”  
–Ami Hernandez, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade**



**“I love the program, because we made plants. Where else would we do that?” – Santiago Aceves, 1st Grade**







“The Carving the Mountain activity was my favorite, because it encouraged collaborative work and I was able to learn from my peers.”  
-Emiliano Torres, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

“I love that we had so many experiments this year!” –Marco Guerrero, 4th Grade



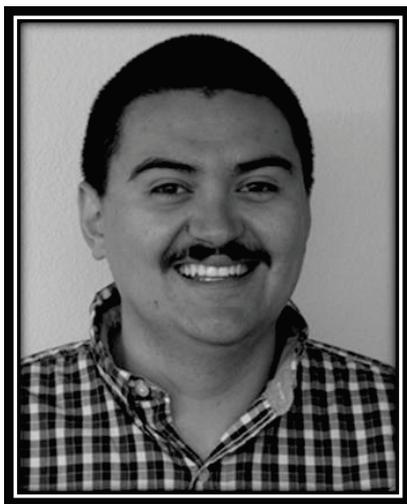
# Youth Writing Festival Staff

~Educational Programs Director~



Merced Truax-Padilla

~Site Coordinators~



Oscar Macias

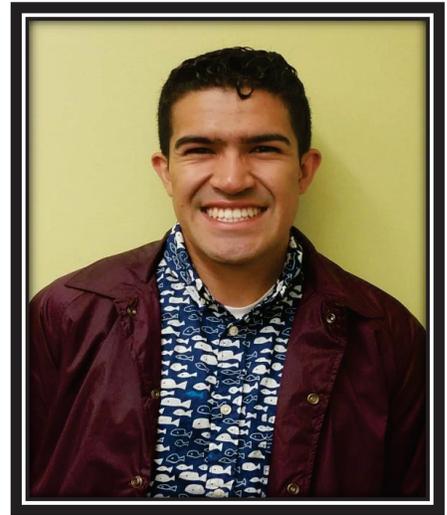


Stephanie Martinez

~Tutors~



Kristen Briceño



Cory Castillo



Erick  
Dominguez



Andrea  
González



Jazmín Guido

Abel  
Moreno





Eimi Olson



Olivia Ruiz



Monique Rojas



Yesenia Verdín

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Susan Goltsman  
UC Berkeley Work-Study Program  
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West Berkeley Lions Club  
Y&H Soda Foundation

## ~Summer 2016 Writers~

Aceves Santiago  
Alvarado Mike  
Andrade Nayali  
Argueta Elvis  
Armenta Diego  
Barba Emily  
Campos Giovanni  
Campos Jonathan  
Canales Camila  
Canales Aiden  
Canales Diego  
Contreras Isabel  
Cruz Saira  
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Gil Noelia  
González Diana  
Guerrero Marco  
Gutiérrez Julián Felipe  
Guzmán Darío

Harris Sofía  
Hernández Adrián  
Hernández Ami  
López Gabriel  
Macías Anahy  
Márquez Ángeles  
Martínez Marisol  
Monroy Brandon  
Monroy Brayan  
Monroy Brenda  
Orozco Leslie  
Pantoja Jesús  
Pantoja Armando  
Peña Jacqueline  
Pérez Arturo  
Piedra Esmeralda  
Piedra Jonathan  
Revuelta Anya  
Revuelta Juan  
Rivera Sofía  
Salazar Camila  
Torres Emiliano  
Trejo Diego