YOUTH WRITING FESTIVAL

A summer youth program of the Multicultural Institute

ANTHOLOGY OF STUDENT’S CREATIVE WORK 2021
About M.I.

The Multicultural Institute (MI):

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 workforce participation and prosperity.

ORGANIZATIONAL FOCUS

Day Laborer & Domestic Worker Support
Job Placement, Workforce Development, Wage Claims, Legal Referrals

Adult Education
GED in Spanish, Citizenship in English & Spanish

Youth Education
Mentoring for Academic Success (MAS), Youth Writing Festival (YWF)

Health
Health Screenings, Free Clinic, Referrals, Workshops, COVID support

For more information about MI, MI’s work, Mission and Board of Directors, visit: WWW.MIONLINE.ORG
YWF TUTORS

Gelo
From: Pinole

Eduardo
From: Richmond

Erick
From: San Pablo

Jessica
From: Richmond

Sundas
From: Berkeley

Daisy
From: Richmond

Jennifer
From: San Pablo

Ernesto
From: Richmond
One summer day I woke up, brushed my teeth, got dressed and went to the Youth Writing Festival. My stomach felt weird because I was sad and nervous. It was my first day at the program. I was put in a group with other kids and my tutors name was Daisy. After meeting my other group members I started to feel better.

I like to do gymnastics because I like to do tricks and flips. I’m thankful for my family and helping my mom. I’m thankful for the planet. I’m thankful for the world.
Había una vez un huevo que la gente no sabía que tipo era. Un niño llamado Michael se llevó el huevo en una canastita a su casa.

Cuando Michael llegó a su casa de el parque el huevo comenzó a romperse y apareció un pollito. Como el pollito estaba solo, Michael decidió llevarlo con su amigo que tenía más pollitos.

Fideos son mi comida favorita. Me gusta cuando mi mamá los prepara. Mi color favorito es el verde porque la naturaleza es color verde.
One hot day I woke up and played with my kitty. My cat feels soft. As I pet his fur, I heard him meow. When I heard him meow he looked sleepy so I put him to sleep. After a while I woke up my cat because I wanted to play with him again. I also gave him some food and water.

I’m thankful for my family and for helping my mom. I’m grateful for my mom cleaning the house. I’m grateful for my sister Nahomi. I’m grateful for my birds. I’m grateful for the world, because it is the place people live in.
Once upon a time there was a star that tried to find his place and tried to find where he belonged because he was different from every other star. His name was Luke. Luke would disguise himself as a normal star. They let Luke stay with other stars for a while until he found his home. Some other star took him home to his family where they all looked like him.

I’m grateful for my family because they are always there for me and they give me food. I’m grateful for my mom and dad because they give me a house. I’m grateful for trees and bees because they pollinate flowers.
Once upon a time there was a girl. The girl was happy she had a cat and a dog. One day the girl went to the park with her dog and cat. Then they went to the store. Then they went to their house. When they went to their house they saw something strange. The house was a big mess. They found out they were missing money, jewelry, computers and a tv.

The girl called the police. Then the police came and checked the cameras. They saw five robbers break into the house when the girl and her pets were at the park and the store. The police caught the robbers and the robbers went to jail. The police made the robbers give the girl her stuff back.
My favorite thing about my mom is that she is a little bit funny. I love that my mom cooks tamales and spaghetti verde. My favorite memory is when we went to the park with my sisters. We played and ate snacks. I have gone with her to Costco.

On the first day I was nervous and actually started to cry because I missed my mom. I thought this tutor was going to be serious but they did not end up being serious. They were happy instead. I love this tutor’s clothes. My favorite memory with this tutor is when we were making a bridge.
PAOLA

I want to go to the park then I want to dress up my doll. Then I will paint a sunflower with red and blue paint. I would eat turkey and green spaghetti. I would drink my favorite cherry flavored soda. It tastes a little bit like honey. For dessert I will eat a banana split with chocolate and vanilla ice cream.

- Age: 8
- Grade: 3rd
- favorite animal: Cheetah
- favorite subject: Art

My favorite thing about my dad is when he takes me to the park. My favorite memory is when we went camping and we went to the water and he showed me how to swim. My dad’s friend bought me a stuffed elephant.
GIANELLA

I am going to study to be a vet because some people don’t have much money and some people can’t pay that much. In the United States vets cost like a good $100 or $200. In my vet clinic I am going to make it a cheaper price for poor people or people that can’t pay that much.

