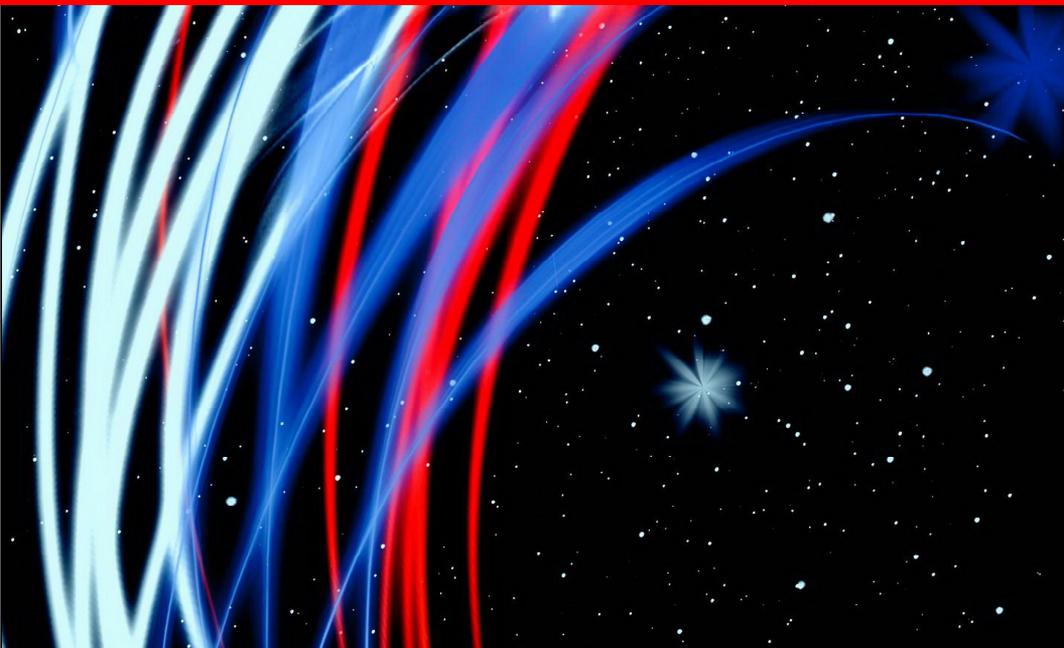


**IF you really KNEW Me ...**

**voices FROM the  
SUNNYVALE Neighborhood center**





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**voices FROM the  
SUNNYVALE Neighborhood Center**

**COMPILED by  
DIANE LEFER  
IMAGINATION WORKSHOP Facilitator**

The Sunnyvale writing workshops and the publication of this book are a project of



dedicated to promoting social justice and community through the arts.

The work was made possible thanks to the generous support of the



and the hard work and cooperation of everyone at the Sunnyvale Neighborhood Center with services provided by the Refugee and Immigrant Center of the Asian Association of Utah (RIC-AAU).

**IF you really KNEW Me...**



*Dedicated to  
the young people, parents, guardians, staff and volunteers  
of the Sunnyvale Neighborhood Center*

*and to all border-crossers everywhere*



**THE SUNNYVALE NEIGHBORHOOD OF SALT LAKE COUNTY** is home to many refugees and immigrants and low-income households. It's also a "No-Man's Land," an unincorporated (and under-resourced) area falling into a gap between Murray and South Salt Lake and Taylorsville and Millcreek. In 2012, the Refugee and Immigrant Center at the Asian Association of Utah (RIC-AAU), which has been serving families new to the US since 1977, recognized the need for a program based right in Sunnyvale.

Today, the Sunnyvale Neighborhood Center offers after-school programs, sports, field trips for young people, ESL classes for adults as well as a range of programs including classes on citizenship and financial literacy. The welcome mat is out for new arrivals to this country, refugees and immigrants with more time in the US but still challenged by the transition to American life, and any other neighborhood kids who would like to have help with homework and somewhere to go after school.

In September, it was my privilege to offer a series of writing workshops to the elementary school students and the teens. Our two groups included young people who were already enthusiastic and proficient writers, others who lacked confidence, and some who were just learning English. We combined writing with drawing, drumming, oral storytelling, games and improvisations so that everyone had a form of expression. As far as I'm concerned, a workshop writer is successful as long as he

or she writes *something*. A sentence or a caption to a drawing can be an accomplishment. Some kids copied a friend's work and added a word or two. I don't consider that cheating. Copying is good practice in writing and recognizing English words and developing motor skills.

