

kicker!

A magazine by the Poet-Athletes
of America SCORES

SPRING 2013

IN THIS ISSUE:

- A letter from Shep Messing
- MLS Stars Steve Zakuani and Kevin Hartman
- In the Spotlight: Triniya and Dave Berg
- Your Words, Your Poetry



**AMERICA
SCORES**



...the by-kids, for-kids magazine of America SCORES.

This publication is designed to showcase the accomplishments of our poet-athletes.

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Dear America SCORES Poet-Athletes,

Our dreams are important because they challenge us to aspire to great heights and more importantly fuel the inspiration to achieve. When I was a ten year old boy growing up in the Bronx, New York, I dreamed that one day I would play in the Olympic Games and also play the trumpet on a television show. My love of soccer took me to Harvard, to the Olympic Games, to a professional career around the world and then back to New York. As I stood on the field next to my former teammate and friend Pele during his retirement game, he asked the 80,000 people in the crowd to repeat after him, "Love our children, love our children, love our children." That is what America SCORES has done and as a result, you, the poet-athletes, have risen to the challenge.

Your accomplishments through America SCORES amaze me, not only for the results but for what you have learned by participating. You are both brilliant and courageous for taking the most important first step toward your dreams - using a sport that we love, soccer, and expressing your feelings through the powerful medium of poetry. You show the unlimited potential to be brave and to make a difference. I thank you for inspiring us with your efforts every day and allowing me to be part of it.



SHEP MESSING



- Born October 9, 1949 in The Bronx, New York
- Position: Goalkeeper
- Played seven seasons in the North American Soccer League with The New York Cosmos, Boston Minutemen, Oakland Stompers, and Rochester Lancers
- Played six seasons in the Major Indoor Soccer League with the New York Arrows
- Played for the U.S. soccer team at the 1972 Summer Olympics
- Member of the New York Sports Hall of Fame, the Nassau County Sports Hall of Fame, and nominated for the National Soccer Hall of Fame (2013)
- Authored a best-selling book, "The Education of an American Soccer Player"

Meet a Poet-Athlete: GEOVANI

from America SCORES New England

I am from

I am from Massachusetts.
My mom is from El Salvador.
My dad is from Guatemala.
I am an American.
My American dream is to run for president!
To have my mom with me for the first time.
To have a huge mansion.
To have a good job, to make a lot of money.
To get married and have a nice family.
To become a billionaire.
To do something that no one has ever done before, like sky dive from 10,000 feet!
My American dream.

-Geovani S., age 12
Donald McKay Elementary
New England



Geovani is representing New England at the 2013 National Poetry SLAM! because...

he demonstrates sportsmanship

"What I learned from all of the cultures and kids [of my SCORES team] is that just because you lose a game or you don't score this game, doesn't mean you have to get upset about it... friendship is what everyone cares about and to play hard is winning actually."

he supports his soccer team

"I'm a leader on the soccer field, because I don't think, 'Oh, I'm just [going to] take the ball for myself.' I think that other kids on the team deserve to actually play and score. Not just [me],... they need opportunity too."

he is a leader

"In a classroom, I'm a leader because I help everyone. If my friends have a problem, I try to solve it. When some other kid is bothering or picking on me or one of my friends, I tell them, 'Calm yourself, because this is life. Don't just get worked up about it.'"

and he is an amazing poet!

"I just want the world to know that I'm a great poetry guy, and not just [the people] in my school. I want everyone to know that I can make a good poem and if they love it, well, good. If they don't, suit yourself."

THE NATIONAL POETRY SLAM! 27 poet-athletes win trip to NYC from fourteen America SCORES cities

Christian and Libni

From America SCORES Denver



21 fourth and fifth graders from ten elementary schools in Denver auditioned before a panel of judges for the opportunity to represent their city at the National Poetry SLAM!. While the judges had a difficult time deciding among the participants, Christian wowed the judges with his answers to the interview questions and Libni, usually really shy, surprised the judges with her loud and proud stage presence! The trip is a grand reward for Christian's outstanding sportsmanship and two-year dedication to his SCORES team and for Libni's leadership and perseverance - making her the first in her family to fly.

Avante

From America SCORES Saint Louis



During Walbridge Elementary's all-school assembly, sixth-grader Avante was surprised with this big ticket and the news that he had been selected to represent Saint Louis at the National Poetry SLAM!. Avante was part of a trio of poets that won the local Poetry SLAM! in December with a poem titled "I am Just A Kid You Know." After honing his poetry and soccer skills for three years with SCORES, Avante has become a leader on his team. Described by his coach as "a rose growing in concrete," Avante is all about school and quietly creates his masterpieces in the background.

Geovani, Christian, Libni, Avante and 23 other poet-athletes from 14 cities performed at the America SCORES National Poetry SLAM! in New York City. For three days, they explored Times Square, played soccer in Central Park, and performed at the New York Stock Exchange.

Do you want to go to New York and perform at the National Poetry SLAM!? Be sure to sign up for America SCORES next year and to keep practicing our core values: teamwork, leadership and commitment.

On page 29, see photos and more from the 2012 National Poetry SLAM! weekend!



**AMERICA SCORES
National Poetry
SLAM!**

LOVE, FRIENDSHIP & FAMILY

Friendship

My friend Karen
runs super fast.
I hope our friendship
will always last.
Our friendship started
early at school.
Now we play soccer.
Aren't we cool?

Angelie M., age 10
Windlake Elementary
Milwaukee

Teenage Love Pain

Blisters I have you've hurt me
to my soul
These are the only reminders
of the reason my heart was so
cold
You'd think because of my
looks I'm as sweet as can be
But you really don't know
what's hidden inside of me.

Georia C., age 13
Coretta Scott King Young
Women's Leadership
Academy
Atlanta

Me and My Brother

Me and my brother
We believe in each other
We play fights but turn real
His punches hurt but I laugh
sometimes
We kick back and relax,
watch some t.v.
We are the brothers that will
doubt each other
But the brothers that will
always love each other
We are the brothers that will
live to the end
We love each other from the
beginning
Even though we're not at the
same place
There will be electricity
I am little, he is big
We stick up for each other
That's how it is
We were born in the same
state
It's our brotherhood
I most appreciate!

Kendin A., age 9
Bailey Gatzert Elementary
Seattle

LOVE

It's like an arrow in flight,
When in it, no one is right.
As sweet and succulent
as a peach
But oh so rarely can it be
reached.
Laid a beauty,
With no Beast.
If she was killed, The earth
would be sealed.
It's fast asleep, But you can
hear
it weep.
Feel the winter breeze
Right under your feet.
It makes you fall to your
knees,
With great ease
It's not a beast
Nor a treaty of peace.
It's as sweet as honey
But not as funny.
It's good to your tummy
As good as a gummy!

It's my mom
Who has courage and heart
From this very moment
From the very start!

It's love, love, love...

DeAndre W., age 10
Perry Street Preparatory
Public Charter School
DC

My Family

My family is like you've never
seen.
My family is like a teacher at
home.
My family is like a waiter that
asks us what we want.
My family is like a map that
leads me from wrong to right.
My family is like a doctor that
helps me when I am sick.
My family is what creates love
in our home.
Like I said, "My family is like
you've never SEEN"!

Andrew A., age 10
César Chávez Learning Center
Dallas

I Love

I love my Brother.
Because he is deaf.
I love the sun
Because it brights and
shines.
I love emotional movies
Because my eyes always cry.
I love my mom
Because she always tells me
to be strong.
I love the fair
Because I can ride a lot of
cool rollercoasters.
I love money
Because I can buy shoes or
go on a cruise.
I love my Jennifer and
Yamilet
Because they're my BFFs.
I love Mr Mauro
Because he is cool and I can
see him tomorrow.
I love Dallas SCORES
Because they give me soccer
clothes.
I love the show Jersey Shore
Because it is really cool.
I love all animals
Because they are playful.
I love my teachers.

