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# CHILDREN'S CONNECTION



**Stefan Young, Age 11, Transparent Watercolor - "Wind Power," Hunter Forest School of Fine Art**

## Welcome

Dear Readers:

This week, the Vienna Connection turns over its pages to the youth and students of its communities.

We asked principals and teachers from local schools to encourage students to contribute their words, pictures and photos for our annual Children's Issue.

The response this year was enormous. While we were unable to publish every piece we received, we did our best to put together a paper with a fair sampling of the submitted stories, poems, drawings, paintings, photographs and other works of art.

We appreciate the extra effort made by school staff to gather the materials during their busy time leading up to the holidays. We'd also like to encourage both schools and parents to mark their 2009 calendars for early December, the deadline for submissions for next year's Children's Connection. Please keep us in mind as your children continue to create spectacular works of art and inspiring pieces of writing in the com-

ing year.

The children's issue is only a part of our year-round commitment to cover education and our local schools. As always, the Connection welcomes letters to the editor, story ideas, calendar listings and notices of local events from our readers. Photos and other submissions about special events at schools are especially welcome for our weekly schools page.

Our preferred method for material is e-mail, which should be sent to [vienna@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:vienna@connectionnewspapers.com), but you can reach us by mail at 7913 Westpark Drive, McLean VA 22102 or by fax at 703-917-0991. Call 703-917-6428 with any questions.

EDITOR KEMAL KURSPAHC

Connection interns Janelle L. Plummer and Danielle Landau provided valuable editorial assistance in putting together this year's Children's Connection.



**Ben Nyce, Thoreau Middle School**



**Gabriella Query, Kindergarten, Wolfrap Elementary School**



**Brooke Mullis, Grade 6, Waples Mill Elementary School**



**Danti Wiryawan, Grade 6, Marshall Road Elementary School**



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Alisa Chirachaturaphak, Thoreau Middle School

## Poetry from Wolftrap Elementary

Fifth-graders  
reflect on winter.

I am unique like every snowflake is different.

I am the one who sees the first signs of winter.

—HAILEY SWAAK

### Evening

It is getting dark with evening.  
I come home from my evening walk  
in the woods.

The sun is going down like a ball of golden  
fire behind the trees,

I hear crickets and the distant howl of  
wolves.

Today I was lonely with only the animals  
and tree for company,

I hurry to get home before dark over-  
comes the whole forest.

—MACEY STEARNS

POETRY

### On Christmas Eve

I hear the reindeer on my roof  
Santa is coming down the chimney  
To drop off presents and eat milk and  
cookies

My heart is beating faster and faster  
Like I just ran the mile  
Red hat, red coat, red pants  
Santa is real.

—TONI JOY

### Snowfall

Choirs sing in the town square,  
People gather round.

In the distance  
You can see little forms of light  
From buildings.

I listen  
As the choirs sing.  
A snowflake drops on my head,  
A stream of water down my face.

Snowflakes start  
To fall down  
Like falling leaves  
In autumn.

I smile up to the sky  
As they continue to fall.

—DANIEL SAN NICOLAS

### Snow

As I see snow  
Falling down,  
I look.

It looks like little crystal balls,  
That tell your future and your past.  
Sometimes you fall

In life  
And sometimes,  
You land gently  
Just like snow.

—JAQUELINE SCHULTZ

### Snowflakes

Snowflakes falling  
Outside  
All different forms  
Gently falling  
Right under the light  
Hanging from the porch  
So excited to play  
In the soft, gentle snow.