As for editing, I corrected spelling but left grammar and phrasing as written to preserve the individual voices.

Though some participants chose to use a nickname or pen name and some preferred not to share their work, this book still offers a representative sample of the words and thoughts of the Sunnyvale kids. It's not about the trauma and disruption that drove many of them from their homelands. Instead you'll see they write about family . . . and friendship . . . and soccer . . . and pizza. The book celebrates their vitality and their accomplishments. It's a chance for readers to get to know the young people who enriched my life with their vibrant personalities, their talents, and their dreams.

Sunnyvale may indeed fall into a gap between cities, but the Neighborhood Center is there to be sure the young people who live there don't fall between the cracks.

Now, read on as they introduce themselves in their own words.

--Diane Lefer

My name is **ABDULANI MAHAMED MUSE** but homies call me **ABDALL**.

I am from Somalia, East Africa. I'm 16 years old and I've been here for 7 months. I am in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. I really like school.

My favorite color is green. I play soccer and I watch soccer too. I like drama movies. I listen to hip-hop music. I don't smoke or drink. My favorite food is pizza. I was born on April 12, 1998. I wanna be either professional soccer player or film director.

Things I do for fun are playing soccer, hanging out with the homies playing video games, and reading. I like reading so much.

If you really knew me, you would know that I am an awesome, smart, friendly, easygoing guy and respectful.

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My name is **ABDIO MUHUMED**. I am 15 year old. I was born in Ethiopia but I am Somali and I speak Somali and English. I like to play sports like soccer and baseball. And I like to play with my little sister or I like to watch movies with my little sister. I like to spend time with my family and I like to spend time with my friend.

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If you really knew me you would know that I like to be good. My name is **ISABELLA** or "**IZZY**."

I'm **MARY**. It looks like I was born in Sudan but I was born in Egypt.

I want to become a type of doctor. I am not just a basketball player but I play soccer. I will have a better life than now. I am a straight-A student. I take care of animals when they don't have an owner.

I am special because I have a special home and family that means a lot to me. I have friends in 3 schools and they are special.

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I am **ABDOLLAH**. I am 8 years old. Spiderman! I speak 2 languages. I have 4 brothers and one sister.

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I was born at August 1, 2003. There is bad people and good people in this world. My name is **ABDOURAZAK** and I was born in Africa, in the middle of Somalia. I am the oldest brother from Abdifatah and Sudik. Living in Salt Lake City is so good. I lived in Salt Lake City 2 years. Soccer is good for me.

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My name is **BADAL** or you can call me **VICTOR**. I was born in Djibouti in the refugee camp. I live in the camp for 3 year then our family move to the city. We live in city for 11 year, then we come to Utah as refugee. I live in Utah 2 year, 9 month. I am 16 year old. I am in 11 grade. My favorite color are white and black.

Hi! My name's **HEBA** and I love to play volleyball. In fact I play for my high school. If you really knew me, you would know that I love playing sports and staying active.

You'd also know that I'm a very nice person sometimes. Just don't talk slow. And respect your elders. Which brings me to my next point: I'm not a big fan of slow talkers. I honestly don't know why. It just really irritates me.

If you really knew me, you'd also know that I'm from Egypt and my family's from South Sudan. I have two little sisters, Nyandeng and Abuok. One's 12 and the other's 9.

Something that you wouldn't know about me that's very important to me is that I'm a very hard worker and always try to put in 110% in my schoolwork and setting a good example to my sisters.

In about two years I'd like to go to school to be in the FBI or maybe a pediatric nurse.

If you really knew me, you'd know that I talk about these things all the time and that it's no new news!

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Hi! I was born January 1, 2002 and I am 12 years old and my name is **AHMED** and I like to play soccer ball because I am good for soccer. I am staying America six months and I will like to do everything. My favorite color is blue and my favorite sport is soccer and my favorite team is Barcelona and I like to be like Messi. I am real good for soccer. Goodbye.

Hi. My name is **SIDHARTHA** and I am 11. I want to be what my friends want me to be so they will never forget me ever in their life even when it is end of the world. But I just wish they were my true friends even though I am to them.

When I grow up I want to be rich and travel everywhere.

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Hi. My name is **WARDERE**. I was born in January 1, 2003. I lived in Salt Lake City for 3 years and I like soccer. My favorite color is yellow and I like to play soccer. My favorite team is Real Madrid. I would like to play for Real Madrid. Goodbye!

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My name is **JESSICA RODRIGUEZ** and I'm 15 years old.

