

Youth Writing Festival

a program of the Multicultural Institute



Anthology of Students' Creative Work
Summer 2018

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ABOUT US

THE MULTICULTURAL INSTITUTE (MI):

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

Our VALUES

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

Our PROGRAMS

Life Skills/Day Laborer:

From job-placement assistance to health services, education to advocacy, this program helps economically disadvantaged immigrants and their families.

GED Preparation:

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

Business Skill Development:

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

Naturalization Preparation:

Offers Green-card holders intensive preparation courses, mock interviews and naturalization clinics in order to submit a complete N-400 application and pass Civics exam and interview.

Mentoring For Academic Success (MAS):

Established in 1999, strives to eliminate the educational inequity gap by helping students set and achieve academic goals through tutoring, enrichment activities, and parental support. We assist students in becoming eligible for post-secondary education.

The Youth Writing Festival (YWF):

The Youth Writing Festival (YWF) offers elementary and middle school students an exceptional opportunity to build literacy skills during the summer. Students write essays, stories, and poems, they benefit from individual instruction, the camaraderie of small study groups, and the rare gift of enough time to make real progress. The result is extraordinary -participants uncover new creative impulses, develop confidence in themselves, and in some cases, compose their first pieces of writing ever outside of assignments for school.

MI STAFF

Fr. Rigoberto Calocarivas
Founder & Executive Director

Mirna Cervantes
Associate Director

Phurbu Tsewang
Accountant

Cesar Meza-Esveile
Day Laborer Program Director

Rudy Lara
Day Laborer Program Director

Josue Revolorio
Day Laborer Program Director

Gregoiré Valadié
Day Laborer Program Assistant

Maria de los Angeles Caloca-Rivas
Site Coordinator

Lupita Guerrero
Site Coordinator

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Transbaycable/steelriver Partners

Jacqueline De Anda- Co-Chair
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Owner, Gonzalez Landscaping

Lee Medina
IT Manager, E.A. Bonelli

Victor Robert Weisser
Community Advocate

A LETTER FROM THE YOUTH WRITING FESTIVAL SITE COORDINATORS

Young writers, thank you for making this program what it is meant to be: a fun summer experience where you could work on your writing while cultivating an early interest in the Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math (STEAM) fields. We appreciate your willingness to wake up early every day and participate and challenge yourselves in all the structured activities. We thank you for bringing such a positive attitude and sense of humor to class every morning.

Parents, since 2005 the Youth Writing Festival (YWF) has offered students an opportunity to expand their knowledge and get ahead during the summer time while having fun. The program has not only incorporated writing activities but recently included STEAM activities. This year's curriculum filled with STEAM and writing activities have helped your children develop a deeper understanding in a variety of subjects expanding from health, bacteria and chemical reactions to sonnets, grammar, and so much more. Thank you for believing in our work and bringing your children to the 2018 YWF!