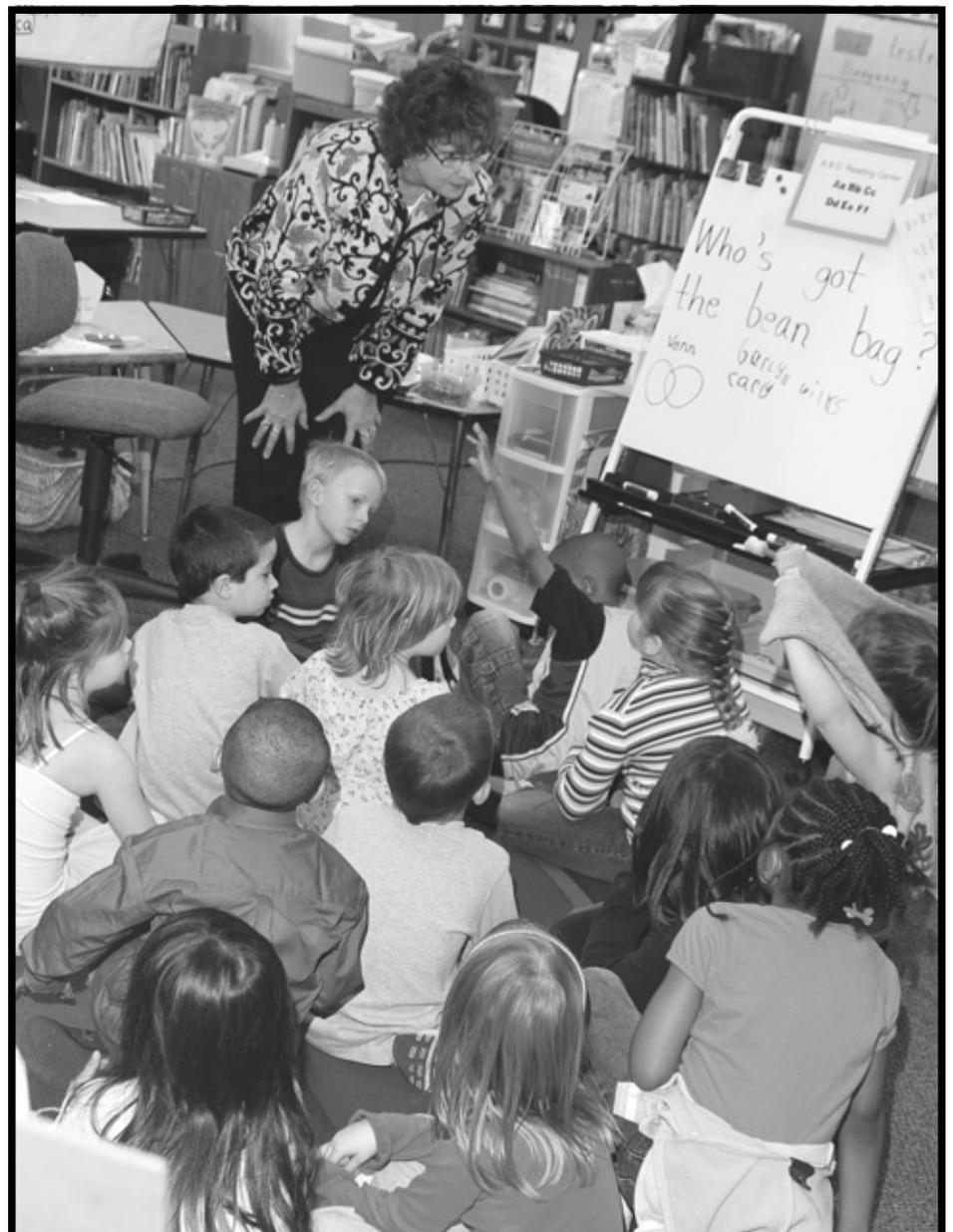
—JULIANNE BOULINEAUX

### Winter's First Signs

I am as light as a gliding snowflake,  
But can be as fierce as a bear gathering  
food for the winter.

I can freeze, like a pond frozen for ice  
skaters.

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## Fairfax County Public Schools Budget Cuts Are They Educationally Sound?

Fairfax County Public Schools are making major cuts in vital areas that will directly affect your child. Next year the children will go to school with an increase of class size, less staff and fewer programs to support their educational needs. All instructional staff will be heavily impacted. Students will have less individual help. Facilitating learning will become more difficult. Parents, imagine how your life would change if triplets were added to your family and your income reduced.

The Superintendent and the School Board have made many of these cuts, but need to continue to look for other ways to trim the budget that does not directly affect your child's classroom instruction and education. Tell the School Board that the cuts must come from non school-based positions, programs and items.

The Fairfax County Federation of Teachers urges you to become involved by making calls and sending emails to School Board Members and the Board of Supervisors. Even if you do not have children, your community will be affected with this erosion of the school system. Our message must be heard to save the quality of the education we provide to all of our students in Fairfax County. Your children's future depends upon it.

- **Public Budget Hearing: January 21 & 27**  
**Register January 9, 2009 at [fcps.edu/schlbd](http://fcps.edu/schlbd)**
- **Email School Board Members at [fcps.edu](http://fcps.edu)**
- **Email Board of Supervisors at [fairfaxcounty.gov/government/board](http://fairfaxcounty.gov/government/board)**
- **Visit [FCFT.org](http://FCFT.org) for more detailed contact information**

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**Ellen Blackburn, Grade 5,  
Flint Hill Elementary School**



**Travis Stephens, Grade 5,  
Flint Hill Elementary School**

THOREAU MIDDLE SCHOOL



**Soraya Tarrah**



**Jessica Taylor**



**Hannah Henry**

# Broadway, Here I Come!

When I grow up my only dream is to be on Broadway. I would love to do this because every time I get on stage I get to express myself in a whole new way... in character! Anytime I feel angry or discouraged I just imagine myself as Elphaba from Wicked on Broadway, doing the things I love most; dancing, singing, and acting. As I grow older and more experienced I believe I'm growing closer to my dream. I know my family and friends will always be supportive. I was recently in "The Little Mermaid." So far it's been a blast. I've made lots of friends, who share the same interests, and dreams. Whenever I hear a song from any Broadway show I'm immediately inspired to sing and dance even more, and to try harder, because I know if they can get all the way to Broadway, I can too! I'm hooked on almost every song on any Broadway CD. I'll play it in the car over and over, or sing my favorite songs until my whole family is yelling at me to be quiet. When I hear this music it makes me happy and smile brightly. I hope if I do get on Broadway to inspire others to follow your dreams and never give up! Broadway, here I come!

— PAIGE CILLUFFO, 5TH GRADE  
FLINT HILL ELEMENTARY

## WHEN I GROW UP

lawyer as well as an author. When you read this you probably are going to think, "This kid has hopes about as stable as the first of the three little pigs house of straw," but I think I'm pretty smart and I think I could get a degree in law. I love to debate things, so I think I would be a good lawyer. The books might be a success, or they might not. I'm quite confident in the way I write, but I'd still need some luck for the books to prosper.

I hoped you liked my essay (though it was short) I also hope you wish me luck for when I am older.

— LIAM MURPHY, 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE,  
FLINT HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## Being a Baker

When I grow up I would love to be a baker. I always watch the food network and see all these amazing cakes, cupcakes, sugar work and more. I can just see myself making the winning cake. My interest in baking began while seeing my Grandpa making beautiful cakes. He made my birthday cake as well as my sister's, they tasted great and looked even better. I love to write, draw, and bake. Being a baker I can do it all. You have to be an artist to be a baker because, you have to design the cake and put the design on the cake. You have to be able to write because you have to make a recipe and if you chose to write your cookbook. And obviously you have to be able to bake. I can only dream of having a famous bakery and my very own TV show. It's so much fun to bake. Next time you bake maybe throw in a new ingredient and try something new.

— EMILY COSTANZO, 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE  
FLINT HILL ELEMENTARY

## Lawyer and Author

When adults ask kids what they want to be when they grow up, most say they want to be a movie star or an athlete. There's nothing wrong with that, except that big question: How are you going to do it? It would be just great if I could be an athlete or a movie star, but the chances are about as slim as getting a royal flush on your first five cards in poker. I would want to be a



**Martha Byrne**



**Isabel Hagopian**

# My Hero

My real life hero is my aunt Kathy because she is very special to me. She is always at my house when I need her or I need to talk to someone. Sometimes when she needs help she calls me and my mom. My mom drives me to her house so we can be there for her.

She mostly asked help for her wedding. She asked me, my mom, my brother, 3 of my cousins to be the part of the wedding. I was so exited! She also asked me and my mom if we would find her a wedding dress.

Sometime when I forget my homework she drives me to school to get my homework. I just like the way she does that for me!

She knows what my favorite food is and my favorite sports and team.

She loves me just the way I am even though I'm deaf and I feel the same way to her.

— JORDAN SHROEDER,  
5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE, VIENNA ES

My real life hero is Brian Urlacher. Brian Urlacher plays NFL football and he is a 6'3", 240 pound middle linebacker for the Chicago Bears. I have learned to like him because in my opinion he is one of the best linebackers to ever play football. He is very aggressive when he plays football.

Brian Urlacher is my hero because he is an awesome football player. I like Brian because he's a fast, strong, athletic linebacker and is very professional about his

job. He is also very good at his job of being a football player, and I like that. Brian Urlacher is so fast and strong he was a punt returner in college. Brian Urlacher has been a really good hero to me because he never gets into any trouble, and he never gives up.