I'm from Mexico, Acapulco.

I have 2 brothers, 1 sister and I love playing soccer. My favorite color is blue.

If you really knew me, you would know that I only have one best guy friend. His name is Travis Calk and we both go to Granite Park Jr. High and we have a pretty strong and unbreakable friendship. I hope it stays like that because he means a lot to me. He's my everything. I would be pretty sad if I lost his friendship because I've known him for almost 3 years.





**Kevin Niepraschk**  
*Sunnyvale Site Coordinator*

**What's Kevin doing?**

He's out front helping someone with homework.  
He's in the back room where it's quiet for tutoring.  
He's arranging ESL classes for someone's parent.  
He's sharing a very deep conversation.  
He's listening.

## Two Short Stories by NIDAA SAHA

### "A Girl Named Safa"

On October 16 a girl was born. Her name was Safa that her siblings gave her. She was given birth by a mother named Janat.

Janat was a beautiful young mother. She was so kind to everyone. She even gave food to the poor.

When Safa was a baby everyone loved her. She was cute. When she was almost one she learned to walk. When she was two she stayed with her mother. Then she got three. She was to go to preschool. She made friends and other people too.

Then when she was five she came to Egypt feeling sad.

Two years passed with all the change. She had to go to the U.S. so she then went to first grade. She did know English but she did not feel good because it was different.

And her life continued all the way to fourth grade.

But she has more dreams to accomplish. Like going to Harvard and being a brain surgeon. Make money and donate some. Have a bright future. And then guide her life. And also do gymnastics.

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## "The Gymnast"

One day there was a girl who was in first grade. She always wanted to be a gymnast but she didn't know how to do anything. She did jobs too to pay money for the gymnastics class. So one day she started to practice some moves like cartwheels, splits, back flips, front flips, walk over, handstand and many more.

By next week she will have enough money to pay for the class.

When she paid the money she saw the girls on the team practice. But she was not afraid at all because all the things they did she can do too. She also saw people who coached.

Next week came and she got ready. And she showed the coaches. And the coaches said she can go on to the nationals.

So when you think you can do something, trust me. I believe in you. YOU CAN DO IT! Just try.

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## A WORD ABOUT THE PHOTOS

A friend of mine arrived in Australia as a child with her family, refugees from the civil war in El Salvador. Today Tania works for the only Australian organization that serves the refugee community and is run by people who are refugees themselves.

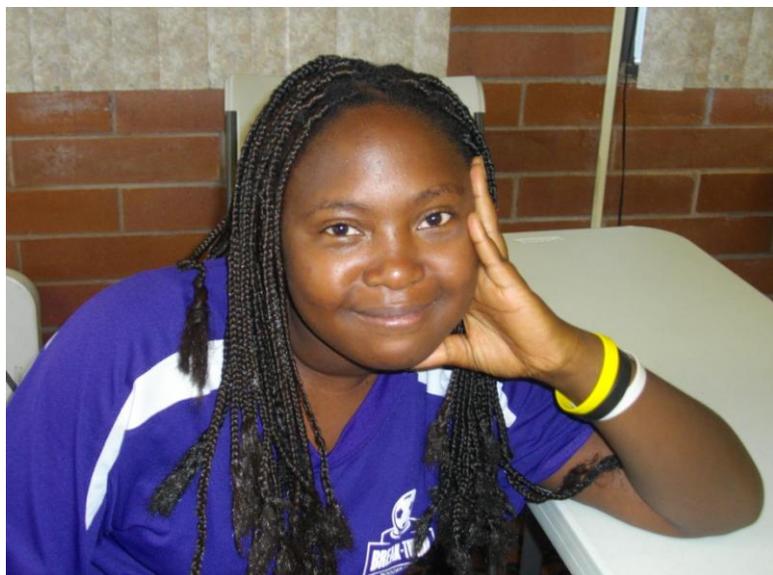
Her organization never publishes or posts on their website photographs of the people they serve. Faces of smiling children, faces of despair—either way, this can be exploitation, used for public relations or fundraising in an unethical invasion of privacy.

So I hesitated before taking any pictures. As it turned out, some workshop participants didn't want to be photographed at all. Others loved to strike poses. After all, being photographed is a way of being noticed, paid attention to, *seen*. Some afternoons, I could hardly hold onto the camera as kids took it from my hands and enjoyed taking pictures of one another. So why not include some images of their beautiful faces? Doesn't a book usually include a photo of the author—in this case, of many authors?

So here's what I've done. I've only published photos with parental consent. To further protect privacy, I've chosen not to label the photos with a name or any identification.