Melissa S., age 10
César Chávez Learning Center
Dallas

Family

My family is lovely
My family is wild
My family is a pain in the butt
My family's feelings are kinda
sad, mad, funny
My family is mad when we
don't clean up
My family is happy when we
get new stuff
My family is sad when
something breaks
My family makes me shine
My family is a shiny gold star
My family is a wonderful
generation

Adam S., age 10
César Chávez Learning Center
Dallas

My Hero

My hero is my father.
He helps me out.
He doesn't get mad at me.
He helps me with my
homework, my troubles.
When I have troubles, he
helps me with it.
He may not be a superhero
but he is stronger.

Dominick A., age 10
Palms Elementary
Los Angeles

The Look of a Mother

A look of a mother
when she gets close to a crib
has the brightness of the sun
and the touching of the moon
for every mother that is gone
a star is born in the sky
and the one that was born for
my mother
had to be the most amazing
one
I would like to go to heaven
Where the holy father is and
On my knees, ask him
To give my mother back to
me.

McKayla A., age 8
Artemus Ward School
Cleveland

Inside of Me

Inside of me, I hear my
grandma's voice.
It sounds like birds chirping.
It feels like a soft hug.
It looks like her chocolate
brown skin.
It makes me hear her voice
again.
When I hear it, I feel proud.
Inside of me, I hear a person.

Sienna E., age 10
Carter G. Woodson
Elementary
Atlanta

CHALLENGES & LOSS

Tell Me Why

Mom, Dad, why can't we all
be together?
Why do we have to be in
separate places?
I wish you could tell me why.

Why do I feel lonely?
Why do I feel sad?

Why do I feel like you guys
don't love me?

Why do people call me
orphan?

Is that what I am?

Can't you tell me why?

Why do I feel like I am in a
white room?

With no one to talk to?

Why do I feel like I did
something wrong and

That's why I can't see you?

Can't you tell me why?

Why, why, why?

That is my question

The only thing that I know is
that I love you

And wish that one-day we will
all be together

And I'll stop asking you
Why!!!!

Dulce F., age 10

César Chávez Learning Center
Dallas

Death

Everyone is going to die
Sometimes close, sometimes
far

So we should worship our
lives

And not waste it in a bar
Some people don't want to
understand

The cause of our life
Some do and they get
married with a lovely wife

Some don't understand
And they leave it up to fate

So what I am saying is
Enjoy life before it is too late.

Jesus O., age 10

César Chávez Learning Center
Dallas

He's Gone

My dad was great
He was all I had
He was special
Always buying me things I
wanted

Always being there when I
needed

I love him in a special way

I used to tell him every day
Then the fighting began

My mom cried over and over
again

Her heart broke

Also did mine

More and more every time

It's hopeless

Said my mom

Next morning, everything was
gone

Even my dad

I yelled to my mom and

looked for him

He never called me ever

again

Each night I wish for him

Jennifer L., age 10

César Chávez Learning Center
Dallas

Breathe In Death

Breathe in death

Breathe out life as a child

Breathe in sadness

Breathe out the happy times

Breathe in the memorial

Breathe out the time you went

to see a movie with him

Breathe in sad tears

Breathe out joyful tears

Breathe in the pain

Breathe out the happiness

Breathe in the nightmares

Breathe out your dream

Breathe in the suffering

Breathe in my tios death

Breathe out my tio saying

It's okay

Erick T., age 10

Cleveland Elementary
Bay Area

Land of the Free

Pablo wakes up
To a beautiful morning
The peaking sun shines
upon his jagged face

His wife Juanita stands
Over the stove
Making frijoles con queso
For Maria, Carolina and sol
Andrea

His chapped lips smoothes
Across her soft cheek

She hums good morning my
love

Then he kisses his daughters
on the forehead

And he sees their sulken
faces

And hears their growling
stomachs

And hope he'll find work
With nice pay

To silence their bellies

And keep a techo over their
heads

He's scared

He lives in Phoenix, Arizona
And he's Mexican, while
driving

He's undocumented, while
working

He's brown while standing on
the corner

And he's got an accent while
laughing

He walks out the door and
through the community

Sees his people-lonely,
frightened

He has no nickels and dimes
For the homeless

But he shares pearls of
wisdom

To give them warmth

He car pools to the day work
center

Where other men are talking
And praying

Hoping for better lives for
their families

He drinks coffee and eats
conchas for energy

This will be his only meal
today

An old man with a Russian
accent

Enters the room and selects
Pablo, a Mario, an Elias, and
a Joshua

They load up on a bus with
several others

And begin traveling an open
road

The men ride and sing "bien
pedo bien loco"

Pablo thinks of Juanita,
Maria, Carolina, A sol Andrea

They are his angels

Then the bus pulls over,

A police officer slowly

approaches the bus

Mexican while driving

The officer asks for license
and registration

The driver has it

The officer says open the

back of the van

He orders the rest of the men

off the bus.

Pablo walks off worried but
strong

Pablo fears this morning will
be the last time his chapped
lips

Will smooth his wife's soft
cheeks

Pablo is still Mexican while
standing

On the shoulder of the open
road

Pablo is still undocumented
while being frisked

Pablo is still brown while
being handcuffed

He still has an accent while
remaining silent

Pablo and the men wait on
another bus

A bus that will take them to a
familiar border.

All Star Poets:
Tiara H., age 14 (Chalmers)

James H., age 12 (Eli Whitney)

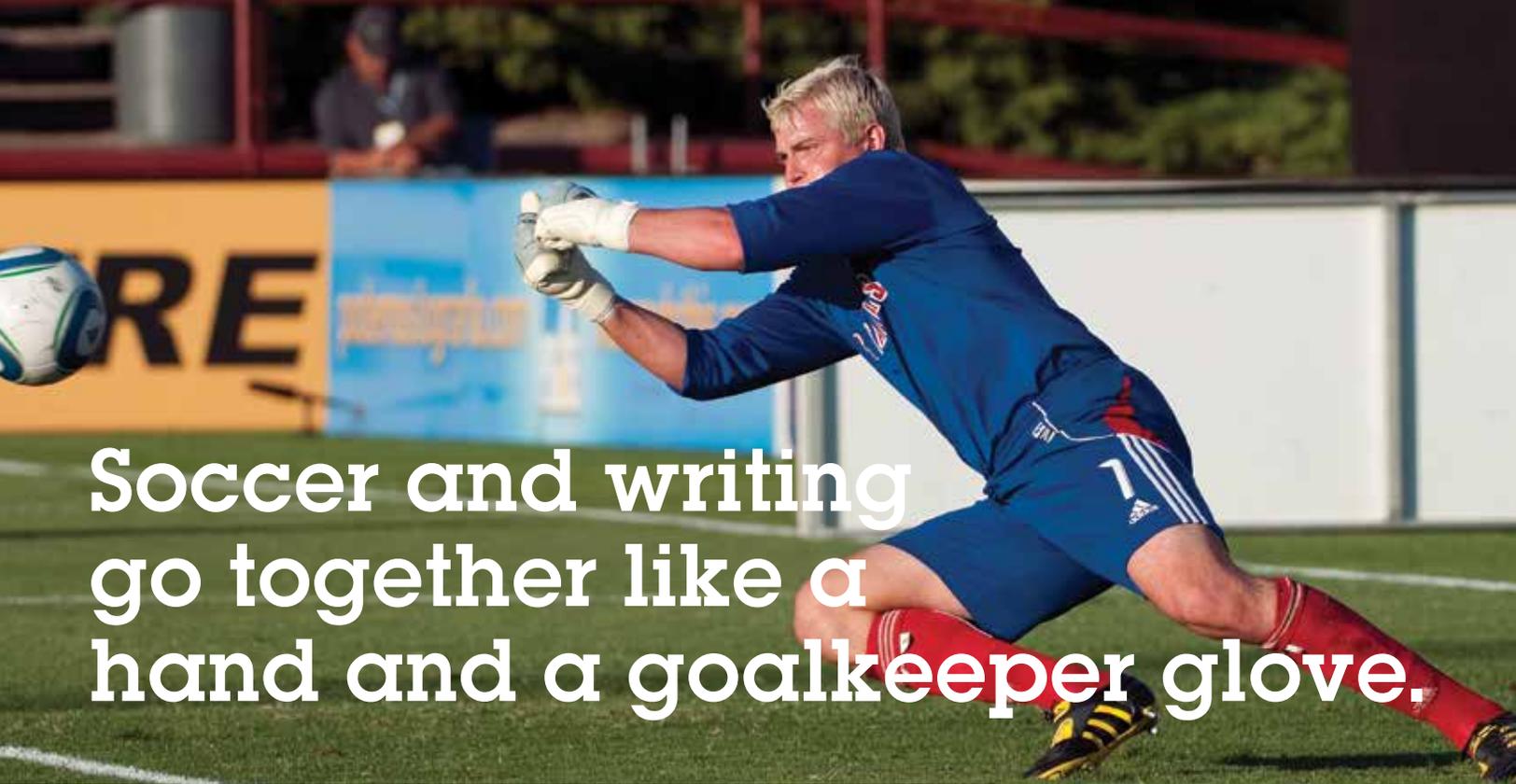
Karla D., age 11 (Pilsen)