— JIMMY GOLDSMITH,  
5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE, VIENNA ES

Even though I love my family, my older sister Nada is my hero. The one reason why my sister is my hero is because she's going for her dreams. My sister always tells me to go for my dreams, because she knows how it is to chase after hers. Nada wants to become an author because she loves writing. She told me, she wants to write books for children and make her way up to adults. I'm proud of my sister; after all she is my hero.

Ever since I was four years old, my older sister has been my hero. Nada has always been there for me. She's always fair when it comes to me and my older brother. I'm the youngest in my family, so Nada does kind of spoil me. On my 6<sup>th</sup> birthday, she got me front row seats to see a circus. Last year Nada got me 4<sup>th</sup> row seats to see an Aly and Aj concert. Nada is the best. She's my hero, and my older sister.

Nada wants to become an author when she finishes college.

— NEVEEN SHAWISH,  
5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE, VIENNA ES

# My 2009 Resolution

An accomplishment took place and changed my life. I took first place at USA Junior Speedo Nationals in diving. My resolution is to place top 3 in my age group again. My goal is to work hard all year long and focus on my training. My training will be successful as long as I avoid any injuries. I would love to have another exciting and successful year.

When I won nationals the feelings were different than any other times I won a dive meet. My family was so proud of me. The feelings were so great I would love to win again. My success last year came from extended training and working on strengthening my muscles and flexibility. Last year I worked harder than any other year. Now I have my mind set on another successful year.

— GRAYSON CAMPBELL 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE, VIENNA ES

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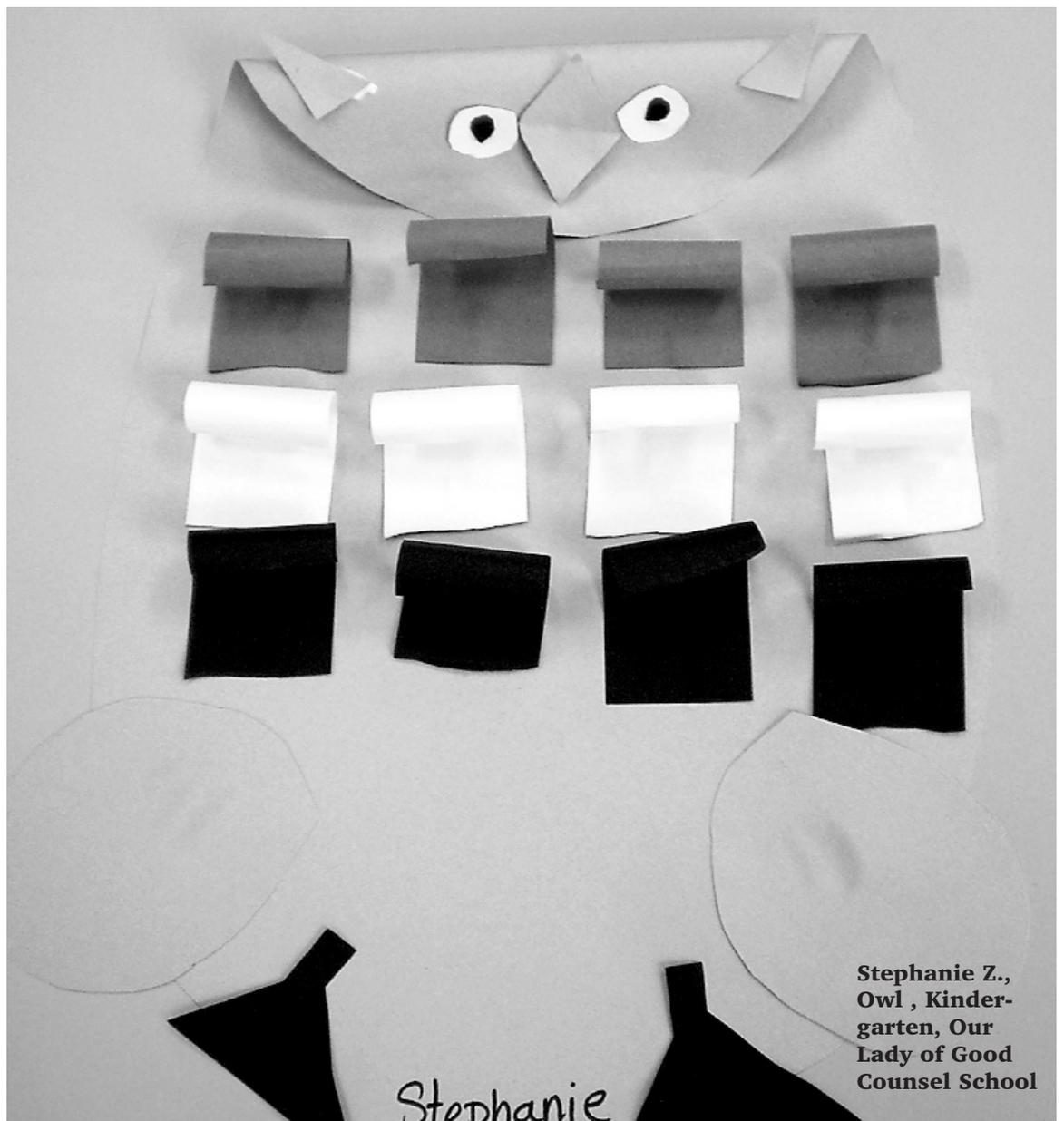
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## I'm thankful for...

I'm thankful for Thanksgiving Day and my family and friends. I love my family because they love and care for me.

—BRIDGET O., GRADE 3

I'm thankful for a family that loves me, some friends that care for me, and God's nice creations: the sun for warmth, the rain for water and lots and lots of trees.

—THERESA S., GRADE 3

I'm thankful for food, water, shelter, football games, and the sound of sports. Also for my teacher, Mrs. Bowers, and my school. I think you're the best, Jesus. Thank you, Mary. Thank you, God.

—JACK G., GRADE 3

I'm thankful for my family because they all love me. I'm thank-

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL SCHOOL

ful for my food and drink because they give me the health I need. I'm also thankful for my friends because they play with me.

—NOAH S., GRADE 3

I'm thankful for all of these wonderful blessings: for my pet fish Lucky Luigi, and Mario. They have had long lives which are still going on. And also for my parents who care for, love, and help me. The last, but not my least, for my family, who spoils me rotten.