Tutors, we have seen these students grow day by day, improving their confidence and mastering subjects that are crucial for their future lives. Thank you for coming to work every morning ready to take on STEAM and writing lessons. We hope you enjoyed this summer as much as we did.

~~~~~  
*Jóvenes, gracias por hacer de este programa lo que debe ser: una divertida experiencia de verano en la que perfeccionaron su escritura al mismo tiempo que desarrollaron un interés en Ciencia, Tecnología, Ingeniería, Arte y Matemáticas (STEAM). Agradecemos que se hayan despertado temprano todos los días para participar en todas las actividades. Le agradecemos por tener una actitud positiva y buen sentido de humor en clase todas las mañanas.*

*Padres, desde 2005, el Youth Writing Festival (YWF) ha ofrecido a los estudiantes la oportunidad de ampliar sus conocimientos y salir adelante durante el verano mientras se divierten. El currículo de este año incluyó actividades de STEAM y actividades de escritura que han ayudado a sus hijo/as a desarrollar una comprensión más profunda en una variedad de temas que van desde la salud, bacterias y reacciones químicas hasta sonetos, gramática, y mucho más. ¡Gracias por creer en nuestro trabajo y por traer a sus hij@s al YWF 2018!*

*Tutores, hemos visto a estos estudiantes crecer día a día, mejorando su confianza y dominando temas que son cruciales para sus vidas futuras. Gracias por venir a trabajar todas las mañanas, list@s para los temas de STEAM y escritura. Esperamos que hayan disfrutado este verano tanto como nosotros lo hicimos.*

Sincerely/Sinceramente,

*Maria de los Angeles Caloca-Rivas  
Lupita Guerrero*

Alondra Arellano



### **Father's Day**

On Father's Day I performed ballet folklorico at Six Flags. I had so much fun; I danced, played and did other fun things. Some dances I did were "Veracruz" and "The Bow". One ride I went on was a water ride where I got soaking wet. Something I saw was *catrinas*. They were really pretty. I also took a picture with the *catrinas*.

### **The day I got Stiches**

I'm going to tell you about the day I got stiches. So it started when I was in first grade. I was doing the dishes. You're probably wondering why I was doing the dishes. Okay, enough talking I am going to get started with the story. So I was doing the dishes and I was 7 years old. My shirt was soaking wet. I needed to change my shirt. I was standing on a broken chair. The back of the inside of the chair was broken, so I put my leg through the hole and a sharp edge poked my skin and made a cut on my leg. And I didn't even feel it. I looked down and saw it and I was bleeding. I went to the dirty clothes and grabbed a towel and went crying to my parents. Then they took me to the hospital. It didn't hurt when they put the stiches on because I was asleep. A few years later, to this day, I still have the scar. The end.

### **Thank you**

For, taking me to the hospital  
For, taking me to school  
For, taking me to programs like these  
For, putting me to bed

Thank you, parents.

## Brian Arellano



### **My favorite Sport**

My favorite sport is soccer.

I have played it all my life.

I can break anyone's ankles.

I run fast like a race car.

Did you know race car is spelled the same backwards?

### **Dear parents,**

I am grateful for you bringing me into this world and for you mom for going through a painful process just to give me life. I am happy that you care for me and that you love me. There's a myriad of reasons for giving me a lot to hold on to and for having a family to care for me even though they get on my nerves sometimes. I am grateful for you guys being my parents instead of me having foster parents or adoptive parents. Nothing is wrong with that though. I have so much more to say but I can't think of anything on the top of my head at this moment.

Sincerely, Brian.

### **Dia De Los Muertos**

For the past decades, and currently, my family has celebrated *El Dia de los Muertos* as a core tradition of our culture. *El Dia de los Muertos*, is a Mexican holiday celebrated throughout Mexico to remember our loved ones that have passed away. We prepare foods in honor of them. In *El Dia de Los Muertos*, we make special alters dedicated to our ancestor. On the alters we place significant items for each family member. My family celebrates *El Dia de los Muertos* because it is the only time of the year in which we can come together to remember and appreciate our ancestors. We also take this opportunity to thank our ancestors for bringing into the world. The special foods we prepare are posole, pan dulce, tamales, enchiladas, poncho, flautas, and hot chocolate.

Jason Arellano



**Dear Grandma,**

Thank you for everything. I am grateful for everything I have and what you do for me. You're kind and nice and not mean or bad, just thank you. Thank you for cooking me *flautas* and *pozole*. The *flautas* are skinny and tasty. It's so good and yummy. You buy me stuff and say goodbye to me all the time when I go. And you always send me your address so I could go where you are.

Sincerely, Jason.

**Dia de los Muertos**

I will be explaining about a Mexican tradition, *Dia de los Muertos*. *Dia de los Muertos* is the day of the dead, in which we make an altar and we put a picture of our loved ones that has passed away in that altar. You may ask why we do that, well we do that so we could allow them to come over to our house as a spirit, to enjoy being here and spending time with their family. Additionally, we add our passed one's favorite foods to the altar so that they could eat it. Moreover, we also put a flower called Marigold (in Spanish it is called *Cempasuchil*) on the altar because it symbolizes a guide for the spirits to come to their family safely and carefully.

**Short Story**

There was a guy named Tim and he was small and slim with brown hair and brown eyes. He was in Modesto for a family reunion and it was extremely hot. He felt dizzy (because of the heat and he felt dehydrated). Tim was driving a faded gray colored car but the air conditioning didn't work. Tim took the wrong exit and got lost in the middle of nowhere because he was driving while on his phone, texting his cousin Jim. The place he got lost at had no people, no restaurants and no gas stations. Tim saw a black bear. Tim got scared. He didn't know what to do so he tried calling for help but his phone died. The black bear started to run towards him, and he shook the car. Tim started to drive forward but his car broke down because the bear popped his tires. Tim got out of the car and started running to a green scary forest.

To be continued...

## Damilola Babaoye



### **Damilola**

Do the best you can  
Amazing kid  
Mom is nice  
I learn ELA and math  
Lover of Nigerian food  
On the way to college  
Love my family  
A great gymnast

### **Lion**

Long legs from running  
Independent animal  
Only like meat  
Not mean

### **Oh Cheetah**

Oh cheetah, you are so beautiful with your black spots  
You make me happy with your big sharp smile  
Oh cheetah, why are you so majestic?  
Oh cheetah, where are you from?  
Oh cheetah, you run fast  
Oh cheetah, you are strong,  
Oh cheetah, you have black spots.  
You are the best cheetah ever.

### **Nigerian Food**

My favorite food is Nigerian food. This Nigerian food is pounded yams and okra soup. My mom makes it. It is made in Africa. My mom uses pounded yam powder and hot water and mixes it up so it gets thick. My mom cuts the okra. For Nigerian desert, my favorite has to be the puff puff and meat pie. My mom uses oil and sugar for puff puff. My mom adds meat carrots and dough for the meat pie.

Tobi Babaoye



### **Oh Hash Browns**

Oh hash browns,  
I see you looking good  
On my breakfast platter.  
Oh hash browns,  
You look very tasty and crispy.  
Oh hash browns,  
You make me want to put ketchup on you.  
You so hot and savory.  
Oh hash browns  
You so golden and crunchy.  
A special treat.  
Oh hash browns