Dear Parents,

You are the best because you work hard on cooking and also earning money at your job. You are very nice. Thank you for taking me to nice places and for buying me toys. Also, you are good parents because you got me a dog and I am happy. I am happy you are my parents.
The Darkness of Night

A long time ago there was a boy in a cemetery. He was all alone and he went to a cave where there was gold and he went inside the cave. There was a monster! The monster ate the kid and no one knew where he was. Ten years later they found his bones; he was dead. They put him in the cemetery. They put him inside the hole, but the ghost is the one that got him!

The kid was five year sold and he was in heaven. There he was, all alone, but he saw Heaven monsters. He went near one and he died again and his bones felt rusty. His bones broke again and the monster put him back and threw up. There was a storm coming his way and the storm made him worse and the boy exploded.
I love writing because it makes me happy. The longest writing assignment I did was an essay about my community. I love and hate it at the same time. I love it, I hate it, because I forget how to write!

MaeMae’s Chronicle:

Good morning end of world. In the year of 2012 a girl was born in the apocalypse. Her name is... my name is: MaeMae. I grew. I was the first one to ever survive in the apocalypse. But let’s take it back a notch. My mom passed away by trying to save me. I cried but continued and grew up by myself.
Do you know how many engineers work? Well, I want to be one. An engineer is a designer that creates houses and boats. I want to be an engineer because you can create stuff and make sure that’s what they want to do and create.

Do you like Oreo ice cream, because I do. I like it because it has Oreos. You can buy Oreo ice cream at Target and Smart & Final. It is a good ice cream to buy; it is not a waste of money. You guys should buy it. It is a good dessert to eat and when it is hot. It is not limited edition so you can find it and get it whenever you want.
My favorite animal is a cheetah. I like cheetahs because they can run really fast and I like to run too. Also, they are the fastest animal in the cat family. I want to be the fastest person in the world. I like cheetahs because they have spots and I like animals with spots.

Dear Parents,
Thank you for all the food you give me. Also thank you for taking care of me my whole life. Thank you for always supporting me and taking care of my brothers and me. Thank you for bringing me to this program and for taking me to school. Thank you for always feeding me when I was a little baby and always being nice to me my whole life.

Love, Alejandro
Dear Mom,
Thanks for always being there for me, you are the best. Whenever you get mad at me I still think you are the best. A good memory I remember is when me and you went sledding down the snow mountain. I appreciate your hard work. You always work to get money to buy us shoes, pants, shirts, toys, food and stuff. I love when you cook pasta. You are the best and I love you!!!

I am Miranda. I remember when my mom gave birth to my annoying sister. I have always loved my bro. I want to be an actress and a singer when I grow up.
Once upon a time there was a boy named Alex and he was born with brown hair and blue eyes. Alex dyed his hair blue and today he is wearing a black shirt with blue jeans. Right after school he went home and started making a video for his YouTube channel.

His YouTube channel is called Pride Boy and in his videos he shows his fans his boyfriend and makeup. He likes to do makeup videos. They finished the video late at night so after Alex went to sleep with his boyfriend. The end.

Dear Mom,
I love you so much. I’m so happy that you care for us and that you go with us to the park and the store. You make me feel safe and happy. Even if you get mad at me, I still love you. I love your tamales and raspados de vainilla. I love you so much!
I’m grateful that my mom works hard and that we have food and a safe place to sleep. I’m grateful that she provides to keep us safe. She takes me to school to have a good education.

I am grateful for my brother because he gives me rides to the program, cooks for me and cleans the house. Sometimes I help him clean too. My brother makes me laugh because he shows me funny videos.

I’m grateful for Daisy because she always brings us candy and always helps me write if I don’t know what to write.

My favorite food is pizza. I like pepperoni and cheese for my toppings. What I don’t like on my pizza is pineapple and lettuce and mushroom.
Dear Mom,

What I am grateful for is you raising me, caring for me, taking care of me and for your love and support. Thank you for buying toys for me and food. You know when I am sad or happy or hurt. You helped me when my Tia passed. You knew that I was hurt when I didn’t show it. I love you.