—ZACK, GRADE 3

I'm thankful for a family that loves me and friends that always include me. I'm thankful for my pets who always want to see me when I come home from school.

And I'm thankful for the green grass that grows.

—JULIANA CALLEN, GRADE 3

I'm thankful for my lemonade.

—BECKER S., KINDERGARTEN

I'm thankful for my two fish.

—ISABEL W., KINDERGARTEN

I'm thankful for flowers and colors.

—EMMA B., KINDERGARTEN

I'm thankful for me.

—MARY T., KINDERGARTEN

I'm thankful for my parents.

—JACK N., KINDERGARTEN

I'm thankful for Dale Earnhardt Jr.

—DEAN V., KINDERGARTEN

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**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS FEBRUARY 15, 2009.**

\*Sponsored by the United Jewish Endowment Fund of The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington  
 Photo courtesy of Capital Camps & Retreat Center

United Jewish Endowment Fund  
 THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER WASHINGTON  
[www.ShalomDC.org](http://www.ShalomDC.org)

## A Poem about Dogs and Cats

Dogs run while cats have fun.  
 Cats scratch while dogs get a pat.  
 Dogs play while cats say hey.  
 Cats meow while dogs chow.  
 Dogs work while cats listen to birds chirp.

Then they go to sleep.  
 P.S. Dogs go when they sleep "zzz grrrrr!"  
 Cats go when they sleep "zzz meow!"

—KRISTEN JONES, GRADE 3,  
 OLCG SCHOOL

# Little Lost Ant

One day a farmer was mowing on top of an ant hill. So the ants thought that it was a thunderstorm. It was the loudest one that they heard! Then they tried to run away from the mower. But one baby ant could not run that fast. The mother of the baby ant was trying to find her baby. She looked and looked. But she could not find her baby. And she started weeping. She was so sad that she was not in a mood to talk to her husband. But her husband kept asking questions. She did not answer. The baby was in the mower look-

## LEARNING FUN SCHOOL

ing but he could not find his mother. He was brave but still he started to cry because he could not find his mother.

The mother didn't know that she was in the mower too. The baby pushed a piece of thick grass. The mother crawled over it. And they found each other! The mother and the baby hugged. The mother asked what happened. The baby said that it's a long story, I will tell you later. Later baby told everything to his parents.

When he got little older, he

would always read books. He knew how to read since when he was in preschool. He knew so much that he skipped middle school and high school and he went to college. He was also so smart that he was #1 in his class. One day mother told him not to read and he got angry. But then he remembered how he missed his mother when he was lost in the mower. He was not angry anymore.

— Esha Saini, Grade 2,  
Learning Fun School



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Lindsay Hugel, Age 12, Transparent Watercolor - "A Dream Vacation"



Ethan Pann, Age 10, Transparent Watercolor - "Butterflies Delight"



Samra Kabaish, Age 15, Transparent Watercolor - "Canadian Winter"

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## The True Story of Little Red Riding Hood

This is the true story of Little Red Riding Hood. My name is Andrew G. Wolf. I was very hungry and cold. I saw a little girl wearing a red hood. She was skipping through the woods. I followed her through the woods and she went into a house. I followed and knocked on the door. There was no answer, so I knocked again. There still was no answer so I walked in. I just wanted some food and warmth. So I just was looking around for some food and warmth. The people who lived here must have been hiding because I did not see them. A couple minutes later the lady who lived at this house woke up, she saw me and called the police and put me in jail and everyone called me the big bad wolf. By the way the whole thing about me eating the Granny and me putting on the Granny's clothes is not true. All of these people made these lies because they thought I was a bad guy and they wanted me in jail. Now, who do you believe?

— Jack Jones, Grade 4  
Wolftrap Elementary

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Alana Moore, Grade 5  
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Jacob Arbuckle, Kindergarten



Rachel Giles, Grade 4



Jocelin Zeger, Kindergarten



Gabby Cordelli, Grade 1  
MARSHALL ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

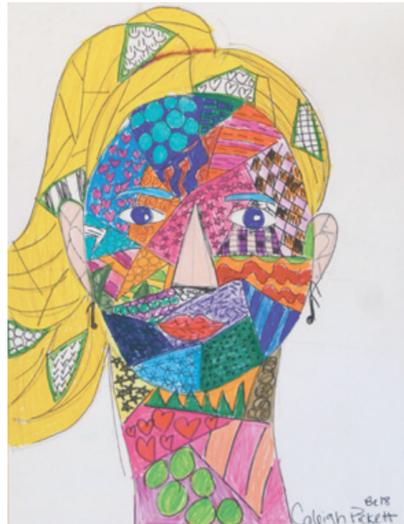


Heather Maxwell, Kindergarten



WOLFTRAP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Igor Asipenka, Grade 5



Caleigh Pickett, Grade 6



Justin Yoo, Grade 6



Flannery Jamison, Grade 6



Erica Chambers, Grade 1



Jessi Kaminski, Grade 2



Sarah Hanlon, Grade 4



Ryan Batsel



Kelsey Smith, Grade 3



Nicole Finnegan, Grade 6

ART PORTFOLIO



Liz Belte, 17, James Madison High School, shares some of her artwork.



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# A Poem about Dogs and Cats

Dogs run while cats have fun.  
 Cats scratch while dogs get a pat.  
 Dogs play while cats say hey.  
 Cats meow while dogs chow.  
 Dogs work while cats listen to birds chirp.  
 Then they go to sleep.

P.S. Dogs go when they sleep  
 "zzz grrrrr"  
 Cats go when they sleep "zzz meowr!"

— **Kristen Jones,**  
 Grade 3,  
 OLGC School

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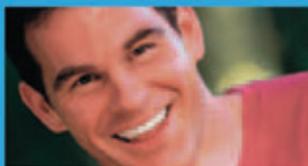
Osinofsky is fluent in English, Russian and Spanish.