Ernesto T., age 13 (Castellanos)

Jessica R., age 14 (Castellanos)

Karneil S., age 12 (Corkery)

Chicago



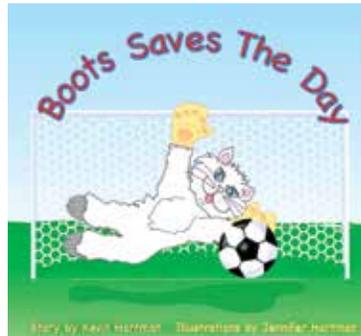
Soccer and writing go together like a hand and a goalkeeper glove.

KEVIN HARTMAN has been an MLS goalkeeper for 16 years and has played for LA Galaxy, Kansas City Wizards, and FC Dallas. He is the owner of Kevin Hartman Shutout Goalkeeping, a training company based in Dallas, Texas.

Kevin tells us why being a “student athlete,” not just an athletic student, is pivotal to his soccer success and wants to know what you think:

Fact: Reading helps you learn through other’s experiences.

By reading the words on this page, you are already learning through my experiences. I remember sitting at our kitchen table struggling over a difficult assignment – I bet that happens sometimes when you are writing poetry. Reading more helped me find the words to tell my story so I can share it with you. Now I enjoy reading so much that my wife and I wrote a book about soccer! If you enjoy reading, then you can learn more about my experience in my book, “Boots Saves the Day.”



Fact: To play high school soccer, you must take your classwork seriously. I’m thankful for my elementary and middle school teachers and parents who never allowed me to neglect my studies, the same way your SCORES coaches and teammates are there for you. It’s important to have a good role model and to be a good role model. Today, I try to make sure my daughter understands the importance of sports and reading the same way my parents taught me.

Fact: The top soccer colleges are also academically elite.

When I was looking at colleges, everyone kept telling me that “my good grades are really going to help me get into the school.” If I didn’t take my schooling seriously, I may never have played at UCLA or have had the chance to play professional soccer for the past 16 years of my life.

KEVIN WANTS TO KNOW:

Do you ever get stuck when you are writing? What are your tips to finding the words to express yourself? What kind of books do you like to read and why?

KEVIN WANTS TO KNOW:

I’m sure you are a role model to someone. What do you think you are teaching to those who look up to you? What do you think makes someone a good role model?

KEVIN WANTS TO KNOW:

Do you want to play soccer after America SCORES? Where will your good grades take you?

Send your answers to kicker@americascores.org



www.kevinhartman.com



SCORES AND PROUD!

What time is it?

What time is it?
It's time to play our game.

The whistle blows my heart
explodes
We try to kick the ball but it
wouldn't go
We miss the shot and the
other team scored

The whistle blows my heart
explodes
It's time to run a little more
and score some goals.
It's so hot, we sweat a lot.
It's in our mouth, yuck, yuck,
yuck!
We pass the ball, and score
two goals!

The whistle blows my heart
explodes
We won the game!
Now it's time to celebrate

We shake hands and get our
snacks
It's a great day to be with our
friends

[Girls Team](#)
[Nathaniel Pope Elementary](#)
[Chicago](#)

Who We Are

We are Dunlap Girls
SCORES
We play soccer galore.

We're like light,
We shine bright,
We are noticeable and
always in sight.

We have a lot of brains
and when we play soccer
We drive you insane.

SCORES, SCORES,
SCORES
That's all you hear
The crowd can't help but
cheer!

[Girls Team](#)
[Dunlap Elementary](#)
[Seattle](#)

My Time

My time in America SCORES
is fun

My team is bright like the
shining sun!
I love both subjects:
Poetry and Soccer
But the thing I most love are
my teachers:
Coach Wingate, Coach Rob,
Coach Tova, and Coach
Chelsea.
These teachers are very nice
They show me that they are
my best friends!
I love America SCORES
I will NEVER QUIT...

Until I get to 6th grade...
And have to split!

[Gilberto A., age 9](#)
[PS 192 Jacob H. Schiff](#)
[Elementary](#)
[New York](#)

Soccer Sisters

Awesome!
More games please
Jocelyn V. Jazmin, Jennifer,
Josselyn G
Rapping and Writing
Sade, Kelly, Leeannie, Alina,
Shania,
Cool Soccer Sisters
Almedina, Shantell, Marilou
Sports and soccer
Cute
Outstanding
Record Rap, Coach Flood
Evelyn, Yanelis, Coach
Toomajian

[Jazmin A., age 9](#)
[PS 192 Jacob H. Schiff](#)
[Elementary](#)
[New York](#)

What SCORES Means to Me

SCORES is my life.
If there was no SCORES, I
would not be happy at all.
SCORES will help me go to
college.
SCORES makes me proud.
SCORES makes me loud.
I love SCORES a lot.

[Vanessa L., age 9](#)
[Maple Elementary](#)
[Seattle](#)

Life Above

Soccer is life.
Soccer is pride.
When I kick the ball it makes
me happy.
Soccer is awesome.
It's like eating ice cream on a
hot hot day.
I love when Sharp, Sam, Che,
Erikca, Luis, Lopez, Rody,
and Cristian are by my side
supporting me at soccer.
I wish I could play soccer
every day.
I am glad LA SCORES was
made.

Soccer is my hobby and it's
like my hobby that I wake in
and out every day. When
my team scores it feels like
if they gave me a million
dollars.
Soccer is just my thing.
Soccer feels like the city by
the bay.
It just makes me happy very
happy. Soccer is life.

[Anonymous](#)
[Palms Elementary](#)
[Los Angeles](#)

Team Poem

We have spirit. We have
heart.
We are from César Chávez
School.
Our cheer is:
"Diablos! Diablos!
Reach our goals!
César Chávez!
Go! Go! Go!"
We work together to make
goals of our own.
We like cheering for our
team.
We are soccer players and
lovers of our team.
We love our coach.
We are rigor people and
smart.
We love our school.
We love being a part of
America SCORES School.
We like our teammates.