### **Bad President**

Donald Trump is a bad president. He's a bad president because he takes children away from their family, he's racist, and he sexually assaulted a lot of women. In this essay I will talk about how bad of a president Donald Trump is. In the news I heard that Donald Trump was separating undocumented families. That is sick. There are young children crying, wondering why they have been separated from their family. These children are put in detention centers. Detention centers are pretty much jails for undocumented immigrants. That is where the immigrants are taken when ICE detains them. ICE is an immigration police officer. All of these children have futures; they could benefit our country or the world. Donald Trump is very racist, he claims not to be racist, but he is. Here is proof: He doesn't support the Black Lives Matter movement; he thinks all Latino people are drug dealers, rapists, and killers. He said all of those things in his 2016 presidential campaign. Overall, Donald Trump is a bad president. In this essay it clearly states that he is a bad president. He takes children away from their family, he is racist, and he sexually assaulted a lot of women.

**Tobi Babaoye**

Thankful

Obvious

Boy

Intelligent

**Bold**

**Anxious**

**Black**

**Above**

**Outstanding**

**Youthful**

**Entertaining**

## Milagros Burgos



### **Dear Parents,**

I am grateful for you guys for buying me a lot of things. For example, water toys, regular toys, a bed, food, and other things I really need. I love you guys and thank you for giving me so much love and care for my body that is always growing up. Thank you for being my parents. I love you guys. I also know that you guys will always be in my heart. No matter what, I will always love you.

### **Oh Hairbrush**

Oh hairbrush,  
I love how you could always comb my hair  
Oh hairbrush,  
you are always so sweet  
Oh hairbrush,  
my beautiful sweet hairbrush  
Oh hairbrush,  
I like how you always brighten my day  
Oh hair brush

### **Short Story**

Once upon a time I had to take care of a small precious puppy. I loved the puppy so much. Then out of nowhere a big loud boom happened. It was a big bear. It was in the kitchen eating and then I screamed, then it went away. The dog and I lived happily ever after.

### **My favorite Mac 'N Cheese Place**

I like Mac & Cheese; it's in a restaurant that is called Mac Daddy. Mac Daddy makes a lot of Mac & Cheese dishes. Mac and cheese is cheesy with pasta. There is cheese on top with different kinds of pasta. Mac Daddy is in San Francisco!!!!

# Montserrat Burgos



## Ode to Flower

Oh flower, beautiful flower  
With your bright petals in the spring.  
Oh flower, you make me happy  
When I see bee's upon you.  
Oh flower, vibrant flower.  
You make me and the world shine with your magnificent  
nectar.  
Oh flower, what would the world do without you?

## My Parents

I like it when my mom and dad take me to the Youth Writing Festival and they pick me up too. I'm grateful because mom and dad take me to ballet folklórico. I like it when it was pajama day and after school my mom took me to the doctors. When I was little I enjoyed playing soccer with Mili. I liked it when it was my birthday and my dad put me on his shoulders. I like it when my dad takes me shopping. Thank you mom and dad I love you forever!

## Monkey

Monkeying around the jungle  
On trees and branches  
Key to happiness  
Never listen  
Energetic  
Young and free

## Montserrat

Magnificent girl  
Orange lover  
Nicer to everybody  
Talented dancer  
Smart student  
Energetic all the time  
Runner around the playground  
Reader of books  
A great friend  
Terrific

Alonzo Castro



**My favorite food and dessert**

My favorite dish is chicken Alfredo. It is made out of pasta and Alfredo sauce and also chicken. My mom and my grandma make it once a month. The Alfredo sauce is very creamy. I do a dance when they make it. My favorite desert is ice cream. My favorite ice cream is vanilla ice cream. It is relaxing to eat and a little cold too.

**T-rex**

Terror for other animals  
Rare to find; 32 million  
Everything it eats is meat  
eXtraordinary to look at

**Ode to Shoes**

Oh shoes,  
You are designable  
Oh shoes,  
You give me comfort  
Oh shoes,  
You look so beautiful on.  
Oh shoes,  
Your colors are so diverse.  
Oh shoes,  
You make my feet happy  
Oh shoes,  
You make me happy because you give a new style  
Oh shoes,  
You help my feet not bleed.  
Oh shoes,  
You are comfortable, you have beautiful designs.  
Oh shoes

**Alonso**

Alligators are cool  
Learn multiplication  
On the path to success  
Never give up  
Sneakers are fun to design  
Only tell the truth

## Eduardo Castro



### Eduardo Castro

Eager

Downright awesome

Useful

Always right

Righteous

Delightful

Owl

Cap and gown ready

Astonishing person

Strong person

Trainee for the X-men

wRucked by colossus

Out smarted by Professor X

### Dear Mother,

Thank you for providing me with a home, food on my plate, and clothes on my back. I really do appreciate what you do for me and what you've done for me. I'm glad I can call our house a home. Thank you for cheering me on, even when I fail a test or pass it. I like how we're very alike and very different at the same time. Thanks for giving me things I don't need like videogames, clothes, and other things. So, thank you for those things and don't worry Mom, I'll get good grades in school like I always do, okay? But first, I need to go to school to get good grades, 'cause you know its summer.

Love, Eddie.

### Ode to Bacon

Oh bacon, sweet sizzling bacon

Oh bacon, crunchy crispy

Oh bacon drizzled with maple syrup eh.

Oh bacon, on the side of my pancakes.

Oh bacon, came from a pig, "oink"

Oh bacon

### Blind date

One day on veggiesmeet.com, Larry Leftovers used Ryan Radish as for his profile picture hoping for a match. One night he got a match. Very exciting! Ryan opened the match and said hi and everything to Sarah Spinach. Until it got to the question "do you want to go on a date?" Sarah said "Yes. Of course! Who wouldn't want to go on a date with Ryan Radish". The day comes and Sarah Spinach is confused to meet Larry Leftovers. She was catfished!

## Nancy Cervantes



### **Dear Mom and Dad,**

Thank you for everything you've done for me. Thank you for giving me permission to live under your roof. Sometimes you yell at me and sometimes you speak calmly, but I still know you love me. I love the way you use flour to bake goods and the way you give a flower every day to my mom. I also love and appreciate how you cook mom. Your food is yummy and delicious, and sometimes it can be salty or sweet. I appreciate when I'm hungry and you guys make me full with your amazing food. You both are so loving and caring. I am so grateful for having you as my parents. You guys are the best parents in the world! Thank you for everything. I appreciate that you tell me that I can do it. Thank you for telling me to read so I can get better grades and for asking me what I need.

Love, Nancy

### **Ode to trees**

Oh trees, you have leaves  
Oh trees, your leaves are green  
Oh trees, you are tall  
Oh trees, you can be small  
Oh trees, I appreciate you  
Oh trees, without you I wouldn't be able to breathe  
Oh trees, without you animals wouldn't have homes  
Oh trees, you sound so peaceful  
Oh tree, you are so graceful

### **My favorite dish**

My favorite dish to eat is sushi. My favorite restaurant to get sushi at is Ramen. Ramen sells different types of ramen and sushi like Miso soup and California rolls. The sushi that I like to get is crunchy rolls, dragon rolls and caterpillar rolls. I like these rolls because they're really good. Crunchy rolls are tasty and crunchy. These rolls have rice and sea weed on the outside surrounding the inside.

Erick Lujan



### **How I celebrate New Year's Eve**

New Year's Eve is the end of one year and the start of another new year. It is a rare tradition to celebrate but at the same time it isn't. It's a holiday that needs something to stay awake. For me it isn't bad, it's great. The activities we do are eating 12 grapes and drink a cup of apple cider, which we dig in right after the New Year begins. Whoever finishes first will have good luck.

**Dear parents,**

I am writing this letter because I appreciate you for supporting me in any case that I have been through. Like when I broke my left arm you were there with whatever I had to face to get my arm healed. When I fell down you believed in me, that made me stand up and turn away. I also appreciate you for supporting me like a part of a family and also giving me a phone to contact you for whatever I need. When I'm sad you're there for me. Thank you for spending some of your time to be with me.

Sincerely, Erick