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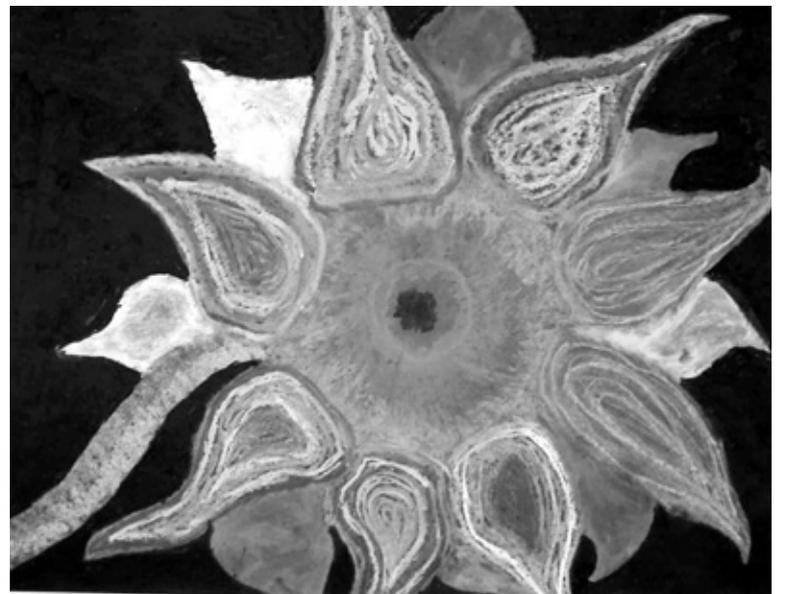
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A.J., 6th grade

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# LEARNING FUN SCHOOL



Danielle Generous, Grade 1



Stephanie Derminassian, Grade 1

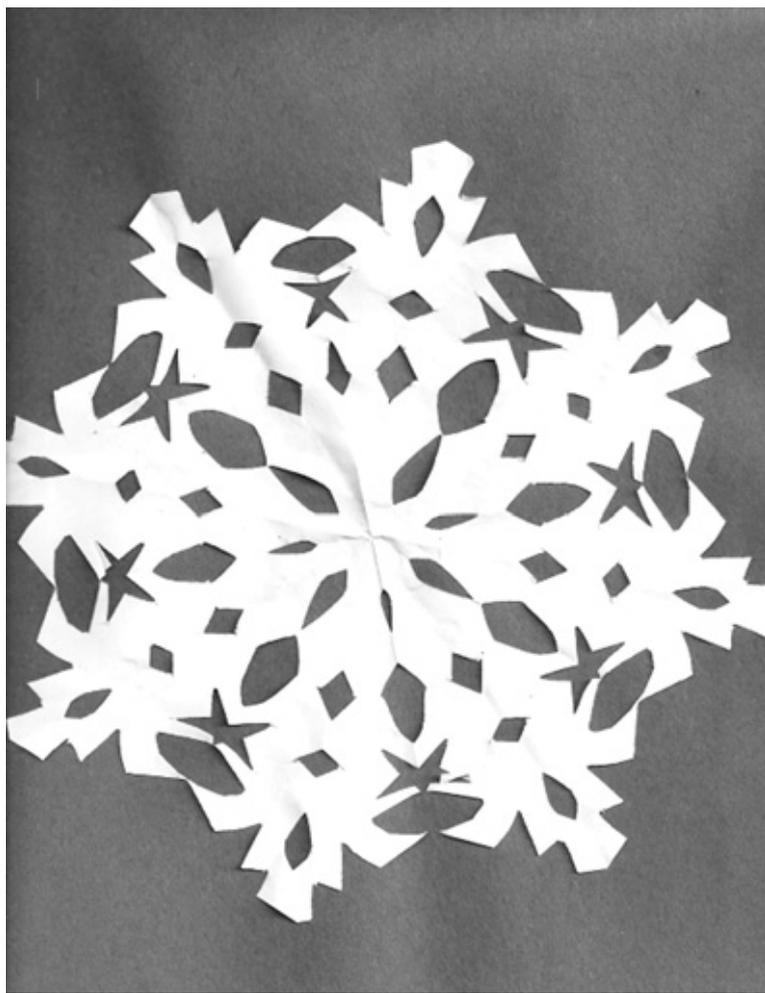
## Sand and Stone

Once there lived two friends named Jack and Joe in a small town. Jack slapped Joe one day for some reason and immediately Joe wrote on sand, "Today, my best friend slapped me on my face". A few days later Jack rescued Joe from drowning and this time Joe carved on stone, "Today, my best friend saved my life".

Jack was puzzled and he asked Joe the reason behind writing on sand, when you slapped me I wanted the incident to be erased by the wind of forgiveness and hence wrote it on sand, today when you saved my life I wanted to remember this forever and hence I carved it on stone so no wind can erase it". This left Jack speechless.

Don't you think this world would be a better place to live if we all learned to forgive our friends like Joe did and remember only the good things that happen to us?

—Nigam Kadambi,  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, Learning Fun School



Aaraj D. Vij, Grade 2



Pranav Bavanari,  
Grade 3

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# Tell It How It Is, Sinatra