[Alan S. & Oscar S., age 10](#)
[César Chávez School](#)
[Portland](#)

I'm a Soccer Player that's what I am

I'm a soccer player, that's
what I am
I have my game face on
My goal is set to get that ball
into that golden net
If I win I'll shout
Hurry if I lose, I'll walk away
with a sad face
But still I can never give up,
that ball is mine and I'm never
giving up
I'll try my best to pass this
test
I'm a huge fan

I'm a soccer player that's
what I am
People say that ball's not
mine
But I've practiced hard, I did
my time
This is a professional sport,
which is exactly why I went to
court.
This isn't an ordinary game;
it's a special sport, that's why
I came
People ask why I have a tan,
it's because I'm a soccer
player and that's what I am

[Boys and Girls Teams](#)
[E.L. Haynes Public Charter](#)
[Middle School](#)
[DC](#)

We Are Palms

We are Palms
Listen to our song
We are strong
Like an atomic bomb
Desperation, cooperation
that's our motivation
To be the best
Smoking isn't cool
Unless you're a fool
Don't be a bully
That's not right
If you come to Palms

[Boys and Girls Teams](#)
[Palms Elementary](#)
[Los Angeles](#)

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Nathaniel Pope Elementary Girls Team from America SCORES Chicago

Pope Elementary has always been known for its great spirit. It is hard to believe that a couple of seasons ago, the Pope 6th-8th grade girls could not pull it together for a win. All coaches and spectators could tell the Pope girls were ready to play, but for some reason the girls had trouble connecting and working together on the field. After a lot of hard work and patience, the Middle School girls managed to turn their unfortunate series of losses into an undefeated season in the Fall! The Pope girls were now the team to beat. The same girls, who had trouble making one pass on the field, were now connecting multiple passes on the field, all the way to the goal. Their new sense of pride was infectious, and watching them grow as a team was remarkable. At the end of the year, the Pope 6th-8th grade girls received the League Trophy. They were elated! The trophy is now sitting in the Main Office at their school, so each person who walks into the office can see that the Pope girls are a true example that hard work pays off.



INSPIRATIONS

Light of Life

The way I play it
Is the way I say it
It's my own life
And this is my time to tell you
why I love my life
Because my life is like a nest
of eggs, waiting to be hatched
It's amazing how it happens
Because life is like the sun in
the sky
It shines really bright and I am
bright
I will be in the light of life

Joel S., age 12
Jamaa Learning Center
Saint Louis

The Brightest Diamond

The diamond that shines bright
is as bright as the stars in the
sky.
The diamond that shines bright
is as bright and sparkly as my
pretty eyes.
The diamond that shines bright
is as bright as my personality.
The diamond that shines bright
is me!
I am the diamond that shines
the BRIGHTEST!
I think I am the shiniest and
most beautiful diamond the
world has ever seen.

Momeeka P., age 10
Willow Elementary
Cleveland

Untitled

I like soccer and my life is big
as a beach.
Sun School is cool as a pool.
My mother is a flower that it
grows up
and takes care of you
and gives food to you.

Eduardo S., age 9
César Chávez School
Portland

When I Ride a Horse

I see the sun rising, I see the
wind blowing the tall and long
grass.
I run up the tall hills. It goes up
and down.
I hear birds chirping, wind
blowing dogs barking, cars
driving and babies crying. I feel
my hair blowing back as the
horse runs! I feel the horse's
heart beating!
The faster we go, the harder
her heart beats!
The seat bounces up and
down side to side
It is fun riding on a horse. I am
sad now the ride is over but
tomorrow,
I will ride again!!

Sade B., age 11
Wade Park School
Cleveland

Untitled

My important thing is to pass
high school and college;
to be a good goalie when I
grow up
because it is my favorite thing
to play in soccer.
I like soccer.
Soccer. Go. Go. Go.
The end.

Christian M., age 8
César Chávez School
Portland

Untitled

I'm from Chiapas State.
And I was born.
And my dream is to be a
soccer pro.
And I hope that's my dream.

Kevin T., age 10
César Chávez School
Portland

American Graduate

When I'm in college
My brain will be like a tree that
grows and grows
I can hear the education that has
been taught
As it roars in a loud voice
So now I've got a choice
To work in McDonalds for eternal
Or go to college and be the
Number One Pro

I choose....COLLEGE

When I graduate, it'll feel like I
made my first goal
I'll have so many responsibilities
That I will explode
When I graduate I'll be the
Number One Pro

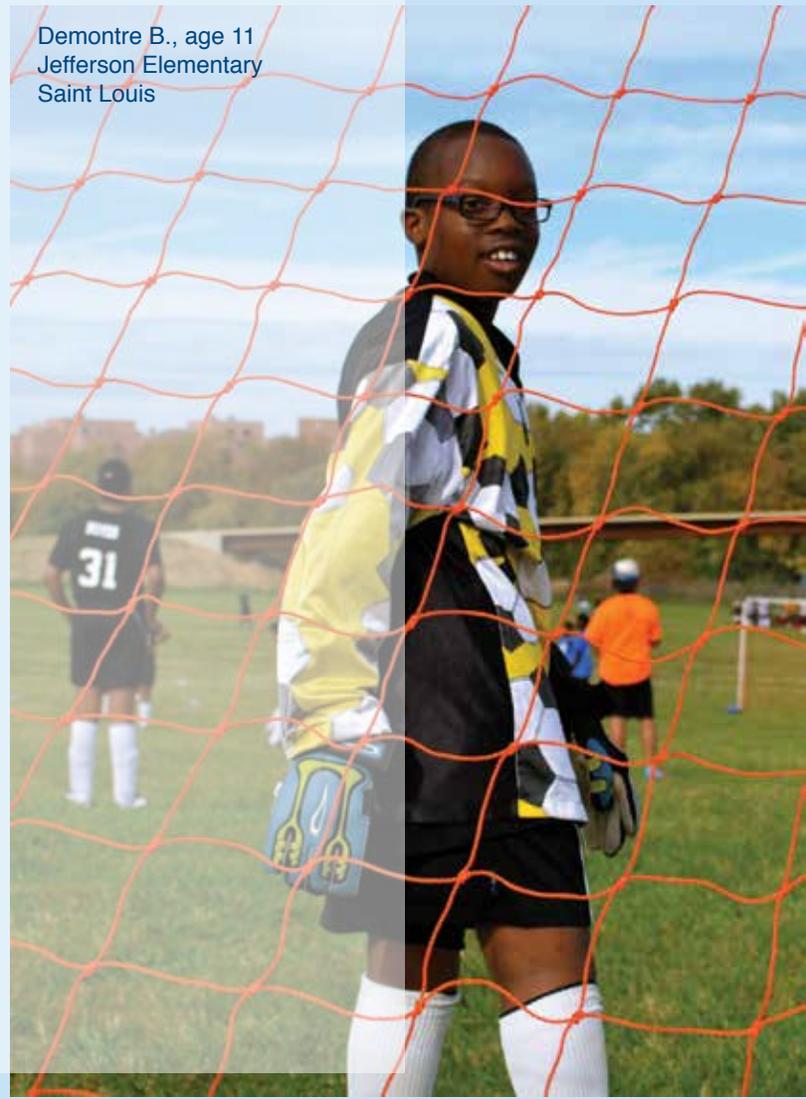
Now applause spreads like
affection
To my mom and all around the
world
I will succeed
I will be an American Graduate

Demontre B., age 11
Jefferson Elementary
Saint Louis

Untitled

When we join hands,
we're together.
When we flap our wings,
we're above each other.
We might not be together
forever,
but happily, now we are.
Sometimes we have to let go,
but it is hard.
You can't hold on forever, but
you can try.
All of us are different,
and we should be happy about
it.
War should stop.
Because that will make us let
go.

Alice Collum G., age 11
César Chávez School
Portland



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

In May 2012, 34 America SCORES students from DC, Denver and Saint Louis were invited to the White House to recognize the LA Galaxy's MLS Cup championship. Students were selected based upon their sportsmanship, leadership and commitment to education.

The students gave President Obama a rousing applause when he entered the room. Following his warm welcome, the First Lady talked to our students about the importance of living healthy lifestyles and about *Let's Move*.

"She said she was happy to see us," said Deontrel, a poet-athlete from Saint Louis. "She knew we were from all around the country and that the State Room was where they had their special guests and that we were their special guests."