### **My LA trip**

It was alright when I went to LA. I was surprised when I arrived there and I saw nothing. It was amazing when I finally saw the city. WE went to our hotel and relaxed for a while. We then went to find something to eat and then we came back to sleep. Hours later I woke up and I believe that the sun hit the southern part of California. Across the street there was a metro connection station. I went to downtown LA and it was alright. But when I went to universal studios, I felt that this was heaven. For the most part I ate at the burger place from the Simpsons. Overall, it was fine except the weather.

## Angeles Marquez



### **Angeles**

**Awesome at Fortnite (lol)**

**Nice to people...sometimes**

**Great at games**

**Encouraged to be successful in the future**

**Loyal to people**

**Eats a lot (duh)**

**Sweet like candy**

### **Dear mama and abuelita,**

I am so grateful that every day you give me food on the table. You are always there for me. But every time you yell at me, you make me sad. I know sometimes I make mistakes. I know that I need to go to school and get good grades, but it is too stressful for me. Every day I have to deal with one of my sisters or someone. Regardless, I am still grateful that you are still here for me when I need you even though my dad is not always here for me. I love you guys so much because you are the only people in my life that I need, besides my sisters. I know that you get really stressed with my sisters and I, but it is okay. At least you have me to help you. I love you guys and I always will.

### **Oh Fortnite**

Oh fortnite,

You are as fun as Mario kart

Oh fortnite,

Every time I die I get mad. But I don't give up. Maybe I can get a win

Oh fortnite,

I always love your emots. And skins because they are always funny

Oh fortnite,

I hate when you have errors. It gets me frustrated and mad

Oh fortnite,

I always get updates when there's something new

## Camila Marquez



### **My Favorite Food!**

My favorite food is pizza because it's cheesy like me. I like pizza it's so good. I like it because it has pepperoni and cheese. I like the bread on the pizza. Now you know my favorite food.

### **Dear parents,**

Thank you for being my mom and dad. Thanks dad for taking me to Chuck E. Cheese and mom, thank you for taking me to Toys R Us. Mom, thank you for taking me to Mexico to visit my cousins and aunt. Dad, thank you for caring about me. Thanks mom for my iPod, I love you guys. Love, Camila

### **Short Story**

This year, summer came early to New Mouse City. One girl had ice-cream. Then she went to the park. When she was on the swing her ice cream was melting. She was sad. She said, "Now I have to buy another ice cream cone but I have no money left. I guess I need to go home." When she got home her mommy said, "Are you ok sweetheart?", "No mom, I am not okay." "Why not, tell me sweetheart." "So what happened was that I bought an ice cream cone then I went to the park. Then I was on the swing and my ice cream was melting. Then I was sad but I wanted to get another one but I had no money so I walked home." The end.

### **Ode to Teachers**

Oh teachers, you help me learn in school  
Oh teachers, I feel good about it  
Oh teachers, you're nice to the class  
Oh teachers, you're beautiful  
Oh teachers, you are nice to me  
Oh teachers, you give us a lot of homework though

## Oscar Monroy



### **My Favorite Dish**

My favorite dish is pizza; I love little Cesar pepperoni pizza. The reason I prefer peperoni is because my sister prefers cheese and that means I don't need to share my peperoni pizza. Bu not all little Cesar pizzas are good, I remember this little Cesar's where the pizza was cold and not well cooked and not enough cheese. Pizza is nice and I know I am not the only one who thinks that.

### **Oscar**

Oscar

Is

Creative

And

Really awesome

### **Ode to Llamas**

Oh llamas, you are so awesome  
Oh llamas, related to camels  
You are so fluffy  
You make great sweaters  
Oh llamas, neck like giraffe  
You are better than any other barn animal  
Oh llamas, if you left tomorrow I would be sad  
Oh llamas, you keep me warm  
You keep us happy  
Oh llamas

### **I am Oscar**

I remember a lot  
I have always had eyes  
I see my hands  
I know I am holding a pencil  
I wonder what my forehead looks like  
I try to be awesome  
I want to go home to eat  
I don't remember kindergarten  
I dislike lots of things  
I have never eaten turkey  
I don't wander from home  
I try not to slip  
I don't want to fall  
I love myself  
I don't know how to swim

## Fatima Pasillas



### **Folklorico**

I love dancing because it is part of exercise and you move your body and because I love the dance of el folklórico. Folklorico is a Mexican dance. You always dance it during *Cinco de Mayo*. In the folklórico dance you wear a white shirt and a big Mexican skirt. You move your skirt backward and forward. The folklórico dance is special to me because when I was little I always wanted to be in a folklórico dance class.

### **My Favorite Food**

My favorite food is hamburgers. My favorite restaurant where I get my hamburgers is Burger King. I like to get cheeseburgers, with meat, lettuce, tomatoes, bacon, regular cheese, chicken, spicy chicken, sauce and pickles. When I get my burger I get a drink on the side and I also get curly fries. My curly fries are crunchy, crispy, and hot. I like my burger when it's crispy and crunchy. I get Burger King when there is a family reunion. The burgers from Burger King are very, very, very yummy and crunchy!

### **Ode to Books**

Oh books, you are awesome  
You teach me how to read  
Oh books, I love you even though you smell nasty  
Oh books, if I never read you I will never learn how to read  
Oh books, I love you even though you gave me a paper cut  
Oh books, you are colorful  
Oh books, sometimes you can have no pictures  
Oh book, thank you for letting me read you

### **I am Fatima**

I am a girl  
I remember my first Birthday  
I have always played basketball  
I see my sister  
I know art  
I don't remember kindergarten  
I hate lions  
I wonder if my sister is going to be older

Juan Polanco



### Ode to my House

Oh house,  
you make me relaxed when I watch TV  
Oh house,  
you make me joyful when I'm with my family.  
Oh house,  
you are so pretty with your garden  
Oh house,  
you are so big with your trees  
Oh house,  
I like you  
Oh house,  
You are important.

### The day that I got an Xbox360

It was a sunny morning at 6:00 am, I woke up ready to play but then I heard a sound in the living room. It was a strange sound and I wanted to see what it was. I woke up my sister and we went to the living room, but first, I got my phone. We looked in the living room and there were presents under a table. "Could it really be my birthday?" I thought. There was a sign that said "HAPPY BIRTHDAY 5." It was my birthday, I woke up my parents then they screamed "Happy Birthday!" They told me to open my presents. I opened the first one; it was a pack of Legos. My second one was a soccer ball. The last one was big and long and I opened it. It was an Xbox360 and I couldn't believe it. I felt super amazed. I said thank you right after I saw it. I am thankful because if I'm not I don't get what I want.

### My favorite dish and dessert

My favorite dish is *arepas*: cheese, beef, chicken, and avocado. My mom and dad make it for me and my sister. The reason I like it is because when you put butter on it, it tastes really good. But the best one with butter is cheesy. My favorite dessert is a sundae and I get it from my dad. He puts vanilla, chocolate and ice cream. I also love ice cream. My all-time favorite ice cream is cookies n cream with a little bit of chocolate chip cookies as a topping.

Rebeca Polanco



**Dear Parents,**

Thanks for all of the toys you got me for my birthday.

I had fun.

I love you mommy and daddy.

I love my brother, Juan and his friendship with me.

I love my puppy.

She is so fluffy.

I love my shoes.

### **Indian Food**

My mom makes delicious food like Indian food.

I love it so much. It is bread with sugar inside and my mom makes it so good.

I love it. I love Indian food.

### **Short Story**

Grace and her friends were fairies. They fly in the sky with the queen in the house. The fairies fly in the girl's car. Then the fairies use their power to open the window. Outside there was a cute dog. The fairies stopped to pet it. The end.

