



Youth Writing Festival

A program of the Multicultural Institute

Anthology of Students' Creative Work

Summer 2022



About M.I.

The Multicultural Institute (MI):

MI is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization serving the immigrant communities of Alameda, Contra Costa and San Mateo Counties since 1991.

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 or 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 Claim, 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



★ Youth Writing Festival Tutors

Jennifer



Yesenia



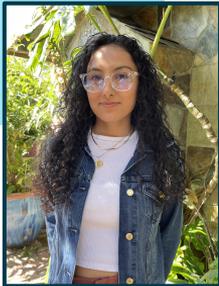
Nancy



Maria-Cristina



Teresita



Antonio



Ernesto



Gelo



Valeria Martínez Cruz



Age: 8
Grade: 3rd

Daisy

My favorite flower is a daisy. They are so pretty and they have light colors. They have stems and leafs. They are so little but so cool at the same time. I don't know what I love them so much! There is a reason why I like daisies, I like daisies , I like daisy's because my brother hates daisies. They are so pretty when they're getting watered. Even more pretty when they are made into daisy crowns. When they are in a bunch all together I love them! Probably some animals love them as much as I do because they eat the daisies because they're food! That's why I love daisies.

"I feel happy because for my birthday I will get a guinea pig on Halloween because my birthday is October 31. I'm excited because I might go to the park and play tag with my dad and brother. I have a guinea pig in my mind until I get a guinea pig and take her to the park."



Angel Dominguez



Age: 12

Grade: 8th

"It was August 16 2021, my first day of 7th grade and the first time the whole school was back on campus since the covid pandemic. While I was getting ready for my first day of 7th grade, I was really nervous not only because there was a lot of people I made friends with through distance learning. When I was arriving at school, I was scared and afraid almost like if something bad was going to happen to me. I got off the car and the first thing I thought of was "where are my friends," I was looking for 3 close friends I had made during distance learning. I felt like I looked dumb because I kept walking and walking around the school trying to look for them. "Finally I found them" were the words I said in my head once I had eventually found them. It was honestly the best thing that happened that day, besides the fact I met my "Zoom" friends in real life."



Kassandra Flores Montoya



Age: 12

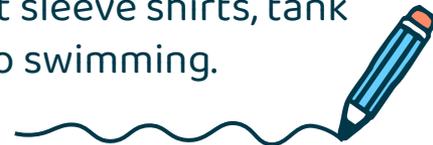
Grade: 6th

What I think the perfect day is...

What I think is a perfect day is that, to go to the pool, get ice cream, go to movie's, get panera, go shopping because going to the pool during this heat is good, and going to get ice cream is so good because when I get ice cream we go eat it at a park, and going to the movies to see the new movie Lightyear is wonderful because my mom buys the tickets' in 3D. Then we go to get Panera is so good because they sell my favorite salad there which is the Chicken Caesar Salad, and going shopping is good because I can get what I want.

Free write- June 27, 2022

What I would like to buy when I have money is fidgets, clothes, cummer things like, shorts, short sleeve shirts, tank tops, and bathing suits, so I can go swimming.



Emely B. Hernández



Age: 10

Grade: 4th

How My Day is Going

Hi, my name is Emely Hernandez. Today I'm going to talk about how my day is going. First I woke up had breakfast, and came to the summer program. So I'm at the program, right now and for now I'm writing of what I'm doing today. When I got here I was outside waiting till we got in a circle.

I'm the circle we had to say our name and the person's in front of us and it went around the whole circle.

I think after we are going to do a project but I don't know of what. It might be cool and fun, but it's a group and I'm shy today.

My Favorite Sport

My favorite sport is soccer. Why, because I love running, turning the ball and I try to make goals. I like soccer because I run a lot and I want to be a future soccer player.

Guadalupe B. Hernández



Age: 6

Grade: 1st

"The astronaut goes to the moon. The astronaut went to the moon to pick up a flag. When the astronaut got hungry on the moon, he ate pizza and it was very delicious. When the astronaut was done with the pizza, the astronaut went back home on his spaceship. The astronaut was so tired after the trip, she went to sleep right the ship landed on earth."

"I like daisy flowers because they are pretty even though they are needy."

"I am feeling good today.
I'm excited to have recess.
I'm also hungry and I'm thinking about food.
I want Mac & Cheese.
I should have brought water."