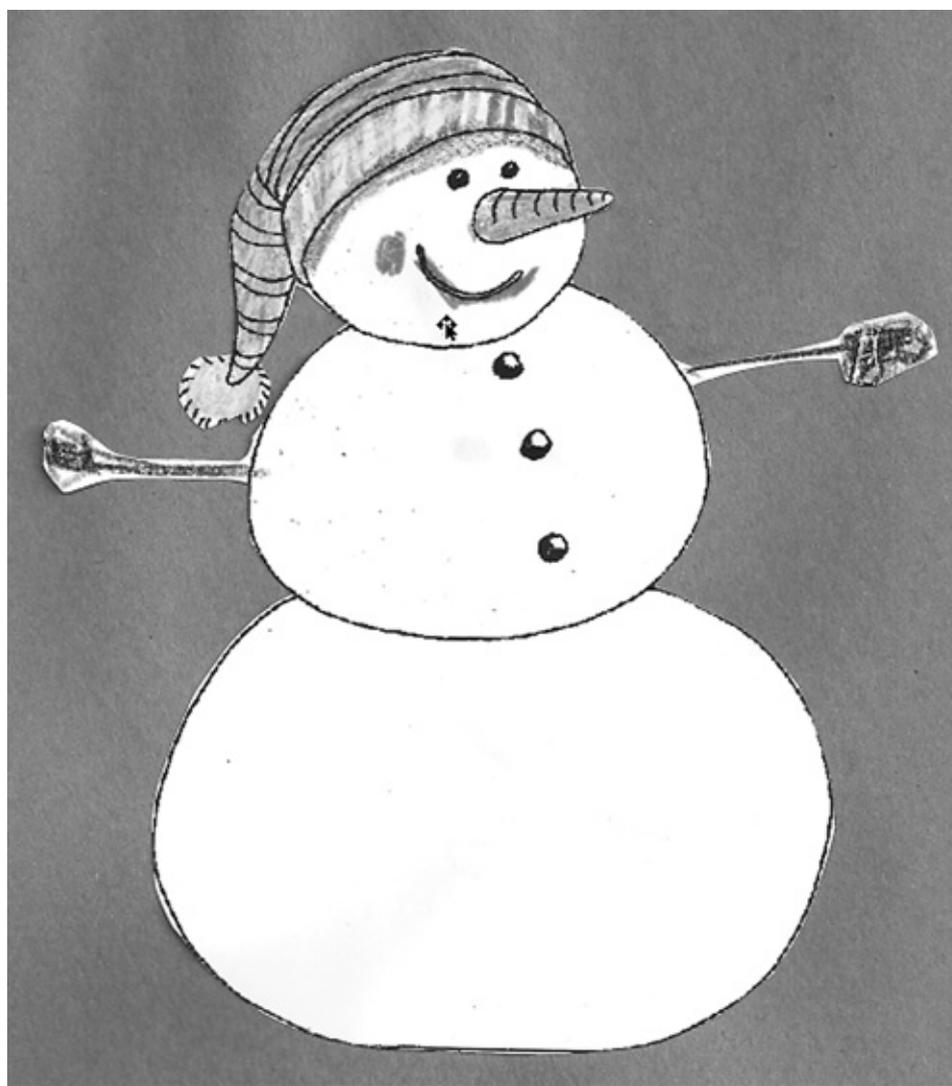
BY TORY STIRES

CLASS OF 2010, FLINT HILL SCHOOL

A biting night.  
A small city.  
With buildings  
No taller  
Than one story  
Above the shops.  
And each tree,  
Planted in the thick concrete,  
Busied with silver-gold Christmas Lights,  
Is a bright candle  
Amidst a dark lake.  
A traffic jam can be  
Avoided by  
Disguising oneself  
As a practiced pedestrian.  
A man in a scarf  
Lets his harmonica  
Sing to the world.  
A woman struggles  
To pull her daughter  
Away from  
The allure  
Of the music.  
Across the street-  
One gloved hand  
Wrapped around another.  
Weaving in between the crowd  
Takes much concentration.  
She looks up to breathe  
And see her warmth  
Affect the crisp air.  
He puffs a breath  
In response.  
Is right tonight  
Right tomorrow?  
A silent question  
Asked by both  
Answered  
By neither.  
Nudging through  
A ringing-belled door  
Into a small coffee shop  
Light bounces off  
Bright green walls.  
He stands in line  
Two regulars.  
Room for crème  
In one.  
She sits  
And looks listlessly  
Out of a slightly  
Fogged window,  
Listening to the Sinatra  
Dancing out of  
An overhead speaker.  
"Don't you know  
That it's worth  
Every treasure  
On Earth  
To be young  
At heart?"  
She sighs to the music.  
The right will fade.  
But that's no matter.  
Her heart can't find a way  
To fade.  
Fade the memory of a different face.  
Different arms.  
Enveloping her  
On the dock  
In the harbor  
Last summer.  
A pair of twinkling eyes  
Sets a swirling goblet of  
*Café and lait*  
Just within reach  
Of her fingertips  
And sits down,  
Knee against knee.

She flashes the smile  
That has kept him looking,  
And retreats her focus  
To the rising clouds  
Of thick white  
In the fluid sky  
On the table before her.

SEE SINATRA, PAGE 19



Joshua Helman, Kindergarten, Learning Fun School

## Santa Evermore

Santa has made the most wonderful holiday of the year spin, by giving kids around the world gifts to make them all happy about the season.

Santa flies to about 2 billion houses around the world in 4 days. It seems impossible, doesn't it? With his eight reindeer, in the blink of an eye, he's gone. If you were driving a car, it would take you about 4 months to travel the distance Santa travels (not including fueling up).

Santa recruits eight best reindeer around the world that are capable of flying on-time and carrying a heavy load. He trains them the month before their long journey, and the day that they start their

trip, each reindeer is granted a portion of magic powder. After the magic powder is laid, the reindeer can pull his sleigh effortlessly.

Last year, I left cookies, milk, and a list of presents for him. I even tried to put a camcorder by the fireplace, but my dad told me the battery would not last long enough to catch him.

It doesn't matter if you're an adult or a kid that is reading this. The point is, even if all of this isn't true, you would like to think that it is, because otherwise, what would be a Christmas without Santa?

— OAK ZHANG, 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE  
FLINT HILL ELEMENTARY

## Gift of Peace

Dear Santa,

Hi! My name is Kimberly Daucher. For a Christmas present I do want an expensive toy or something that only I can have. I want something that I can share with this world! I would like world peace. No more wars or pollution. If we have no pollution, the earth might last longer. No more wars

will mean people might be happier. If we do not have wars, we would have more time to look for natural resources and find cures for sick people in the hospitals. This is what I would like for a Christmas present this year.

—KIMBERLY DAUCHER, 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE  
FLINT HILL ELEMENTARY

## In the Winter

In the winter  
Right before it snows  
It's cold.  
In the winter  
Right before it snows

It's cloudy.  
In the winter  
Right before it snows  
It's dark.  
In the winter

When it snows  
It's cold.  
In the winter  
When it snows  
It's cloudy.

In the winter  
When it snows  
It's white.

—RYAN DODD, 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE WOLFTRAP ES

## Brrr It Is Cold!

Winter, Winter Everywhere  
The smell of snow is in the air.  
The snow is bright.  
The snow is white.  
Brrr it is cold all through the night!  
My teeth are chattering  
My hands are freezing.  
Brrr it is cold all through the night!  
Blustery, snowy all day long  
The wind is growing very strong.  
Yikes it is cold  
And I am not too old.  
To go inside  
And sit by the fireside.  
Brrr it is cold all through the night!

—KAITLYN TUMMARELLO, 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE  
FLINT HILL ELEMENTARY

## Snow

Snow, snow, snow  
Snow is falling down,  
Falling all around.  
Snow, snow, snow  
I can feel it in my bones  
Because Christmas is coming.

Why?

Because there is snow.  
Snow, snow, snow  
Snow is falling all around  
Because it is almost time for Christmas.

COLIN POHLMAN, OAKTON, 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE,  
SUNRISE VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## I Am ...