### **My first day of School**

We (my brother and me) like to go to the first day of school. We wanted to go so bad to the school so we could get dropped off.

I got to the school. I had no friends because it was a new school year. I love my school so much.

Eliauth Solano



### **Science**

You people should do science because you learn a lot.  
You could have fun and make friends.  
Also, you could do great experiments.  
You mix ingredients to make big projects!

### **To my parents**

Parents, thank you for buying me an iPod. Thank you for buying me college books. I learn a lot.  
Parents, thank you for signing me up for swimming classes and for the Youth Writing Festival.

### **Ode To Trees**

Oh trees,  
you are green  
Oh trees,  
you are tall  
Oh trees,  
you have leaves  
Oh trees,  
you have animals  
Oh trees,  
I can climb on you

### **Short Story**

It was nighttime at the bank.  
Yesenia broke her iPhone.  
She was sad so she cried.  
Then, Yesenia bought a new phone.  
The end.

### **The bear and the wolf**

Once upon a time, one hundred years ago there was a stormy girl. She found a wolf. The wolf was creepy. There was also a big black bear. The bear killed the wolf. Then the bear went to sleep.

Gennsy Solano



**Dear Mom,**

Thank you for everything you have done for me. I really appreciate what you have done for me and my little brother. Thanks for giving birth to us and giving us food to eat and shelter to live under. I also want to thank you for paying for school and for providing our education. Even though we can be annoying and give you headaches, you never give up on us and we really love you. You have been a mom and a dad for me. Thank you for taking us out and cleaning up after us, even when you come home tired.

Sincerely, Gennsy

### **El Dia de Los Tres Reyes Magos**

*El Dia de Los Tres Reyes Magos* is a day in which the whole family comes together to celebrate when the three magic kings followed the star to Bethlehem in order to meet baby Jesus. The kings arrived bearing their treasured gifts for the new born. During this day, my family and I cut a big bread called *rosca*. Inside the *rosca*, there are up to three or four tinny baby wax figures. Whoever gets a baby figure has to cook or take the family out for food. Also, the kids put their shoes under the Christmas tree, at our aunt's house, so that the next morning we are able to run with excitement to our shoes to see the three gifts we receive.

### **Hot Cheetos**

Oh hot Cheetos, why are you so good  
I dress you with Valentina every time I  
eat you. The first time I saw you at the  
store there I stood in awe

### **Short Story**

Ramona never had any trouble keeping herself entertained. However, this summer all of her friends went to a summer camp and she was home alone and had no one to play with. And she asked and asked her mom but she didn't let her go. Ramona did not give up. She made sure that this summer she had fun. So, she planned a camping trip so her and her friends could go camping and have some fun.

## Fernando Xochicale



### Poem of Life

Why do we need trees to live?  
Why do we need sun?  
Will it be a breeze?  
What will happen if the sky is not blue?  
What will happen if there was no ocean?  
Will it be all land?  
Will it be all buildings?  
Will there even be any sea animals?  
Will there be more mountains and hills to fall off from  
and feel an ouch.  
The ocean used to be as wild as a lion.  
The ocean's color is the land's sky.

### Day of the Dead

Day of the Dead is a celebration that Mexico and people from other parts of the world celebrates. My family makes Pan de Muertos on *Dia de los Muertos*. People put a table with pictures of their family members on the table. Then they put food for the dead so they can come down to eat the food. After two weeks, we are able to eat the food. We have dinner dishes like tamales, tacos, and posole to eat every day. On this day, we also have other family members that come over to have dinner. Also, we have parties with friends and we celebrate for two weeks until we can eat the food.

### Xochicale

Xtreme is what I am  
Open my emotions  
Combos is what I eat  
Hill I walk for 200 days  
Illness is something we all suffer  
Cali is where I live  
Amable I am  
Living longer matters  
Economy is what we need

### Ode to Pasta

Oh pasta, you are so good at being creamy  
Oh pasta, you can sit in my mouth for days  
Oh pasta, you taste like Mac and Cheese  
Oh pasta, you can taste even better  
Oh pasta, you have other foods that mix good with you

# Richmond Site



### Poison Ivy

Poison ivy is green.  
Poison ivy has three leaves.  
Poison ivy has little black dots.

### Google

When I went to Google I saw a dog. I asked the man  
walking his dog if I could touch the dog.  
Then I pet the dog.  
Also, I saw jump ropes on the roof. I saw them when we  
went to the elevator.  
It was so much fun!

### Summer Poem

The summer is not always sunny.  
It rains in the summer.  
As rain drops fall,  
I jump on the water and make a splash.  
On a sunny day,  
I invite my friend Nayeli to the pool.  
We play, I have fun.  
It is fun to play mermaids at least for a while.

### How do Bunnies Survive?

Bunnies like carrots. Bunnies know how to survive. Bunnies live in hills. When they are cold they get the chills. They are very fluffy and have long ears and their tails are very puffy. They never get their ears pierced though. They live really happy, in the summertime they get sloppy.

Jonathan Avila



**Dear Mom,**

I would like to thank you for all the wonderful that you do for me. You have given me food, water, shelter, clothes, a bed, and much more. I would also like to thank you for always being there for me when I need it. Just like that time in 6th grade when I was failing math, you told me what to do and helped me pass math. At the end, I passed math with an A. Thank you for all the help you gave me.

Sincerely, Jonathan

### **YWF**

I really like the program.  
It's fine we have a lot projects.  
The program is fun.  
I like the experiments as well.  
Today we did magnetic slime. It was with  
slime and magnets.  
For my group it didn't work.  
I think it was because we put too much borax.  
Unfortunately, I started the program late so  
I missed all the field trips.  
I liked my tutor Rafael.  
He was fun.

### **Hot Cheetos**

My favorite food is chips.  
I like the spice from the hot  
Cheetos. Hot fries are my favorite  
hot Cheetos. I eat them whenever.  
I always finish the whole bag.

## Giovanni Campos



**Dear Parents,**

I am thankful for you caring about me and giving me food to eat. I like that you buy me things and take me to school even though I kind of don't like going. I like that you take me to the soccer practice and go to my soccer games. I am grateful that you let me play Fortnite. I am grateful that you care about how I am doing in school and that you go to conferences to check my grades.

Sincerely, Giovanni

**P.S.** Something that I like about my parents is that they are funny and that they like going to places. I like that they care if I have homework.

### **A Fortnite Sonnet**

I like to play fortnite all the time  
It is a fun game  
I get a free dance and skin with Twitch prime  
But when I die it is a shame

I play and I rarely win  
Everyday my stats grow  
I always land where I mark my pin  
I play duos with my bro

I like to carry the scar  
I camp in a bush  
I send the snipe really far  
When I try hard I always rush

Every game I build a base  
When a skull trooper pushes me I run like if I'm in a race

### **YWF**

My experience with the program has been good. I have had a fun time being here. My favorite things to do at the program are the experiments and going on the field trips. I like working on our end of the program project.

## Jonathan Campos



### Dear Parents,

I am grateful for everything you have done for me. Thank you for caring for me and buying me many things that I use today. I am grateful for you guys taking me to soccer practice 2-3 times a week, to my soccer games, and for taking me to soccer tournaments when I have one. I am also grateful for you taking me to school conferences and to see that my grades are good and that I am a good student. Also for caring if I have homework or not. Then you tell me that you are going to ask the teachers if I have homework and also ask how my grades are doing. You make me feel very good about myself.