The First Lady left the students with a final message of "Eat your vegetables!" and opened up the floor for our students to ask greats like Landon Donovan, David Beckham, and other Galaxy players about their soccer careers. Donovan spoke about the importance of knowing the foods you're putting in your body and their effect on your athletic performance.



Meet a Team: Bancroft Elementary School from DC SCORES

I am

I am America. I salute this country from head to toe. I'm a native, yes I know

Yo soy Guatemala, el lugar más bonito de mi vida.
I am Mexico, a land filled with thunder and lightning.
Yo soy El Salvador que tiene mucha agua alrededor, y que tiene muchos arboles llenos de frutas
I am Hollywood; where famous people do their best tv shows.

Yo Soy zapatillas que se cambian cada mes.
I am Vietnam, a place full of the roars of motorcycles engines.
Yo soy los dibujos de un artista



I am a place with strong hearts and people who are fighting breast cancer
Yo soy el amor de mi madre que me consuela

I am best friends. Angels that god sends along that always stay besides you whenever things go wrong.
Yo Soy pupusas revueltas y queso que lo hacen mi madre mejor que nadie

I am the cheesy cheese of cheese fries.
Yo soy la deliciosa pizza que enamora a la gente por su sabor
I am the palm trees of California that sway in the wind
Yo soy las flores de los cerezos que son tan bonitas
I am the advances of science that will cure diseases and

Yo soy el fútbol, un deporte divertido y mágico.
Somos DC SCORES!
We are BANCROFT!

Boys and Girls Teams
Bancroft Elementary School
DC



Steve Zakuani of the Seattle Sounders

Over the years, a lot of fans have asked me what it's like to be a professional soccer player. I normally tell them that it's the best job in the world but I don't usually have the time to explain why. So I thought it would be good for me to expand on that answer by giving you some insight into my life as a professional soccer player. I'll do that by answering a few common questions I receive.

Is it hard to be a professional soccer player?

Yes, but it's also fun. It's hard because we put a lot of hours into practice, we travel a lot, and we compete against other very good players. But it's fun because this is what I dreamed of when I was a child, and it's great to be able to do it for a living.

What inspired you to play soccer?

I can't pinpoint one thing or person who inspired me to play this sport. It kind of just happened. In London, where I grew up, all the kids played on the streets everyday and I used to play with them. I then joined club teams and just kept progressing to the next level. Once I knew that I was good enough to become a professional I just worked hard and pursued my dream.

How do you inspire kids to be the best?

Personally, I always tell kids to make sure they have fun when they play soccer. If it's not fun and feels like a chore, then they shouldn't do it. I think the best way to inspire kids is to be a good example for them. To show them that you need to work hard to achieve your goals and that you need to be prepared to make sacrifices to maximize your potential.

Why did your family move from your place of birth?

The short answer is that my father got a job in London, England. We were living in the Congo at the time. I was four years old, and so I don't remember much about Africa but I am glad we moved to London because I had some wonderful times growing up there.

Is there any kind of food you like to eat before the game?

I normally eat rice and chicken. Sometimes I'll have some pasta and chicken. I don't eat too much because I hate feeling heavy when I play a game. I sometimes will have some fruit, like a banana, an hour or so before the game. I also drink lots of fluids.

What did it take for you to become the man you are today?

I became who I am today because of the experiences I've had, the people I've met, and the decisions I've made. Each phase of my journey has contributed to make me who I am today. I am still on that journey and still evolving as a human being. The experiences I have in the future will also shape me and make me who I am to become.

STRENGTH

A Fighter

I am a girl.
Hear me roar!!
I am the type of girl
Who fights for peace
And tries her best to stop the
wars between friends.
I am a real fighter.
I am the type of girl
who says okay,
I messed up,
Now I know
What I should do next.
I am the type of girl
Who never says die.
I might not be tough
But I still try my best,
Like my dad fighting for his
life.
I am the type of girl
Who is hard to
Defeat
The way a rock is
Hard to break.
I am the type of girl
Who has a heart
As big as a rainbow of
fantastic colors.
I am the type of girl
Who won't ever give up
Like my Dad
Who won't ever give up on
me

Diane C., age 10
Cleveland Elementary
Bay Area

I want to be fierce

I want to be fierce
I want my legs to be fast
As a cheetah
Running in the open grass
I want to be an eagle
Powerful in flight
Soaring through the night
Soccer is a sport I use all my
might
To go down the field
And stay out of sight
I want to be fierce
I want my poems to flow
To show
That New York is where I
want to go

Ray'miah M., age 9
Jamaa Learning Center
Saint Louis

Powerful

I am as powerful as the voice
of light.
My voice shines so bright that
people are amazed.
My voice shines like the sun
beaming down right at you.
I shine so bright I inspire
people full of courageous
thoughts.
My voice is full of light and
inspiration
My voice will cure the
sicknesses of life.
My voice will always be there
to make anyone feel cheerful.
My voice will always be in
your heart FOREVER!

Tiarra J., age 11
Palms Elementary
Los Angeles

Today My Name Is

Today my name is champion
I feel proud I'm alive
I pretend I'm rocking out at a
soccer game
Yesterday my name was loser
I heard I am not cool
I found out I just have to
believe in myself
Tomorrow my name will be
nice kid
I will forget about those dumb
names
I will remember to believe in
myself

Cristian C., age 10
CMS Community School
Denver

A Diamond

I am a diamond, I can shine
against the sun
No one can shine like me.
I am strong, beautiful, and
unique,
No one on this earth is quite
like me!

What makes me smile is
when others smile.
But sometimes when I am
angry I don't shine
I am like boiling steam.
My expressions and feeling
are my own,
No one is quite like me!

I'll never hurt such kind
I am as sweet as a plum and
As sour as a lime

I sing, I dance, I sit alone and
I play
No one will get me that way
That's what makes me a
diamond.
I am not the same as you,
you or you and that's okay
Cuz there is no one else I'd
rather be.

I shine and I never break a
promise
And that's what makes me
shine
I AM A DIAMOND in the sky!

Kastenny C., age 10
Marie Reed Elementary
DC

Life

It has a crazy way of
explaining itself
It's not only about the riches
and wealth.
It's a survival in life.
A rollercoaster
That's one way to explain it.
Every time something goes
wrong
you can't have a fit.
Life has ups and downs
You can smile, sometimes
frown
You can't always get your
way.
You just have to live by it
Day by day
Even though it hurts
You can't lose your
composure
You have to keep yourself
together
And know that you're not a
loser

Christian B., age 10
Tubman Elementary
DC

The Takeover

I am more than somebody
Open the door for me
I'm taking over
My little voice speaks up
Stand up!
This is my story
My back-up plan for my family
To not be forgotten
The doctor, the lawyer,
the singer, the rapper
Words, beats, raps, and me
Watch this little voice speak
Stand up!
Police officer, archaeologist,
astronaut
Take over skies, take over the
streets
Shout the peace
For my mother, my father, my
brother, my sister
I'm taking over
I will make the world better.

Boys and Girls Teams
C.W. Harris Elementary
DC



MEET ME

I Am

I am fast, dangerous, and wild like a cheetah
Not slow, common, and safe like a fish

I am rare and dangerous like poison ivy
Not yellow, common, and safe like a daisy

I am hot and relaxing like summer
Not cold and stressful like winter

I am loud, heavy, and sometimes annoying like a drum
Not soft and light like a flute

I am fast, cool, and amazing like a Volkswagen
Not slow, uncool, and sluggish like a cargo truck

I am dangerous, scary, and violent like a hurricane
Not delicate like a fall breeze

I am heavy and full of value like gold
Not light and of little value like silver

I am bright and inspirational like red
Not dark and uninspiring like black

I am smiling and laughing like when you're happy!
Not frowning and angry like being sad.