My apologies to the young people who did bring in signed permission forms but weren't around when we took photos. I hope you won't be too disappointed by the book. And I hope Tania will approve!





Hi! My name is **AHMED** and I like playing soccer. I'm 9 years old in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade. I was born in 2005. My friends are Mohamed, Abdurazak, Ahmed, and Muhiyidin. My favorite soccer player is Neymar and my favorite team in soccer is Barcelona.

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I am **JAYLYNN ALLGOR**. I am 10. I was born in Louisiana. My favorite TV show is *Face Off*. I have 2 sisters and 2 brothers. I am the oldest. I have lived in three different states: Louisiana, Georgia, and Utah.

When I grow up I want to be a pro soccer player because I love soccer. I am in a soccer team. I like football. I play four square at school. I like jump rope. I play soccer with my friends. I am in 4<sup>th</sup> grade.

That is a little about me.

The End

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My name is **JUSAPENA PAMEH**. I'm from Thailand. My birthday is April 4. I am here for 4 months. I like the program. It fun. I am 12 years old.

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My name is **SANGY JAKSON** (not really!) and I am fourteen years old. My school has a stupid dress code and I like only Dance class and Gym class and I love sports. If you really knew me, you would know that I love sports and movies.

What is your name? **SUHUR**.

How old are you? 14.

What is your last name? **ALI**.

When is your birthday? August 1, 2000.

What grade are you in? 9<sup>th</sup>.

What do you like to do in your free time? I like to listen to music.

If you really know me, you would know that I hate dogs.

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If you really knew me, you would know that I am not perfect. Nobody is. I may not be super pretty. Nobody is, but that doesn't mean that I am not nice. I am. It doesn't mean I mean I'm nice. Not everybody likes me but I don't care. I am 11 and I am a sixth grader. And I want to be a pediatrician when I grow up. My name is **UNIQUE AMOR FERNANDEZ**. And I was born in Utah on March 15, 2003.

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Hi. My name is **WARDERE**. I was born in January 1, 2003. I lived in Salt Lake City for 3 years and I like soccer. My favorite color is yellow and I like to play soccer. My favorite team is Real Madrid. I would like to play for Real Madrid. Goodbye!

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My name is **HANNAH** and I am 9. My favorite TV show is Tinkerbell and my favorite food is pizza. When I grow up I want to be a paleontologist.

My name is **STEPHANIE**. I'm 12 years old. I was born in Salt Lake City, Utah. I live in Murray. And I don't have a favorite subject. My favorite color is purple and I'm also a girly girl. If you really knew me you would know that I really hate cats and I'm a 7<sup>th</sup> grader. I hate cats because they are so annoying and they scare me. I have a crush. I think he does not like me and I get shy around him. And people don't like me but haters gonna hate. Also my best friend is Lalia Solis.

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My name is **DUSENGE RAHELI** and I am 16 years old. I was born in Tanzania but I am Burundi and I speak Kirundi and Swahili and English.

I like to play sports like soccer and baseball. And I like to play with my little sister or I like to watch movies with my little sister. I like to spend time with my family and I like to spend time with my friends and my favorite pet is dogs and when I play with dogs. Well, my dad doesn't like dogs and my sister too.

And I would like to go back to Africa. But I like USA and I like to live in Salt Lake City. And I like to go to Idaho. And I like the USA foods. I don't like cats.

When I grow up, I want to be a lawyer, and God bless me so I can learn more and become a lawyer. And I like to go to school and learn more and I like to spend time working on my homework. I like the afterschool because they help me with my homework when I have it. If I don't have it, they will make me read more. But sometimes I don't like to read.

My name is **MONI** and I am from Nepal. I speak a Nepali language and others too. No, I never went to Mt. Everest because it's too far away from where I lived. I have been here for 5 years.

Now I don't know what I'm going to do in future but I like to study computers and science. Math is hard for me but still I like doing math.

I play soccer with my friends and I like to play any kind of sports. I don't like to talk too much. I like a quiet place. I like to watch a movie and listen to music and I like to read and study and I want to go to college.

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My name is **KALIAH**. Some people call me Kiki, my nickname, but I like you to call me Kaliah. I am eight years old. I have a brother. His name is Xaiver. I have 2 sisters.

I'm nice. I'm funny. I'm happy.

My brother Xaiver is 4 years old. Unique is 11 years old. My dad lives in New Mexico with one of my sisters.

I like summer, fall, spring, and winter.