Love, Kassandra

When my family and I went camping, first, we set up our tents. Second, my brothers and I went to the lake for a swim. We were the only ones getting into the water. Third, we came back to the campsite. We started the campfire to make s’mores. We went into our tents to tell stories and went to bed.
One day there was this boy named Leo and he was going outside. Leo was playing around but then he saw something on the ground. So he got a shovel and started to dig and dig. When he was done, he found a box. He went back inside and what he found in the box shocked him.

It was an old fairy wand! It had crystals all around him and also in the box was a piece of paper. It had no title but he could tell it was a spell. So he said the spell with the wand in his hand and when he was done there was a BOOM. Leo was on the ground as a fairy! He screamed in fright.
I remember when I got my dog. I think the time was around noon when I got him. I was super happy because he was my first dog. Last time we went to a shelter for dogs, but all of the medium sized dogs had already been adopted. So, my mom and I left.

We had a cloth in a basket on the way to pick up my dog. We were talking about what we should give him when we got there. It was super hot and it wasn’t even summer! When we got there he was so small. He took up half of the basket. He was little like a hatchling.

Dear Brothers,

Thank you for giving me the joy that you give me. Sometimes we fight, but we are still brothers. I enjoy your company.
Once there was a haunted house. The house was very dirty, it was brown, the lights didn’t work and it’s always very creepy and quiet. Nataly was a very curious 13 year old. She liked writing about the house in her favorite notebook. Katy was a very shy girl, her best friend was Nataly. Katy was always scared of the haunted house. One day they looked at the house closely and there was an old man inside.

My favorite sport is basketball. I love going with my mom to basketball practice every day, because it’s very fun. We go to a small park that has a black gate around the entire park. There’s also a tiny yellow playground and a soccer place.
When I was younger, I wanted to be a vet because I love animals. Now that I am older, I enjoy having pets and I still want to be a vet. The first reason I want to be a vet is that you can take care of the animals. The second reason is I want them to be healthy.

I am grateful for my birds because when I am home, I’m not by myself. I’m grateful for my mom and dad because they work so hard for me and they give me food. I’m grateful for my sister because she always shares with me. I’m grateful for my parents because they support me in my education. I am grateful for the program because it helps me with my work.
Dear Parents,

Dad, I am so grateful to have you in my life. In the mornings if I am lucky you sometimes wake me up by accident. You might not know, but it really helps me start my day. Every day you go to work and give it your all. Even if some days you don’t feel like working, you wake up and still go to work.

Mom, I am so very grateful to have you as my mother. No matter how tired you are, you wake up and get ready and drive me to school. You always have a good attitude when you drive me to school. You make everything seem fun even if sometimes it may not be fun. You make everything seem easy. Thank you for teaching me how to work hard.
Dear Parents,

I am grateful for having a roof over my head because I know that many people don’t have a house or anything to be held over their head. I am lucky enough to have my own room and you guys letting me put anything I want. Even letting me have LED light strips because I know you guys don’t like me having them, but you don’t take them down. I am grateful for having a different dish every day and not having to eat the same thing every day.
Dear Parents,

I just wanted to say thank you for everything you guys have given me. All of the things you have ever bought me I feel grateful for, even if it was something that wasn’t important. I love that you take me and my siblings on trips or just to all hang outside like at the Marina. One of the times that I remember that I enjoyed was when I learned how to swim at 5. It was so funny because I acted like I was drowning and my mom freaked out.

A couple of things that I like about myself have to be that I am an outgoing person; I like to communicate or make full-on conversations. When I am really bored I like to talk to my friends and cousins or lay in bed and be on my phone.
Dear Parents,

I wanted to say how grateful I am for having you guys and for being here for me. Something else I’m grateful for is you waking up early to make us lunch, taking us to school, worrying about our grades, making us responsible, independent, respectful and kind to everyone.

A good memory I have from when I was little, is when I used to visit my aunt and cousins. I always visited them and we always had fun. For example, every morning when we wake up, we play GTA or watch movies or help my aunt with her work. She worked cleaning houses. I always helped her and she would pay me twenty dollars.
In the deep, deep sea somewhere there is a tropical island where many and many iguanas rest in the soft sand. The warm ocean water splashes the iguanas. In the distance a big nuclear bomb was going to hit the ocean. The iguanas weren’t aware and then a big explosion vanished all the iguanas on that island. It seems like there won’t be any life after the explosion.

Humanity was already prepared for this situation. Little did they know, this nuclear bomb wasn’t made by mankind. Aliens, the rulers of space were the cause of this explosion.