Jorge C., age 10
PS 192 Jacob H. Schiff Elementary
New York

Untitled

I am like a broken clock.
I am never the same
I am classical music, sharp
And calm
I am like a hidden camera
Watching your every move
I am an isolated fish
It's bad I don't have many friends
I am green, without it
I'd be lost
I am me.

Gaea C., age 10
Cheltenham Elementary
Denver

I Am...

I am a crocodile because I like to eat
I am a pig because I like to sniff
I am a whale because I swim very slow
I am tree because I love to stay still
I am a bird because I wish I could fly
I am a seagull because I like to eat fish
I am a siren and elephant because I am loud
I am a square because it is peaceful and quiet
I am a lime green leaf because I am sensitive
I am a cheetah because I can run fast

Paris P., age 9
Roger Clap Innovation School
New England

All About Me

I am super fast.
I love to read.
I like to race and play soccer.
I'm doing my work and That's one of my goals.
My other goal is to Learn all day and Do what's right.

AeRonde B., age 10
Carter G. Woodson Elementary
Atlanta

I am, I am not

I'm a leopard, I am fast
I'm not a slow snail and tiny
I'm a rose and I am loveable
I am not poison ivy and a stinky plant
I'm summer and shiny
I'm not winter and cold
I'm green and happy
I'm not blue and sad like a slug
I'm water and cool
I'm not fire like a bad guy

Laylanie M., age 9
Gardner Pilot Academy
New England

"I am poem"

I'm the wind blowing through the trees.
I am a bird flying in the sky.
I am a feather falling on the ground. Oh wait the wind is blowing me again.

I'm a skyscraper standing tall
I am a bunny wondering where I am going next.
I am a squirrel looking for my food.
I am a book being read all the time.
I am a soccer player

I am me and no one else can take my place in this world.

Elizabeth D., age 10
John F. Kennedy Elementary
New England

I Am

I am water
I flow around the world
I fall from faucets
I fall from the sky
I get people wet
I am hot
I am cold
But I am still water

Lexis M., age 10
Eagleton Elementary
Denver

"I am poem"

I am me, I am the breeze in the wind, I am what you are, I am gorgeous I shine.
I am a superstar, I shine
I am a soccer player, I make goals
I am a girl, I represent
I am a leaf taking a voyage
I am a branch swaying from side to side
I am the grass freezing
I am the world spinning around
I am the sun shining
I am the monkey eating peanuts
I am Dominican
I am me!

Alizah D., age 11
John F. Kennedy Elementary
New England

Freedom

I am an Eagle because
I am wise
I am Sunday because
I play soccer
That day
I am converse
Because it sounds
Like universe
I am blue
I like the sky
I am the Sound of BOOOOM
Because I am loud

I am circle
Because it's
Like a quarter

I am a Trombone
Because I am
Big and loud

Jorge V., age 10
Hayes Bilingual Elementary
Milwaukee

Untitled

I'm a cloud in the sky
I am never going to die
I love to try
I never like to lie
I'm greatest inside the pages
I think pink is my favorite color
My name is Shantell
My father's name is Fantel
I miss the twin towers
Just like sunflowers
My friends are the best
They treat me like a guest

Shantell M., age 9
P.S. 325
New York

Unique Me

I might seem simple and easy
but I am really sharp
Dark like the night
Watch out because I am here
I am good with my people
Soy Mexicana and American
I might be good with my
grades
but not my attitude
A future doctor, Dr. Cervantes
Successful in life
I am all of the above so
Time for me to spread my
wings
and say goodbye.

Ruvi C., age 10
Newlon Elementary
Denver

Guitar

I am a guitar
making music that goes
through people's
ears making them feel a
sensation
inside of them
My music might
make people feel
angry, happy, sad,
or funny
But I don't care
I just love the music
that comes from my guitar

Allison P., age 10
Eagleton Elementary
Denver

A Recipe of Me

One gallon of love,
2 quarts of concern
1 cup of caring
1 pinch of angry
3 cups of friendship
160,000,000,000 gallons of
heart
200 quarts of compassion
2 tablespoons of helpfulness
3 teaspoons of sternness
500 quarts of strength
400,000 gallons of speed.

Christopher C., age 11
Carter G. Woodson Elementary
Atlanta

I am Fire

I woke up with energy.
I feel active and ready to go.
I am fire
During the day the bright fire in
my mind helps me learn.
I am fire
Because I am special
I keep the world active by my
fire
I am fire
Every time I do well my fire
gets bigger and stronger.

Bradlee M., age 12
Mound STEM School
Cleveland

What's in Ivan

My hands have strength.
I use them to throw far.
My heart has caring.
I always help other people.
My feet have speed.
I am faster than my brother,
Oscar.
I have power in my arms.
I hug my nephew when he
cries.
I am a special kid.

Ivan V., age 10
Windlake Elementary
Milwaukee

Who is Devonte?

Devonte is a boy with skill.
Devonte sometimes tries to
show it.
I like to play soccer.
When I am mad, I look like a
snake
Looking for food.
When I am happy I look like a
kid smiling.
I have more madness than
goodness in me.
I have problems.
Everyone has bad days.
I want to show people
But I just feel like I can't.
I love myself. But do you?

Devonte R., age 12
Carter G. Woodson Elementary
Atlanta

I Am

I am laughter
Turning the biggest frown
upside down
I am earth
Renewing life's energy with
the power of my core
I am gravity
Keeping dreams grounded and
alive
I am shelter
Protecting all of humanity
I am the Statue of Liberty
Standing tall and proud
I am Chicago
My big shoulders hold the
weight of 100 worlds building,
breaking, rebuilding
I am bright
My mind shines eclipsing all
the stars in the sky
I am love
Building friendship to conquer
hate
I am perfect laughter
Renewing earth's humanity
Keeping dreams standing
bright
Building love
I Am Me

Emily R., age 11
Phoebe A. Hearst Magnet
School
Chicago

Meet a Graduate: Lupe from America SCORES Milwaukee

Lupe participated in SCORES from 2006-2008. She is now in 10th grade and has some words of wisdom to share...

"The advice I would probably give to current or future SCORES participants would be to actually enjoy everything you do, from playing to writing to volunteering, and to put some thought into each activity they do with you, because it's actually helpful in life, even if you might not realize it at the moment. Everyone involved with the SCORES program is trying to prepare you for the future, and they do prepare you well, you just have to be willing to receive that help."

Despite residing 2,000 miles away and starting SCORES 4 years earlier (2002), Leasly from America SCORES Los Angeles agrees with Lupe on Page 33. Years ago, Leasly and Lupe were playing soccer, writing poetry, and helping the community just like you! Will you write to *Kicker!* 10 years from now?



I HAVE THE POTENTIAL

Victory

Victory is my sister
She makes me laugh all day
I love her more and more
each day
I haven't seen her since the
summer
It is such a bummer
I talk to her on my phone
But I still feel pretty alone
Her birthday is on March 25,
of 2010 of course
I don't know how to say it
But let's just say it
I'm sad because she lives 4
hours away.

Zeyla A., age 10
César Chávez Learning Center
Dallas

Hard Work Pays

It's been a while since
they've heard of me, what's
changed?
More maturity, most certainly
if you were me you'd get the
picture perfectly,
But everyone assumes things
so allow me to explain it to
you thoroughly
Sometimes you can be on the
stairway of success but get
tired of the rail,
It's like building houses out of
grades,
but I ran out of nails,
But then it finally hit me,
This wasn't me, it couldn't be.
All of this isn't where it should
be.
All of this is nonsense,
Don't let your falls sit on your
conscience.
Life is a movie, and I guess
were on set,

Don't look back even if your
neck hurts,
Why slip, if you can gain
forever,
Pride sits, shame is never.