I want to be a veterinarian because it's fun working with animals and helping animals. I like homework sometimes and sometimes I like to read. I like to play video games and to swim and do gymnastics. I like to play with Legos. I like to play Star Wars video game and Pirates of the Caribbean.

## *I HAVE AN IDEA!*

### *Can you invent a magical new product?*

MAMADOU'S invention was a car that drives itself so you can get where you want to go even if you don't have a license. And his car goes very fast and doesn't even need tires.

Here's NIDAA'S Pray-ma-gigee so people too lazy to pray can have a machine do it for them. But you'll notice it's not for sale and the annual rental fee puts it out of reach for most of us. Apparently Nidaa thinks people should do their own praying.

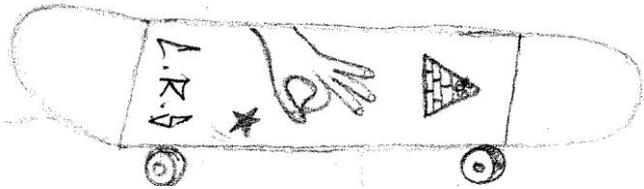


NOON TAHA drew a magical pink pill. She wrote:

“It’s important to have a magical pill that helps have no sickness and live longer. Sometimes when you’re feeling sick you miss fun things. For example, today I had to go home early because I was feeling sick and I had to go and ask for my homework. If we had a pill that cures Everything we would be happier and live longer. We wouldn’t have to pay for hospitals. We wouldn’t even need to see a doctor. You will live sickness free and there’s a possibility for some people to be immortal.”

STEPHANIE’S machine will do your homework for you *and* cure cancer.

And an ANONYMOUS inventor created this magical skateboard:



“If you need a skateboard that can do any trick? Do you also hate it when it’s raining outside and you can’t skate? Or when your board gets caught by a rock and dirt? Well, here’s the first skateboard that can do it all. You can do up to 360 kick-flip. Just call 801-\_\_\_-6230.” (Part of the number omitted. Otherwise that phone will keep ringing!)

## **ORAL STORYTELLING**

Hello. My name is **SHUKRI** and I'm going to tell a story about fairies.

Once upon a time there was a girl named Lily. She was a fairy and she was really nice. And she didn't have any friends and she was kind of lonely. That's why when a human met her, a girl named Bisharo, she was really very nice and she started showing her around and she started to introduce her friend which was named Rahma. They were both very nice and lovely girls.

They were very nice and they let her sing so lovely and then she started being scared. She wanted to go home so she looked through the window. It was very rainy so she couldn't go outside so Rahma and Bisharo told her to stay with them and they made a picture dictionary. They were about five minutes long outside and then it was the next day.

After they went to sleep Lily went outside to see if it was actually raining so she went outside to go home again. She told Rahma and Bisharo that they were very nice, kind and generous and she loved having talked and she thanked them very much for helping her with everything and she gave them little presents, little rings that were friendship rings which she gave them so she was very happy.

But when she left it was very sad because their parents said, "Fairies are not real, girls!" So go to your rooms!" So Bisharo and Rahma started being unkind because they were sad, very very very sad.

And one day, Lily came back and she saw Bisharo and Rahma crying because they were very sad.

But their friend was not sad so she got the book for them and she showed them and she told them that your parents may not believe you right now but when they see you with the book they will believe you forever and ever.

“Bishara, Rahma, you girls are the nicest friends I ever met but I wish you weren’t sad.” That’s what she said. So she said that her friends were crying to her mother and dad and they got them the picture and they showed it to their parents and their boyfriends and they were really very happy that their parents believed in fairies.

And there was girl named Sarai. She was the nicest, cutest girl you ever met. She wasn’t a fairy but she was always kind and generous and she said, “Help me help me help me help me with everything I have,” and she sang a song.

That’s how they sing and some people were really into them. They were very nice, they were one of the top singers, especially Sarai. She was very nice, generous and she said that she believed in fairies and she’ll believe forever and ever and everyone was happy and everyone believed in fairies.

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My name's **BISHARO MUHUMED**.

Once upon a time there was a little girl that lived in a cave. Her family was so mean. They were very mean. She couldn't live with them forever and ever and ever and ever so she got mad at her family.

There was a girl named Bisharo so she said that her friends were not nice and she wanted to talk to the little girl so she said, "I love you so much and I want to help you," and the girl said that I am really good and they chose to be friends together. They were very best friends so the little girl was very nice, kind.

So they joined our group.