Brandon Linares



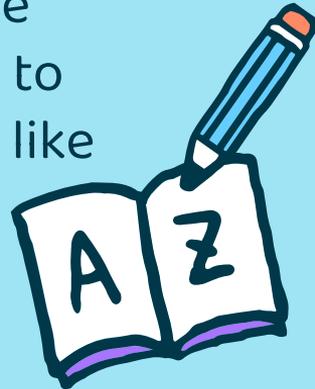
Age: 7
Grade: 2nd

My First Day of School

What I remember about my first day of school was that I felt sad. What I would change about school would be to take play time away from the kids that are bad.

What is Your Favorite Food?

Pizza is the best. No one can eat the yummy sauce cause you might have to floss. My favorite is pepperoni pizza. I like it as much as macaroni.



Erick Linares



Age: 12

Grade: 7th

"Hello I'm Erick! I'm twelve years old and i just finished 6th grade and moving on to 7th grade. I'm very excited for 7th grade! I like to go to the park and play basketball. Most of time I just play with random people and that's very fun to me because I get to meet new people to play with."

How I Feel About Coming Here:

I feel good and happy because it looked fun. After we were done I was thinking about probably coming back with my family or friends and it was fun to row the boat and go far. I loved it and I'm thinking of going again rowing the boat.

Nicolas López



Age: 11

Grade: 6th

What I Did Over the Weekend

Over the weekend I got dressed, my sister and I wanted to wear the same things so we wore a hat, pants, white shirt, and a jean jacket then we went out for breakfast. Then we went shopping for my padrino's baby and at the party my padrino proposed to his girlfriend. Then on Sunday we went to church and had breakfast at my mom's job. We then went home and I played on my sister's switch while eating peach rings. My tooth then came out then I went back to playing on the switch, and when I was done I watched tv the rest of the day.

My Favorite Dessert

My favorite dessert has to be ice cream but if I were to choose a flavor it would be coffee. I love coffee and especially when it is coffee ice cream.

Zoe López



Age: 8
Grade: 3rd

A Boy and His Dog

Once upon a time a wild dog escaped the dog shelter everybody was scared because he was really scary and if you were feeding your dog a treat it would bite your hand. A boy was walking when a dog started chasing him and he started running to his house but the dog broke the door and chased the boy into his room. The dog sniffed the room for food. The boy assumed he was hungry so he gave him food. The dog was happy because he hadn't have food. The boy started to train him and then the boy became a right fool owner.

My Favorite Sport

My favorite sport is soccer because my whole family plays soccer and I love to play with my friends.

Andres Mandujano Macias



Age: 9

Grade: 4th

First Day

The first day of school was very academic and we just wrote for most of the day. I didn't find it very fun but i did have a lot of of when it was time for recess. Recess was only twenty minutes but i wish it was longer. We later had lunch and I eat pizza and afterwards I played with my friends for 1 hour. After lunch, we had to read. I didn't really like reading we had but after reading we had art time. Drawing is my favorite thing to do in class so it was a great way to end the first day.

"My favorite fruit is dragon fruit. A lot of people say that it doesn't taste good but to me it tastes very good!"



Estefania Aguilar Martin



Age: 13

Grade: 7th



Family Helping Each Other

There was a family that was helping . It was a hot summer day. The Quezada family were moving They were moving far away. The name of children in the family were Bryan, Angel, Jennifer, amd Elisa. Bryan is 14 years old. He always wore a grey shirt and blue pants. Jennifer is 13 years old. She always wore a black shirt with blue pants. Angel is 13 years old . He always wore a blue shirts with black pants. Elisa is 18 years old. She always red shirt with white pants. The mothers name was Erica and she was 37 years old. She always wore a white shirt with a black skirt.

Camila Mosquera



Age: 13

Grade: 8th

Free Write

Today I got on a boat two times and saw ducks. The first time I sat with Cristina, and the second time I got with Teresita and Nancy. It was very fun and I felt excited, before I got on the boat I felt nervous and scared because I don't like to be surrounded by water. This is my first time getting on a boat. I learned to be able to able to handle the boat.

The Forest

The forest is beautiful and horrific
The forest is full of bears and birds
His nature had been fair and fair
So amazing yet keeps so many secrets
The forest so magical but so dangerous.



Camila Abril Muñoz



Age: 14

Grade: 9th



Summer Day

When it's Summer its hot and cold.
I like it when it's sunny and bright.
I go outside because It's fun.
I only play when it's light out.
When Summer is over I feel sad.
That is the Summer that i had.

The Trip

We are going on a trip in a car.
We don't want to be late.
We are traveling far.
We can't wait!