Andres G., age 12
Windlake Elementary School
Milwaukee

Untitled

My superpowers are my
actions.
My words are as strong as a
thunderbolt.
My acts of kindness can stop
a speeding train.
When people look up to me
I feel like I did something
amazing.
When I listen it can change
the world's fate.
My voice is as strong as a
tsunami.
I circle the world helping
people with their problems.
Some that other people
created.

Evan R., age 10
Charnock Road Elementary
Los Angeles

Recess

I was barely coming outside
When everyone started
running all around
Then I realized
We were out in the
playground

I ran to the ring of soccer
Then they gave us a ball
Everyone ran toward it
I almost started to fall

They passed me the ball
I started to run
Everyone said it
Was supposed to be fun

I ran and I ran
Then I shook every player
I was running
In just one layer

I couldn't get enough
I was having so much fun
That was good stuff
That I could be number one

I scored a goal
Everyone came
They all started to cheer
And I finally had fame

Jesus O., age 10
César Chávez Learning Center
Dallas

Soccer

Played on a big field
Running back and forth
through the grass
From daylight to sunset

We fight, first class
So we won't be last
Pass the ball left then right
As we defend our goal
Letting the wildcat go through
our soul

Like a battle we defend
And fight for our victory
Representing our school, our
history

There's no losing, just winning
Keeping the ball on our side
As they try and try
We won't let them get by

The sun slowly goes down and
The wind starts to blow
Move our feet and keep the
flow
Kick the ball towards the goal
and score!

Now their turn
They trip, they fall,
filled with pain and sorrow
We win but we'll see
our opponents tomorrow
We cheer for our victory
our claim to fame.

William M., age 10
Walton Elementary School
Cleveland

I Am Ashley

I am a soccer player
I am a puma with brown eyes
I am white and pink like a lily
I am athletic like an Olympic
Gold WINNER!
I am Powerful
So I can do whatever I want!
No one can boss me around.
I am Ashley!...
And I am AWESOME!

Ashley L., age 10
PS 192 Jacob H. Schiff
Elementary
New York

My Dream

My dream is to be overlord
supreme.
Strong and dependable, I
could make you a good friend
you know.

My dream is to be a singer
that's famous and rich, with a
very nice pitch.

My dream is to be a dentist,
so I can keep people's teeth
sturdy not dirty.

My dream is to be a vet,
I would love to help a pet.

My dream is to be a very
good cook,
with my very own book.

My dream is to be the world's
most famous actress on the
planet.

Also to have the world's most
rarest magnet.

My dream is to be saluted by
the
President of the United
States.

My dream is to live in Los
Angeles California,
be an actress and make it
big.

I can see it now, the paper
headlines:
10 year old girl makes it as a
big time
singer and actress.
My dream is to be me and
that's my ultimate dream.

Karter H., age 10
Michael R. White STEM School
Cleveland



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Triniya

from America SCORES Saint Louis



Meet Triniya. She is an America SCORES poet-athlete from Saint Louis. By the 4th grade, she was already an accomplished poet, soccer player, and local television celebrity.



Among the 320 kids in 12 cities that spent the fall writing with artists like Psalm One, the poet-athletes at Jefferson Elementary composed and recorded “I Can Be What I Wanna Be” with Grammy Award winning song writer, Dave Berg. Triniya received the exclusive opportunity to practice one-on-one and perform this song as a duet with Dave before a live and televised audience at STL Celebrity Voices.

“He’s like my best friend that I can sing with” Triniya said. “I would like to tell Dave, thank you for letting me sing a solo and YOU ROCK!!!”

Today, people in Saint Louis can still watch and enjoy their performance of the song, “I Can Be What I Wanna Be” as it continues to play on the Nine Network channel in Saint Louis. Hear the song at www.americascoreres.org/ascap



(Dave Berg)

I left Nashville in the evening,
drove all night long
heading up to Saint Louis
to write me a song
with some kids from a school.
What I didn’t know is,
turns out, they were more like poets
sayin’ things like...

(Chorus)

I can be what I want to be
I can be what I want to be
I am smart
I am funny
And I have dreams
I can be what I wanna be

(Triniya’s solo)

I am a tree
Tall like the sky
I am a mountain
Way up high
Way up here
I can see
I can be what I wanna be
I can be what I wanna be

Special thanks to Dave Berg, Shock City Studios, and The ASCAP Foundation Irving Caesar Fund.

COLORS & DARKNESS

What is Red?

Red is the color of a strawberry
Inside of the watermelon
And cherry.
The color of shoes
And a crab on the beach.
Red is salsa
and R & B.
Red is a blinding color
Blinding me.
The fresh smell of roses
Blooming in spring.
The color of love
And fall leaves.
Red is dangerous,
Very actually.
It is the juicy smell
of grilled meat
On a summer afternoon.
Red is the 49ers colors
running
Through my veins.

Sianna M., age 9
Junipero Serra Elementary
Bay Area

Monsters

In the day,
During the night,
All the creatures come out to bite.
With sharp pointy teeth, and
Large round claws
They're at the reef,
And out at the malls.

There the Loch Ness Monster,
Fred,
And the one that hides under
your bed,
There's the cookie monster
But he's not that scary –He's
just really hairy!
And he's blue, but not that
mean.
Although if you mention veg-
gies,
He'll scream!

Dallas A., age 12
Markham Elementary
Portland

Blue

I love blue
Blue is beautiful
Blue is my eyes
Blue is a flower to me
Blue is my hair
Blue is the shiny blue ocean
I am lonely

My heart is blue
It is lonely

I am Blue.

Emely S., age 11
PS 192 Jacob H. Schiff
Elementary
New York



Demon Cats

Murkiness fogs the room as
I'm surrounded by cats.
They grow hidden, immoral
wings, and they start to scat.
Their ruffling wings bloom out
bulky and bold.
They scratch, they hiss, they
start to dance.
They spin and swirl out colors,
a line of black, a smudge of
blue,
and a splash of red fills the
room.
The demon cats hug a breath
and inhale the cold.
Soon the sun begins to rise.
Do you believe I saw that?
Believing what you feel, letting
your imagination blow.
I promise you, if you did, your
personality will start to grow.

Aaron T., age 12
Eagleton Elementary
Denver

Halloween

Dark like my shadow at night.
Candy as sweet as my sister.
Cold like a spooky witch.
Orange like a carved pumpkin.
Jack-o-lanterns are on.
I am so scared that my hair
will turn blonde!
If you come with you will
have to carry me through the
haunted house.

Halloween is spooky like my
brother sneaking up on me!!

Britney A., age 10
Windlake Elementary
Milwaukee

Light and Darkness

Light is bitter just as dark can
be pure,
For the light causes blindness
and pain toward the eyes

While darkness is rich soil gift
from mother earth.

Light burns down buildings
and loved ones and darkness
rests the eyes of everyone
bringing them fresh new
dreams to comfort them.

Light strikes down everyone
with a strong, shocking, and
piercing strike just as the
darkness of space is filled with
vast knowledge for all of us to
learn.

If you think very closely of
their meanings they can
appear to be opposites.

In order to have peace you
must have them both and
when they are together the
world will not be gray, but
silver and when that happens I
see a perfect world of riches

Jason Y., age 10
James Hennigan School
New England

Black

Black is as dark as the
shadows.
Black makes you think of the
night
Night makes you think of "La
Llorona"
Black is the color
Of the grim reaper's robe.
Black reminds me of the...
Actually, just black.

Timothy V., age 9
Gust Elementary
Denver

Black

Black is a color, but black is
more than that
Black is anything
Black is the sun as it rises,
then sets
Black is a pack of wolves
howling at the full moon in the
midnight sky
Black is the human race as
they try to unite these United
States, President Barack
Obama
Black is a baby's cry heard
from miles away because her
family left her behind
Black is a raven's claw
latching on its prey as it
tries to scurry away from its
doomed fate
Black is stylish
Perhaps when we are
imaginary to the things that
rule the earth
just maybe black may rust
and turn into a speck of dust
that no one may ever know
My skin is black, so they say
What color black are you, just
think about that
Black is a color, but black is
more than that
Black is anything

Taylor-Corrine B., age 11
Maple Elementary
Seattle

MORE INSPIRATIONS...