There was this girl named Luna. They used to help us with our homework. They were very nice and we loved them very much for ever and ever and ever.

And this is the song that was written by Matty B and we love to sing it.

Are you ready? Let's go!

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**Jeilani Aboud Athman  
Afterschool Program Assistant**

**Jeilani! Jeilani! Jeilani!**

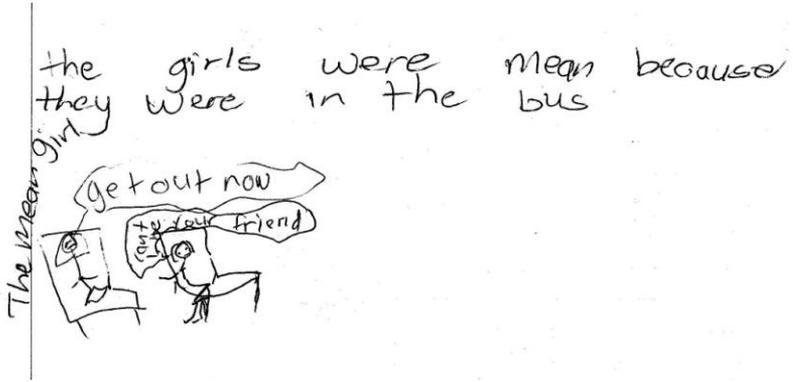
Sometimes it seems like everyone is calling for

**JEILANI!**

We need pencils! We need paper! We need to ask you a question! **Jeilani**, we love getting your attention!

## The Mean Girl

The Mean Girl is rude to a classmate in the hall. Later, on the bus, there's only one seat left. Do you sit next to the Mean Girl? If you do, what happens?



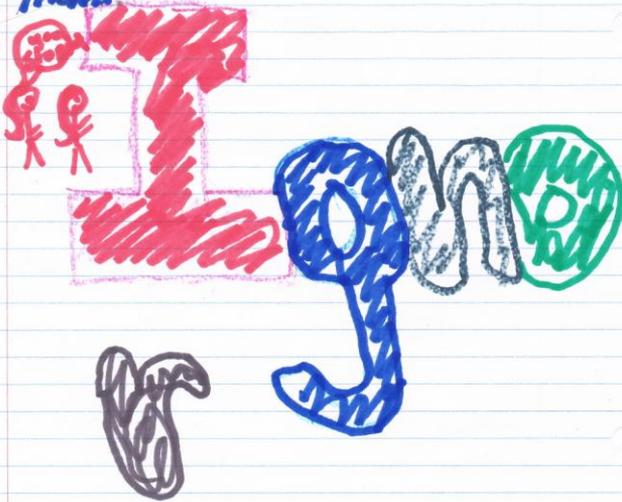
When we did improvisations and role-playing, everyone wanted to play the Mean Girl. When it came time to write, no one wanted to be mean.

If someone is mean to me, Nidaa wrote, I'll call the police. Mary said she'd tell the government.

Take a look at some other approaches to the situation.

Unique Unique

I Really don't care if  
Somebody is mean to me  
or talks about me behind  
my back because i know  
that it is not true.  
And I will Just ignore  
them.





I don't care if  
 They talk about me!!!  
 I don't feel sad!!!

Nothing

Be nice

I'm a way!!!

Jaylyn also



# Kaliah Fernandez

When people do something mean it hurts their feeling but not the other person feeling who did it. When you do something wrong or mean sorry. When they are mean to you no how it feels.



Be nice to others on they will do to you.

## Family Drama

In another improvisation exercise, some members of the group played the role of parents while other played the children.

We divided up into families and started with a simple situation. The parent was busy doing something and didn't want to be interrupted but the child wanted something from the parent RIGHT NOW.

Each family went to a different part of the room and improvised a scene.

After only a few minutes, the groups presented scenes to each other.

We saw a mother who couldn't afford to buy the new iPhone her child wanted, a boy who wanted to go to the movies with his friends while his mother wanted him to go with her to visit Grandma, and a mother telling her daughter how she herself had never had the chance to go to college.

Then we witnessed a shocking scene—a family in a terrible car crash because the mother put the crying baby in the driver's seat and let the baby drive!

## Two Short Pieces by EVELYNE

Me and my friend were practicing some dance. Then my Mom was cleaning the house and I went to bed and I said “Bye, Mom. I love you, Mom, and Dad, and sister and brother and aunt.” I am nice to my Mom and Dad. Okay, Mom and Dad finally said “Go to bed.” Okay, Mom and Dad, sister and brother. The End.