First day

My first day of school was on August 9th.
I felt really nervous but was excited.
I was 13 years old.
I remember that I met new friends.
It turned out to be a great day.

Tonantzin Pasilla



Age: 9
Grade: 4th

Thank You!

Dear mom and dad,

Thank you for buying me toys and giving me food and for taking care of me. Thank you giving me hugs and kisses you give me. Thank you for all the things you do for me with love!



The Girl

There was a girl named Maya. Maya has two sisters and two brothers. Maya's brothers would be bothering Maya but Maya was smart, so Maya made a plan to escape! The next day Maya ran out the door and left a note on the dinner table to say goodbye to her brothers and sisters. To be continued.....

Hector Reyes Quintero



★
★ Age: 6
Grade: 1st

Alcatraz Trip

Today I feel very tired but in a good way. The class and I went on a field trip today. I liked the little birdies i saw by the water. We saw a prisoner try to escape! We also saw a dummies laying the floors of the cells, it was creepy!

“Everytime i play with my little cousin she makes me laugh! Yesterday I went to her house and had so much fun. We went to the store and then later on we watched our favorite Tv shows.”



Emilio Sánchez



Age: 10

Grade: 5th

What I Did Over the Weekend

I went to a park, I went to watch a movie at the theaters. The movie was really good and fun. After the movie, I went swimming with my friend. We could only swim for a hour but i had a really good time. There was a water slide and we all took turns on it. The sad part was that it had to end. When we got home, well all relaxed and ended the day with a popsicle. I had a very good weekend!

Andy's Donuts

The new store Andy's donuts is getting really popular. Everyday i see more and more people go into the shop. Last week was the grand opening and it was so full and busy that they ran out of donuts! I hope to go next week when its a bit less busy.



Michelle Sánchez



Age: 7
Grade: 2nd

"Guinea pigs are fluffy and very little. They are cute and I love their color. What do they eat? They all have different patterns they all are different sizes. Guinea pigs are very interesting animals."

"The guinea pig was walking in the woods. She took the wrong path cut and saw a house that caught her attention. There was an animal in the house that needed help. The guinea pig helped the animal and in return the animal cooked the guinea pig a meal and they both became best friends."



Daniel Najera Sánchez



Age: 11

Grade: 5th



"My family likes to watch soccer but only if its the Mexican national team. Sometimes we all watch it together but a lot of times it's just my brothers and dad who watch."

"Once in a lost everland there was a tree so huge it could reach the clouds. This tree was source of life for every single plant in the everland. The plants depended on this mythical tree. This tree was called the Tree of Life."



"My favorite thing to buy when I have money is legos or games mostly for when I'm bored. But right now I can't find the controllers for my console so I have to buy new ones, but they cost \$80 per controller."

Alexa Suazo



ABC



Age: 13

Grade: 7th

Free Write

I stayed at my friends house this weekend. If my life had a soundtrack the songs would be Pop by Nayeon because it's upbeat and happy. I would also pick Wind Tapestry by Lemp because it's a nice song to listen when you fell calm and sleepy and also the song Watching him fade away by Mac DeMarco. I am happy because I got Nayeons solo album. My favorite thing to buy is Kpop albums, makeup, and clothes.

I was listening to music
While eating blueberries outside
Under the bright blue sky
Watching the white and black birds fly in circles.

Cain Cael Tercero Rojas



Age: 8

Grade: 3rd

Berkeley Marina

I had fun paddling today. I saw many ducks on the island. I got wet by the pond. The boat i rode looked like a banana which was really funny! It was a great day!

First day

On the first day of school i remember we couldn't go to school in person so we met on zoom. It made me very happy to see all my friends again. We talked about what we did over the Summer and the games we played. I talked about dodgeball because its my favorite!



Summer 2022 Writers

Valeria Martínez Cruz
Angel Dominguez
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Emely B. Hernández
Guadalupe B. Hernández
Brandon Linares
Erick Linares
Nicolas López
Zoe López
Andres Mandujano Andres

Estefania Aguilar Martin
Camila Mosquera
Abril Camila Muñoz
Tonantzin Pasilla
Hector Reyes Quintero
Emilio Sánchez
Michelle Sánchez
Daniel Najera Sánchez
Alexa Suazo
Cain Cael Tercero Rojas

Thank You to Our 2022 Supporters!

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Chan Zuckerberg Initiative

Chancellor's Community Partnership Fund

Chevron Richmond

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Contra Costa County

Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano

Alameda National Park Services-Alcatraz

North Pleasanton Rotary Club

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