BY EMILY CALHOUN  
GRADE 4, WOLFTRAP ELEMENTARY

I am a bird, singing my song because I want to  
I am a folder, keeping things nice and neat for you later  
I am a lion, fighting my way for territory and food but never giving up  
I am a dog, running freely and making sure I am nice and strong  
I am a mirror, reflecting back to those who look into me  
I am a clown, making people laugh so they can enjoy life with each other  
I am a snowflake, different from the others around me  
I am a green can of paint; every time somebody uses me I'm different  
I am a raccoon, refusing to follow anybody and seeking adventure  
I am what I am and I won't change

## Love of Music

Ever since I was a little girl I loved to sing. I like every kind of music and I love to sing along with it too. Singing is very special to me, and I would love to be a singer when I grow up.

My problem with singing is that I get nervous and am scared that somebody might make fun of me. There are lots of people looking at you. I get stage fright, but I still want to sing because I want to show my talent.

I want to be a singer because I know that I am good at it and it makes me happy. I always have been a shy girl but when I sing I can show people that I can be fun and talented. I will get to meet other people and I can learn how to sing better with professional. If I got to sing with any kind of singer it would be the best gift in the whole world. If I got to sing, my family would be so proud of me. Even though I like to do a lot of things, singing is my dream.

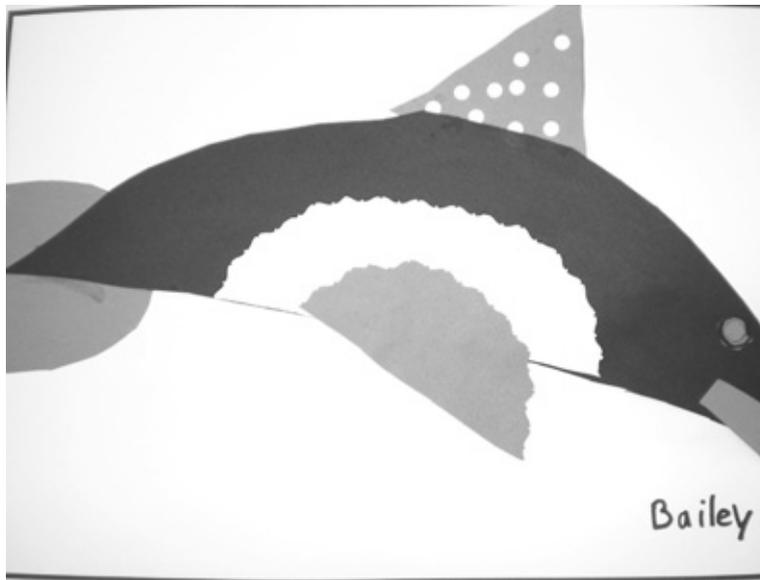
— KELLY RAMOS MARTINEZ  
5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE, VIENNA ES

## Best Gift Ever

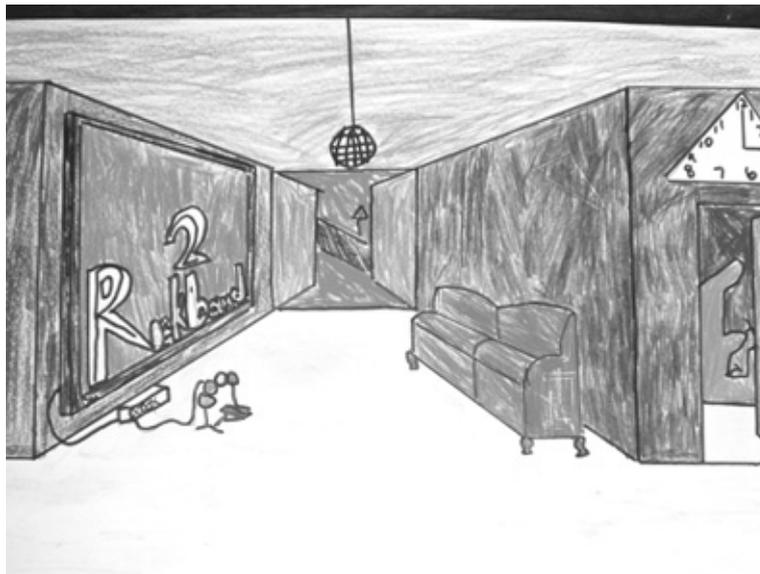
Even though I have got so many gifts the best one has to be my play station three. My dad got it for me one year ago for Christmas. Two years ago I asked my dad and mom if my mom can go get it for me but they said you can't get all you want for Christmas. Turns out I got a boat load of things the next Christmas including the play station three. Then for my birthday my dad got me guitar hero for the play station three. My dad said I have waited long enough for all these things. But still the play station three is the best gift I have ever got.

The play station three has a lot of good things about it but the best thing is the wireless controllers. I have wanted it for so long you can't imagine. The best thing about it is that if you don't have a DVD player but you have a play station three you can watch DVD's on the play station three.

— TYLER TEP, 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE,  
VIENNA ES



Bailey Tiller, Grade 2, Our Lady of Good Counsel School



David T., Grade 5, Our Lady of Good Counsel School

## Winter Dream

My alarm goes off.  
The radio says, "No school!"  
Hooray! A snow day!

I go get my sled,  
Sprint to the nearest sled hill.  
I love wintertime!

My alarm goes off.  
I climb out of my warm bed;  
It was just a dream.

— DELANEY  
CONWAY  
GRADE 7,  
THOREAU MS

## Sinatra

FROM PAGE 18  
It's the final day;  
It's the last kiss;  
It's the grey mist  
That reflected  
Not the ocean  
But their eyes.  
She takes a spoon  
And stirs  
Until white and black  
Find their in between,  
Watching the waves of Hazelnut  
Lap a ceramic shore.  
Don't let your brow furrow  
So early,  
My love.  
Don't let your brow furrow  
Too early.

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## Goodbye Sweet Summer

Stay warm good summer  
And wait for my return.  
I'll be saving your light in the  
bottom of my dresser  
drawer  
With all the shorts and T's  
And the summertime dreams.  
Goodbye sweet summer.  
Promise you'll wait for me.  
And Through All The Messes  
And through all the messes we  
make  
After we clean them up  
We notice a part of ourselves we  
couldn't see  
Even before the red paint and  
dirt spilled everywhere.