Sincerely, Jonathan

### Fornite

I always play fornite  
I win all the time  
I could play it all night  
While I eat a lime

I like to play fornite with my friends  
I get lots of wins  
We celebrate when the game ends  
Then I get the chills

I hit tricks with the snipe  
I rage when I lag  
I watched Ninja when he was hyper  
I always carry like a bag

I would never take the shot  
Of acting like a bot

### YWF

My experience at the program has been good so far. My group is really fun. The field trips are fun and most of the experiments have been great. We have a rap for the end of the program celebration and Rafa made a fire beat.

# Miguel Angel Castro



## The Zoo

I like to go to the zoo.  
I see a giraffe.  
I see an elephant.  
I see a cheetah.  
I also see a lion.  
I see a cheetah again.

Sometimes cheetahs chase zebras.  
The zebra, is tired,  
Then the lion attacks.  
Poor zebra, the lion has found its prey

## Miguel

Miguel Angel  
Iguanas  
Grow and speak  
Unclearly to  
Elephants and  
Lions.

## Lions

Lions,  
Iguanas, and the  
Oceans  
Never  
Settle.

## Hobbies

I play soccer with my friends.  
I like to play tag.  
I like playing hide and go seek.  
But my favorite thing to do is playing in parks  
because I like to play with older kids. It is fun!

Angel Domínguez



### **Muir Woods**

On Friday, we had a trip to Muir Woods. On the bus ride, we saw trees, houses, mountains, windows, and construction workers. When we got there a lady named Fatima told us how old the park was. On the hike, the lady told us about how poison oak has three leaves and it gives you a bad rash. I learned that rings inside the trees tell us how old the tree is. She talked about the Ohlone and the Miwok Native American. I had fun on our field trip to Muir Woods.

### **Magic Milk Experiment**

We did a magic milk experiment. We used a container, milk, food coloring, dish soap, and toothpicks. I thought that nothing was going to happen when we added the soap. First, we added milk to the container. Next, we added food coloring. The food coloring colors that we added were blue, green, and red. We added them in three sections of the container. Then we got a toothpick and put it in the middle, and then it all spread. Then the three colors mixed. It made a dark green color. After all, I liked the magic milk experiment.

### **The Violin**

Violin is fun  
It is very wavy  
Sounds so beautiful  
When you know how to play it

Smells like rosin  
Put rosin to bow  
Beautiful bow  
Makes a lot of songs

Shoulder rest on violin  
It helps your shoulder rest  
When you hold the violin for a long time

At last it makes  
Very beautiful music

## Arleth Escobar



### Field trip to Google

I loved Google so much because there was almost like a buffet in there. My real favorite part was when we ate. I ate a sandwich with ham, vegan mayonnaise, and lettuce. When I took a bite, it was like glory had just come. I especially loved the ice cream with Oreo crumbs and sprinkles. I loved when we were playing pool, I learned how to play and I got kind of good at it. I loved everything, so there was no part that I did not love.

We had so much fun; I loved Allison, the one that showed us around. She was really helpful with me and went everywhere with me, so now I consider her as a BFF.

### Grateful

I am grateful that I am able to learn and that I am smart. I appreciate my parents and my group for making me feel grateful. I also appreciate how much I have been learning in this program. Since I was born, I have been learning a lot up until this day. I will always have you guys in my heart.

### Basketball

I like basketball because it makes you grow taller. You should play it because you can express how much you love basketball and how it's your passion. It is also a fun way to exercise.

### Oh Daddy,

Oh daddy, you are my everything.

Oh daddy, you are happiness  
Oh daddy, why are you not here with me?  
Oh daddy, why can't you come back?

Oh daddy, I'm sad and I'm mad

Oh daddy, you are my everything.

Oh daddy, why don't you answer?  
Oh daddy, why are you mad?

Oh daddy, when will be the day when you get up  
and pay the flight

Oh daddy, you smell good  
Oh daddy, you feel soft as a blanket  
Oh daddy, good bye

Oh daddy, you are my everything.

Arturo Escobar



### **Thor and Dark Vader vs. Gods**

One day Thor had a bad day and a god came to ask if he was okay but Thor didn't want to talk and Thor started to get annoyed. So, Thor grabbed his hammer and with his hammer he threw the god across the room. Then Zeus used his lightning bolt and zapped Thor across the room. After the fight, Thor went to Dark Vader to take down the gods.

### **Dear Mom,**

I am grateful for many things in my life. One of those things is clothes and shoes because without you we wouldn't have clothes or shoes. Another thing I am grateful for is a house because we are not cold. Something else I am grateful for is food so we won't starve. These are some of the things I am grateful for. Sincerely, Arturo

### **Muir Woods Field Trip**

We went on a field trip to Muir woods. On the bus ride, I saw giant mountains with a lot of rocks and grass. When we got there it was cold and there were a lot of trees and you could hear the birds. On the hike before we went to the forest, the lady told us not to touch a plant with three leaves because it might be poison oak. I learned that the rings inside the trees tell us how old the tree is. I had fun on the field trip to Muir Woods because we learned about trees and I talked to my friends.

### **Magic Milk Experiment**

We did a magic milk experiment. The materials we used were a container, milk, food coloring, dish soap, and toothpicks. My hypothesis was that the colors were just going to mix together and not spread out like they did. When we started the experiment, the colors started to spread out by themselves. My hypothesis was both wrong and right because I thought the colors were going to mix slowly, but instead, because of the soap, all of the colors started to spread out in circles and it was also like all of the colors would fight back. The magic milk experiment was fun because of what I saw and what we did.

## Christopher Escobar



### Letter to Mom

Dear Mom, I learned about Antonyms, Synonyms, Homophones, and Homonyms today. An example of an Antonym is if I am *weak*, you are *strong*. If the clouds are *up* the grass is *down*. An example of a synonym is big and large. This is what I learned in the program today. Sincerely, Christopher

**Cats**

Cats

Are

True

mammals

### The Ocean

The ocean is a place where we can see sharks and a lot of fish. Before you step into the water you can see the fish swimming near the seashore, just above the sand. If you dive deeper you are able to see sharks and whales. But, be careful! If sharks smell blood they can attack. But sharks may attack fish, they may eat fish. If people are swimming in the ocean, sharks will be near and see them as meat other than humans.

That is why sharks will eat people when they see them.

### My Character Comic

Flash was at base when thunder struck. It scared him, there was a block out. When he woke up he went outside and his hand started to shake. He was shaking a lot that his legs started to shake and he was soon running really fast. He used his super speed only for bad causes. It seemed there was on emergency. He was willing to fight his enemy. He would find him and fight him. If his enemy chose to run away he would chase him until he caught him. He would fight all the villain's and take the good people to safety place. That is how Flash, could save a city from evil and crime.

Dylan Gomez



### **Baking Soda Powered Boat Experiment**

We did an experiment today with baking soda and vinegar. We added the vinegar to a bottle with a hole and a straw at the bottom. Then we scooped in some baking soda. When the vinegar activated with the baking soda, the bottle started moving in the tray of water that we had. My hypothesis was that the water was going to change color. At first it didn't really move, so we added more baking soda. It depends how much you use, because on our third try, it exploded. It started shooting out of the straw. My main observation is that the vinegar started to fizz and make bubbles. My hypothesis was wrong. It didn't change, but it exploded instead.