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Me and my friend went to a field trip with my teacher and Mom to Hollywood Connection with my sister and brother and uncle and aunt. We had fun with the whole family.







## **SURPRISE PRESS CONFERENCE!**

**STEPHANIE BUSTAMANTE** said she would like to meet President Obama so she was asked to pretend to be him.

**DELFINA** played "The Hottest Guy in the World" though she insisted she wanted to *meet* him, not *be* him.

**MAMADOU SOUARE** was a Martian visiting earth.

The rest of the group asked questions, took notes, and wrote news reports.

There was a lot of interest as to just who the "Hottest Guy" is. "Chris Brown," said Delfina. "So," she was asked, "how come he's dressed in clothes like a girl?" Read on to find out the answer.

*JUSAPENA PA MEH reporting:*

On Monday, Sept. 15, 2014 there is three visitors. Their names is Obama, Hot Guy, and Alien.

Alien talk too much and Obama and the Hot Guy didn't talk too much like Alien. And Alien say he eat everything and he say he eat People.

Obama and the Hot Guy are fighting but they both too shy to talk.

*JESSICA RODRIGUEZ reporting:*

The hottest guy in the world is a jerk. He beats on girls. He changed sex so now he's a female. And he doesn't know why he changed sex!

Obama has two kids, two girls. He doesn't want anything to do with Mars. The aliens wear clothes and like to wear sandals. They eat humans.

*DUSENGE RAHELI reporting:*

On Monday Sept. 15, 2014 we had visitors. They names was Obama, Alien, Hot Man.

Alien say that he like to visit earth because he like it. And he like to eat people and animals and he eat everything. So the Alien need to go back where he came from.

Obama says that he can't dance for us. He is shy and he doesn't like to talk too much. But Obama talk too much because he is the Government.

*TANTINE reporting:*

Hot Man say "I born to be hot." Change for girl.

Obama been three countries. Obama doesn't talk at all. Obama should know everything.

Alien Martian wanna visit world because he wanna eat humans or visit the city. By the way, Alien is funny.

*SA RA reporting:*

The Hottest like all type of blue eyes and butt.

*BOE MEH reporting:*

Martian doesn't like people. He wanted to kill all the girls.

*ABDIO gets to the point:*

Chris Brown is **not** hot.

*And from an ANONYMOUS news reporter:*

Barack Obama very shy. Looks really bored and not having a good time.

*DELFINE (Chris Brown) summed up the reporters:*

They were laughing too much and not acting like reporters. And I am the Hottest Guy but I want to know what is the President doing for the children come to the United States.

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I am 12 years old and I was born in Guinea and my name is **MAMADOU**.

My favorite animal is lion. My favorite subject is science. My favorite class will be 10<sup>th</sup> grade because 10 is my favorite number so I want to be in 10<sup>th</sup> grade.

If you really knew me, you would know that I am funny and I am good in talking and science.

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I was born on Oct. 28, 2002 in Kenya (Nairobi) and right now I'm turning 12 on October 28 this coming month. My name is **MOHAMED**. I have 12 people in my family.

My favorite sport is basketball and I like soccer. My favorite food is pizza and rice and meat with veggies. My favorite drink is Kickstart and I live in the U.S. for 8 years and I have been to 6 states in the U.S. so far and my favorite restaurant is Golden Corral and I have been to 4 schools in Utah and I'm in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and I came to America when I was 4 and I really like America and when I graduate I want to go to Kentucky University and I want to be an NBA player. But I have 6 years of school left and my favorite soccer team is Real Madrid and my favorite soccer player is Neymar and that's The End.

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If you really know me, you would know that my name is **SEID** and I want to be a soccer player like Messi or Neymar. I am 9 years old. I am from Africa. I speak Somali. The TV show I like is regular show. And my favorite team is Barcelona.

I am **NIDAA SAHA**. My favorite color is turquoise. One of my favorite foods is candy. My one hobby is music, dance. I am 10 years old. I like to play sports. I am from Sudan (Khartoum). I want to have a good life.

I always want to do homework. When I grow up I want to be a brain surgeon because brain surgery is pretty awesome. I want to go to the college named Harvard. My family all want to go to college. I want to have a bright future and I think college is the right place to be. I wish for my dreams to come true. I am a straight-A student and I am smart and kind. My favorite subject is math and I am excellent at art. I like to try out new things. I like to inspire people. I have a very special family. I would love to go to a private school.

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I'm **MUNA**. I like to listen to music and dance. When you grow up? Be a doctor. If you really knew me, you know I'm scared of dogs.