—ORLA CONWAY, 10TH  
GRADE  
GEORGE C. MARSHALL  
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## The True Story Of Little Red Riding Hood

This is the true story of Little Red Riding Hood. My name is Andrew G. Wolf. I was very hungry and cold. I saw a little girl wearing a red hood. She was skipping through the woods. I followed her through the woods and she went into a house. I followed and knocked on the door. There was no answer, so I knocked again. There still was no answer so I walked in. I just wanted some food and warmth. So I just was looking around for some food and warmth. The people who lived here must have been hiding because I did not see them. A couple minutes later the lady who lived at this house woke up, she saw me and called the police and put me in jail and everyone called me the big bad wolf. By the way the whole thing about me eating the Granny and me putting on the Granny's



**Lauren Chiret, Grade 3, Waples Mill Elementary School**

clothes is not true. All of these people made these lies because they thought I was a bad guy and they wanted me in jail. Now, who do you believe?

— JACK JONES, GRADE 4  
WOLFTRAP ELEMENTARY

## A Monster

Once there were people that looked like monsters. Some had green skin and orange hair. I once went to the park and saw a monster that was real. I went over and asked where the bathroom was. It just stared there looking at me. Then I shouted, "Where's the bathroom!" It opened its mouth. I saw

a reptile tongue and sharp teeth. It grew bumps that were slimy yellow. I ran but it ran after me and almost grabbed me but I jumped and then ran to the top of the playground. It followed me until I pulled out my peanut butter sandwich. I stopped. Was I doing something? Then his bumps turned red. Then I knew he was allergic to peanut butter so I threw it at him and he blew up. Green slime shot everywhere. I was safe and was a little bit scared but I knew I would never see a monster again.

— LUKE MCCLOREY,  
2<sup>ND</sup> GRADE, OLCG

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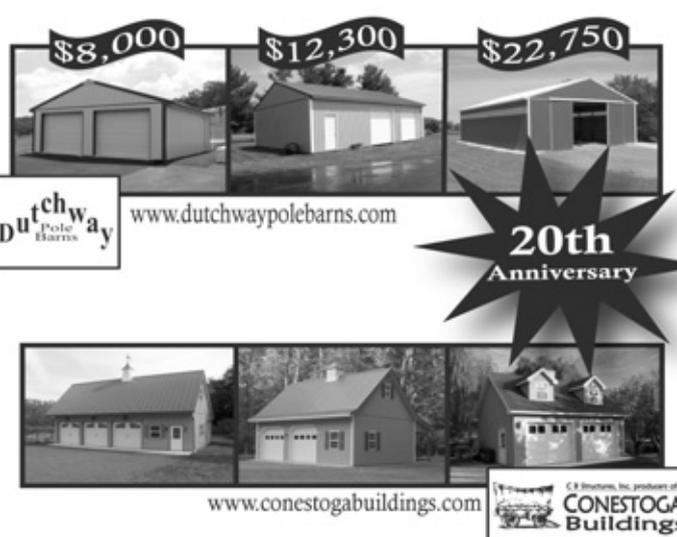
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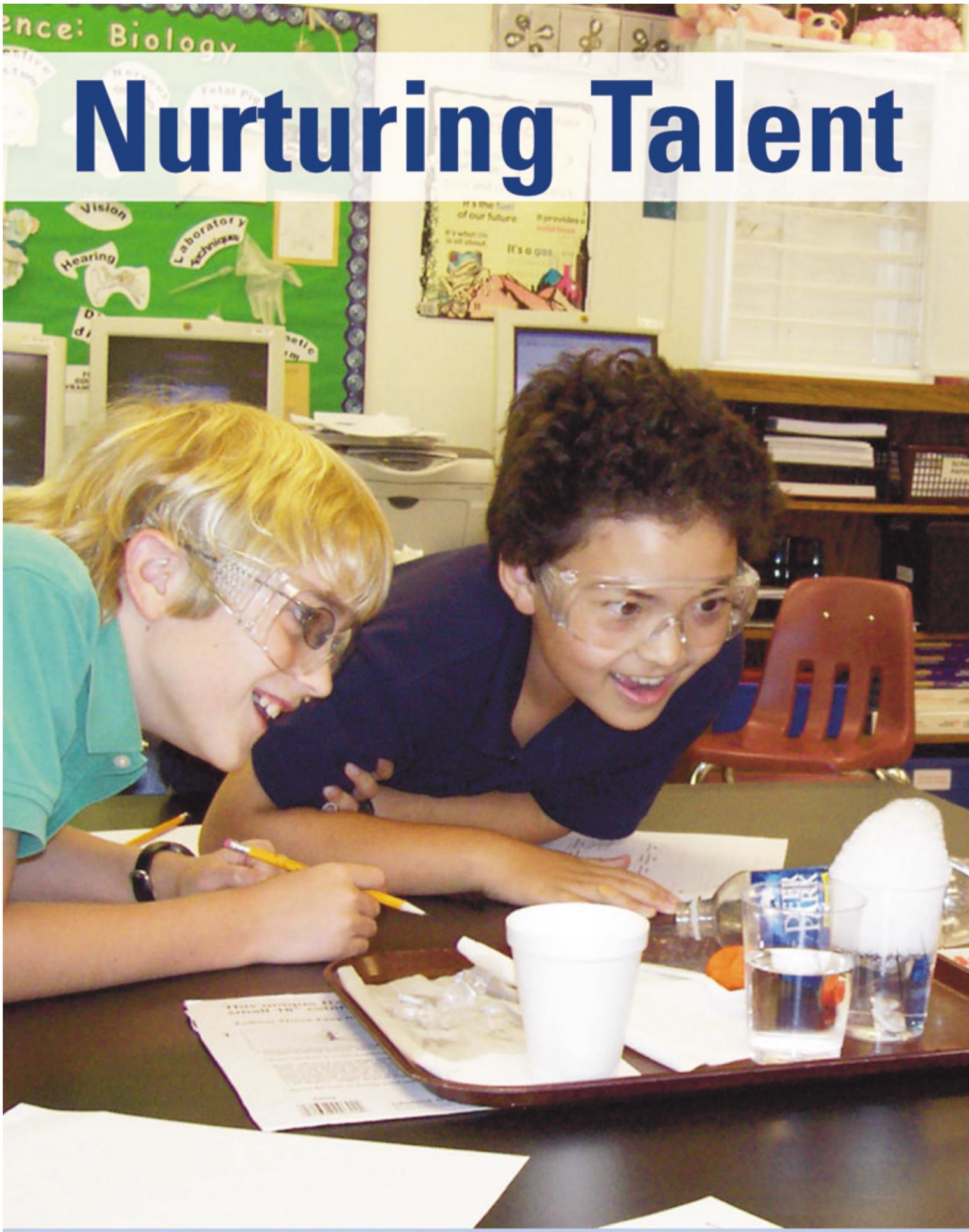
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