### **Google Field Trip**

On Wednesday we went on a field trip to some of the Google offices. I learned that they work for at least five hours and then they work at home as well. They had many places to work aside from their private offices, and many things to do like play volleyball and basketball. Also, they had swimming pools. They all have lunch in the cafés, where they have their laptops and continue to work while they eat.

### **Muir Woods Field Trip**

Our field trip to Muir Woods was awesome. I had never seen a redwood tree. I liked when we passed by the stream of water under the bridge. The family tree circle was cool. I liked looking up and seeing how tall all of the trees were. The guide told us about the rings inside of trees, and how when they are cut down, we can see how old the tree is. We also learned that Poison Oak has three leaves and we had to walk away from it because it causes bad rashes. We hiked for a very long time up and down hills, and around the park. We took pictures and had had lunch afterwards.

Isaac Hernandez



### **YouTube Commercial**

YouTube is a cool app where you can watch your favorite creator like Ninja and many more! You can watch funny videos, pranks, or listen to your favorite music. If you don't enjoy any of these kinds of videos and prefer making videos of your own friends, games, or pranks you can make a YouTube account. Based on the amount of views, you can even make yourself some money! If you get lots of views likes and subscriptions to your channel, you could earn some easy money!

### **A soccer story: How I became rich**

I became rich by playing soccer. I started out in a rich place in Mexico. In that place we were the poorest family. We didn't have as much money as the other families and we didn't have as much land. We had enough land to make another house. So, my father used it to make a little soccer field. My dad trained me from 9 am to 12 pm every day. If we still had time we would start again at maybe 8 or 9 pm. He put me in a team when I was only 5 years old. I never really went to the team's practice and if I did it was only when my dad wasn't home to train me.

I played on the same team until I was 17 years old. The bad thing was that my family couldn't fly for the fames any more. So, I had to pay for it. Then I started playing professional soccer. The coach was my dad! We were going to the World Cup and playing against good players. My dad died 35 years after he started the team. He died at the age of 85 years old. I got paid 7.9 million dollars on normal days. If we won big time we won, 24.6 million dollars.

Emir Juarez



### **My Parents**

Dear Mom and Dad, I am grateful that you put me in this program because I am able to learn more things. This program will help me when I go back to school and I will be able to do all of my work. In this program we do a lot of learning and we also do projects. We do a lot of writing and during break I get to talk to other kids. This is why I love this program a lot.

Sincerely, Emir

### **My First Day of School**

My first day of school was super fun because I did some games and a little math, and also some reading. Then at the end we played the hot potato game. My goal in school is to finish all my homework and take a break.

### **Disneyland**

Where I want to go to is Disneyland. Because I love it so much and it is so fun to go there. I love the rides because they are so much fun. My favorite one is Splash Mountain because you get wet a lot.

### **Fortnite**

My favorite game to play is fortnite! Everyone likes it. I don't like to play Roblox. Fortnite is so much fun that even my sister plays it and she loves it so much that she has started to play fortnite every day.

Stephanie Magana



**STEAM**

Sea life  
Takes you  
Everywhere you  
Are destined to go and it is....  
Magical.

**My Parents**

When I went to Disneyland, I went on rides and ate pizza. I also went on the Big Tower that is so so high and goes really fast. When the tower went down, it felt like I started to fly! I also went to the Cars movie ride; the cars went so fast that I could fly. Another ride I got on was the Toy Story ride. It was so fun. Then we drove to the hotel and slept, and went shopping afterwards.

**Field trip to Muir Woods**

Muir Woods was fun and tiring. Overall, it was good and fun. I liked the high trees and also liked the family circle. I also liked the high place where we were walking. But the trip back to school was so long and boring. When we finally got there, we played with play dough. That is what happened when we went to Muir Woods.

Adrian Martínez



**Adrian**

Apples

Dreaming often

Riding bikes on streets

Ignoring people

Animated you tubers are funny

Ninja

**Panther**

Powerful jaws

Adapting to its habitat

Never caught off guard

Ten out of ten

Heavy animal

Easy to get killed by

Really fast.

**STEM**

Science is cool

Technology is my life

Engineering is one of my dream jobs

Math is my favorite subject

Estefanía Martínez



### Goals

One of my goals is to get better grades. I want better grades so I can be smarter and get into a good college by the time I am out of high school. I'm going to do my work and pay attention. I want to have good grades by the end of the quarter. That isn't a lot of time, but my grades aren't super bad. I just want them to be better so it shouldn't be too hard.

### Oh lions,

Oh lions, how you roar ranging from calm to menacing  
Oh lions, how you endanger lives,  
Oh lions, how you make everyone fear their lives  
Oh lions, what would the food chain do without you?  
Oh lions, there is no better king than you  
Oh lions, you are the best and always will be.

### Dear parents,

I am grateful for everything you guys have given me. I am thankful for the house you let me live in. It feels like a home. You guys give me a bed to sleep in (I still use it while awake). You guys passed on your genes and still buy me more jeans. You buy me changes of clothes and sometimes give me the change \$\$\$. I am thankful for all the love you guys have given me. You also support me through school even though I don't always want to go.

Sincerely, your daughter.

### Ghosts vs. spirits

I don't really believe in ghosts but I do believe in spirits. When I'm home alone I hear footsteps creaking in the carpet and I hear dishes breaking. In Mexico I swear I see weird things moving.

I have heard a lot, like the Llorona and so many other things.

## Francisco Martínez



### **Dear Parents,**

I am grateful for my parents because they help me get through life. They tell me what is good and what is bad/terrible. They tell me what is good to do like go to the school and get good grades. They tell me things like drugs or drink beer. They also buy me things I need like clothes and shoes. I am very grateful for that because they are there for me when I need them. They also teach me things like how to cook and my dad how to fix a car. I am grateful for have them and I love my parents.

Sincerely your son, Francisco.

### **Fornite**

Oh, I just love fortnite  
I hate when my pump does nine  
I play it all night  
But sometimes my pump is just fine

When I win I celebrate  
When I loose I rage  
But I have to calculate  
I lock noobs in a cage

### **Fifa Tournament**

Yesterday I had a Fifa tournament with my friends. We bet money and I won of course. I was France and my friends were Mexico and, Belgium and Portugal. I won \$50 in total.

### **YWF**

My experience so far is great with my friends Giovanni and Jonathan. I like when there is a project and I also like the field trips.

Nahomí Martínez



### **Summer**

In the summer the sun is bright and it burns. In summer you could go to the pool and you could go to the beach. You can get a sun burn on the pool and on the beach. In summer you can go to the zoo. Some people hate the sun and the heat. You can get ice cream in the heat.

Some people wear shorts when it's hot. But some people still wear pants.

### **Blood Experiment**

First, we put water in one glass cup.

Then we put food coloring on the side of the inside of the cup.

Next, we made a hole near the middle of another cup.

We added play dough to the hole on the cup and did this to the other cup.

After this we put a small red straw in one cup and a big white straw in the other.

The white straw was longer.

It was fun.