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My name is **LUUNDO M'MBONDO**. I am 14 years old. I was born in Tanzania but I am Congolese and I speak Swahili and Kimbembe. I like to play soccer. I like to play with my friends and with my little sister. I like little children. I don't like dogs. I like U.S.A. and Utah and Salt Lake City. I like to go to Arizona and I like the U.S.A. foods.

I want to read so when I grow up I want to be a doctor and God bless me to read and learn and I like the afterschool because they help me with my homework and sometimes they make me read if I don't want to read.



**Talia Taukiueva**  
**Elementary Program Facilitator**

When Talia says,  
**ONE TWO THREE–**  
**LOOK AT ME!**

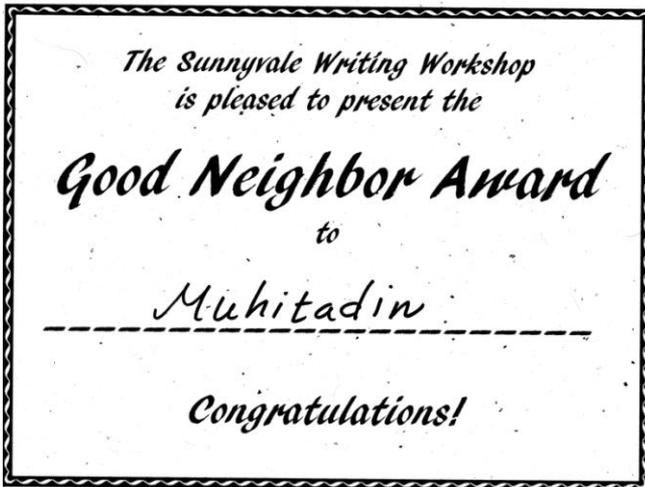
all the kids answer,  
**ONE TWO–**  
**LOOK AT YOU!**

and everyone pays attention.

## WHAT MAKES SOMEONE A GOOD NEIGHBOR?

Everyone found a partner to interview. Each partner asked two questions: *What have you done to help someone? What do you think would make your neighborhood a better place to live?*

WARDERE, for example, helps his Mom and would like to see a soccer field in the neighborhood. HAFA thinks life would be better if she had pink and purple streaks in her hair. Most of the young neighbors interviewed help their families and their friends. One girl had a specific wish for her friend: "I wish she had a computer at home and a bed."



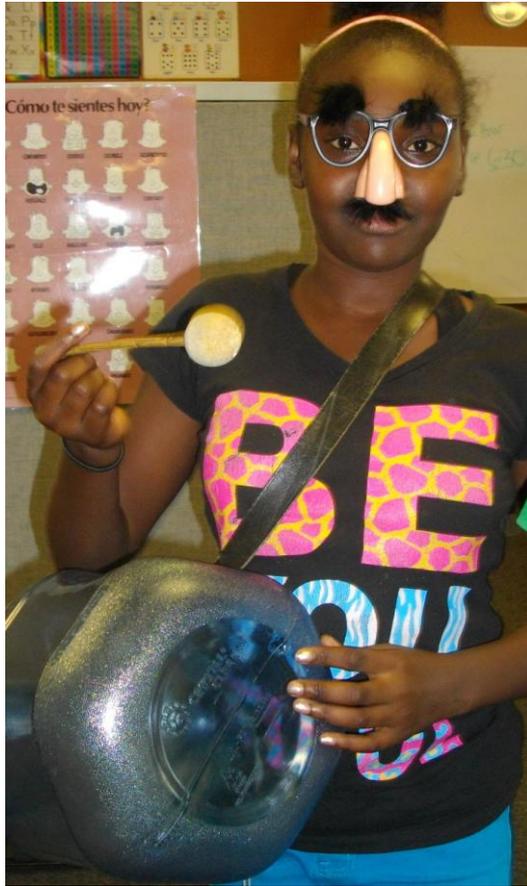
Each kid made a presentation to the group telling why his or her partner should receive recognition.

The presentations were convincing enough that everyone received the Good Neighbor Award.

# SOMETIMES WE'RE SO SERIOUS!



**that's ALL For NOW!**



**Stay Happy!**



The Sunnyvale Neighborhood Center  
is located at  
585 West 3900 South #2  
Salt Lake City, UT, 84123

For information, please contact  
Kevin Niepraschk,  
*Sunnyvale Site Coordinator*  
kevin@aauslc.org

If you'd like to share this book so more people  
can read about **me**,



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