### **Milk Separation**

What we did first was put milk in a bowl.

Then we put food coloring in the milk.

We mixed food coloring with the milk.

It was very colorful.

Samuel Mata



### **Muir Woods**

Trees are long and fat.  
Trees are fat and long.  
Some have poison.  
I touched some trees.

### **Bunnies**

Bunnies  
Unify  
Nicely  
Never  
Incognito before  
Easter when  
Spring comes along.

### **Bunnies**

Bunnies are cute, bunnies are big and little.  
Bunnies are black and white; they come in different sizes and colors.  
I have two bunnies, bunnies are really, really cute.  
Bunnies are too fluffy. Bunnies poop a lot.  
Bunnies pee a lot. Bunnies are real.  
Bunnies they can jump, bite, and can get out of the cages.  
Bunnies are real. Bunnies are cute.  
Bunnies are true.  
They can treat themselves nicely.  
You can have two bunnies and they will not be a problem.  
Bunnies are kind. Bunnies are furry.  
This is why I love bunnies, bunnies are too cute.

## Sofia Mata



### My Parents

I appreciate my mom and dad for many things. I am grateful for them because they take care of me. I love the food that my mom makes, and the desserts are also really good. My dad buys me pets, such as bunnies, birds, and chicks. My mom also buys me clothes, and does my hair every day. I also love my parents because they take me to fun places like Water World. These are some things I am grateful for them.

### A boy who did not like school

There was once a boy named José, and he did not like the school. He just liked video games. He goes to a school named “People that like to learn Elementary School” The school is big with a lot of classes and grades. José is in 2nd grade and during class, he plays with his pencil. On Monday, there was a test in his writing class. During the test he was frustrated because he did not know the answers. So, he ended up getting on F on the writing test. Miss Stephanie told José to stay after school to learn more. Then he retok the test and he passed it.

The End!

### Birds

Beautiful feathers  
In the wings and fly  
Really fast  
Dashing through the  
Sky

### STEAM

Sofia learns  
Teamwork through  
Educational time  
And she learns  
Math

## Ximena Mata



### **Muir Woods**

On Friday we had a field trip to Muir Woods. On the bus ride I saw lots of trees, houses, and a big piece of gum on the top of a mountain. On the hike, I saw a river and that a tree made a heart with three leaves and I heard the river. I felt the Horse's Tail (plant). I learned that the rings inside the trees tell us how old the tree is. We had fun on our field trip to Muir Woods.

### **Untitled**

Today I was sleeping in my bed  
Yesterday I was making a cake  
When I was writing I lost the lead  
I was making a cake by the lake.

I was playing at the park  
I saw a cute dog  
The little cute dog that barks  
In the lake there was a lonely log.

I was at school  
Thinking about being in the living room  
Instead it's better at the pool  
But after school I had a broom.

I saw Adriana  
With a Panda

### **Magic Milk Experiment**

Today we did an experiment. The materials were milk, food coloring, a container, dish soap, and toothpicks. My hypothesis was that I thought the food coloring was going to spread in the milk when we added the soap. And we used three different colors of food coloring: blue, red, and green. And then we added the soap and the colors spread out. My hypothesis was correct because I already did this experiment at home. The milk experiment was fun, and I am going to do it again at my house.

# Ulises Renteria



## Texas

The day I went to Texas I was seven years old and scared. The reason I was scared was because my sister said the take-off was scary and that plane would turn upside down! My mom said not to be scared but I didn't pay attention. They called us to our plane and I was shaking the whole time we were walking to the plane. We got to our seats and I sat next to my mom. I held her tight and she hugged me. Being in her arms made me feel safe. As the speakers were talking I fell asleep when I woke up we were landing and I didn't even feel it. We got off the plane and I felt my first plane ride was successful.

## Dear mom,

I am grateful for our house, it's a wonderful home. Sometimes it's hot and sometimes it's cold. Also, I'm grateful when you take me to GameStop and let me buy a mic. I am also grateful for you taking care of me and being my mom. I am also grateful for the times that I'm clumsy and forget stuff at home and you get it for me. I am also grateful for the vacations we go on that you spend money on. I am mostly grateful for you having me. Sincerely, Ulises

## Muir Woods

I saw trees, water, and mountains. I also saw birds, bees and people I learned that trees form a family circle so the tree can be safe and live for many years. I also learned that the trees have been there since the dinosaurs were around I saw the water and it was so clear. I was able to see the little animals that live there.

### STEAM

#### Dog

Dog you're just so  
Out of this world  
Good boy!

Science is raw  
Technology is too cool  
Engineering is awesome  
Art is fun  
Mathematics is okay

### Ulises

Useful tool  
Loose body  
Ignorant and cool  
Sweet as pie  
Estimating is like guessing  
Scientific and smart

# Site Coordinators

Berkeley  
Site



**Lupita Guerrero**

Richmond  
Site



**Maria De Los Angeles  
Caloca-Rivas**

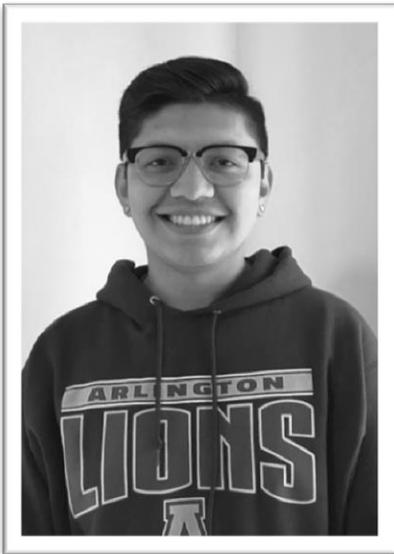
# Berkeley Tutors



**Selendi González**



**Jocelyn López**



**Eduardo Rosas**



**Yesenia Quintero**



**Yesenia Shultz**

## Richmond Tutors



**Rafael Castro**



**Adriana Candelario**



**Raquel Maldonado**



**Yesenia Verdín**



**Moriah Mitchell**



**Sofia San Bartolome**

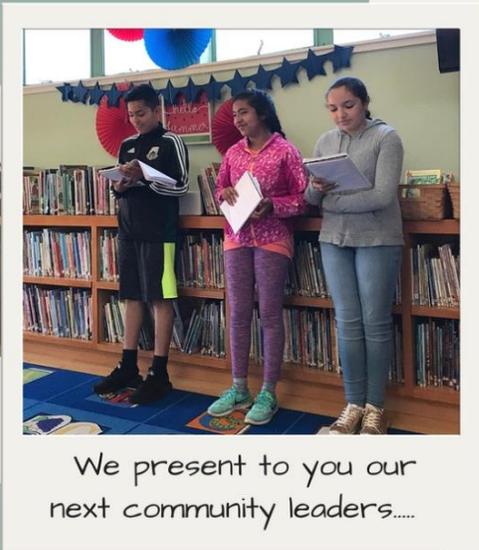
# 2018 Berkeley and



Writing our hypothesis....



@ Apple



We present to you our next community leaders....



Writing and working together....



Developing codes and commanding robots....



Learning to measure heartbeats....

# Richmond adventures



STEAM activities in action.....



Checking to see hypothesis is correct



Writing



Being creative



Last step: The results



Grammar and prefix time.....

# A Word from Students and Parents

*"I appreciate that you give us time to free write about anything we want. Another thing that I appreciate is that you pay for us to go on fieldtrips and you buy materials for us to do experiments. If I wasn't in the Youth Writing Festival I would be sleeping or just watching T.V.*

*I thank you guys for everything."*

-Angel Dominguez, Student

*"Me gusta cómo trabajan en este programa. A Fatima (mi hija) le atrae mucho el programa y le gusta mucho venir."*

-Elvira Pasillas, Parent

*"Mi experiencia sobre el programa YWF ha sido de mucho agrado y satisfacción ya que por varios años había estado buscando un programa como este, que le ayudara a los niños a mejorar sus habilidades en su escritura y al mismo tiempo disfrutaran de lo que ellos hacen y aprenden.*

*Estoy muy agradecida con todos los que hacen posible que se lleve a cabo este programa porque veo en mi hijo Isaac que ha disfrutado mucho el compartir con sus compañeros y ahora le gusta la escritura."*

-Karina Hernandez, Parent

*"This program is great to move forward in writing."*

-Eduardo Castro,  
Student

*"Mi experiencia con el programa es que ha sido bueno. Es divertido con los paseos y las actividades que hay aquí, como experimentos y cosas manuales para los niños. Es algo bueno salir de la rutina y divertirse"*

- Angeles López, Parent

*"This program is cool because you can meet new people and make friends.*

*I really like this program."*

-Alonzo Castro, Student

# Summer 2018 Writers

Alondra Arellano

Brian Arellano

Jason Arellano

Damilola Babaoye

Tobi Babaoye

Milagros Burgos

Montserrat Burgos

Alonzo Castro

Eduardo Castro

Nancy Cervantes

Erick Lujan

Angeles Márquez

Camila Márquez

Oscar Monroy

Fatima Pasillas

Juan Polanco

Rebeca Polanco

Eliauth Solano

Gennsy Solano

Fernando Xochicale

Sygrid Almanza

Jonathan Avila

Giovanni Campos

Jonathan Campos

Miguel Angel Castro

Angel Domínguez

Arleth Escobar

Arturo Escobar

Christopher Escobar

Dylan Gomez

Isaac Hernández

Emir Juárez

Stephanie Magaña

Adrian Martínez

Estefania Martínez

Francisco Martínez

Nahomi Martínez

Samuel Mata

Sofia Mata

Ximena Mata

Ulises Rentería

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