Chocolate

Chocolate is sweet.
Chocolate is nice.
Every time I see chocolate
I would like a bite.

Chocolate is wonderful.
Just like me.
And every time I eat a bite
I feel soooooo free!

So if you have chocolate
Don't be surprised
Guess what might happen
When chocolate passes my
eyes!

Stacy S., age 9
Bailey Gatzert Elementary
Seattle

Pen Pal

I've been used and abused for
eleven months
I'm important Monday thru
Friday
Use me when you need
someone to listen to
You will be smart if you use me

I've been pushed, torn when
something is wrong
Please save me, don't tear me
or throw me away
I'm your lucky charm
I'm special in so many ways
You use me every time

I want to be organized and
saved
Please don't let me be messy
I'm helpful if you respect me
Let's help each other and be
friends
You will not find me if you lose
me
You will miss what you said to
me
I'm your thoughts, dreams, and
memories
Your pen pal, your notebook

Africa T., age 10
Bailey Gatzert Elementary
Seattle

Brainstorm

There is a storm in my brain
I hear thunder roaring and
bursting
Words are falling like little rain
drops
Wind is blowing
Words are flying all around me
A tornado of ideas spins
destroying everything in its
path
Lightning strikes electrifying
madness!
It feels like the storm is never
going to STOP
Is this a brainstorm?

Tiana L., age 11
Pilsen Community Academy
Chicago

Am I an Animal?

Am I an animal?
No. I'm a human.

Am I a cat going meow?
No. I'm a human speaking
right now.

Am I a bird soaring up high?
No. I'm a human walking down
on the ground.

Am I a snake with no arms to
grab stuff?
No. I'm a human with arms to
grab a tiny puff.

Am I a bear sleeping in the
dark?
No. I'm a human waking up in
the light.

Am I a wolf hunting to feed?
No. I'm a human buying food
at Jollib ee

Am I a fish swimming for
survival?
No. I'm a human running at the
carnival.

Am I an animal?
No. I'm a human.

Juvanni P., age 11
Dunlap Elementary
Seattle

I'm Sorry

I'm sorry for
annoying you
I kind of knew
that you were going to be mad.
Forgive me,
I loved the sweet
music of the words,
"Stop it!"

Selvin M., age 9
Junipero Serra Elementary
Bay Area

Words

As sweet as hot chocolate
I will smell you
I will taste you
Words
Soft as a bunny helping me
relax like a day at the spa
Words
Hot as lava consuming my
body in flames
Words
Light as a piece of paper
floating and landing where
they choose
Words
Tart like acid slicing through
emotions
exposing sadness that's
hidden
Words of praise from my Mom
You are bright as the sun
Words
You are the most magnificent
thing in the world

Andres R., age 11
Rosario Castellanos
Elementary
Chicago

Bamboo Bread

Benji baked bamboo bread
The panda wanted that
bamboo.
He BANG! On Benji's head.
Benji got mad at the panda.
The panda didn't care.
He still wanted that bamboo.
so he BANG! BANG! BANG!
On Benji's head.
Benji fainted and the panda left
with the bamboo.

Guillermo P., age 8
Academia de Lenguaje Y Bellas
Artes (ALBA) Elementary
Milwaukee

Math Invasion

Oh No!
It's a math invasion!
Hurry up, what's the equation?
5+8? 2+9? Help me now!
I'm losing my mind!
It's blowing up!
It's burning down!
It's flying all the way out of
town!
Addition, subtraction,
multiplication, division
What's the answer?
What's your decision?
I hope it ends
I hope it ends
So math and I can once again
be friends
Now I'm free!
From the math invasion!
I don't need the equation
We finally have a relation
And now it's time for relaxation

Samuel L., age 8
Redding Elementary
Bay Area

My Class

My class is like a zoo
When they scream a lot
My class looks like a snake
When they get out of line
My class is like crazy monkeys
When they talk a lot
My class looks like traffic
When they are in line
My class is like a circus
When they run around too
much
On the playground or at recess
My class are like tigers
When they run so much or
when they are really fast

Fernando G., age 10
César Chávez Learning Center
Dallas

Smelly Grumpy Trash

You might ask yourself
Why I'm grumpy
My smell is always funky
Because they don't clean my
Skunky, metal, beat up
Trash Can body

Kevin F., age 10
James Whitcomb Riley
Elementary
Milwaukee



FALL FRENZY, POETRY SLAM!, in all 14 America SCORES cities!



FALL FRENZY

We kick off of the year with a city-wide soccer festival. Do you remember yours? Here's what happened in Portland! Busses from seven schools were packed with eager, enthusiastic poet-athletes ready to play soccer. To their surprise, they pulled up to the adidas Village and were welcomed by the Portland Timbers! They put on their SCORES uniforms, played soccer on the incredible adidas field, and learned real pre-game warm ups from the Timbers' fitness coach.

POETRY SLAM!

Thousands of poet-athletes participated in poetry workshops devoted to honing their poetic talents for the Poetry SLAM! Did you perform at yours? Here's what happened in New York! 65 poet-athletes took over the auditorium and performed their original poetry to a packed crowd. Four teams performed a group poem, topics ranging from anti-bullying to families to teamwork. Then a few students from each team performed individually for the chance to perform at this year's National Poetry SLAM!, judged by New York Red Bulls star forward Kenny Cooper and soccer reporter Cesar Diaz.



JAMBOREE!

The spring SCORES season means 300 communities improved, thanks to you! We celebrate with another city-wide soccer festival. Here's what happened in Washington, DC. More than 1,000 poet-athletes gathered at Trinity University. The DJ blasted beats while 27 schools played soccer all day long! Poet-athletes also enjoyed face-painting, relay races, a haiku writing station, honing their soccer skills, and getting cool giveaways from event sponsors.

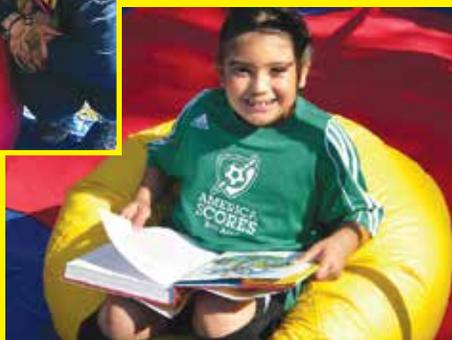


JAMBOREEs & MORE

BAY AREA

For poet-athletes in the Bay Area, finding great books to read and someone to read with is as fun and easy as coming to the park to play soccer! At every Game Day, students choose from hundreds of titles to take home from the field-side Book Zone and add to their home library. The Book Zone helps ensure that every

child has equal access to great children's books.



ATLANTA

You play soccer almost every day so you are experts on sportsmanship and respect on the field. That's why poet-athletes were invited to help referee the SCORES Cup tournament in Atlanta. AeRonde from Carter G. Woodson Elementary and his SCORES team worked the sidelines: cheering, running to get the balls, making sure that everyone was playing fair and having fun. After sharing poetry and soccer skills, they signed autographs for their new fans.



DALLAS

The César Chávez Learning Center girls team got all dressed up for a superstar performance at the SoccerBall Gala in Dallas. Rewarded for winning the Poetry SLAM! every year and for always having top notch poems, Melissa Reddick, from the FC Dallas Foundation, and her friends spoiled them with a dress shopping spree for these elegant gowns to wear to the Ball. They blew the audience away with their brains and talent, performing poetry about family, soccer, and a team poem about César Chávez, whom their school was named after, for over 300 people including celebrities like the owners of FC Dallas.



NEW ENGLAND

Tajah and Sarah from Boston attended the inaugural Empowerment Through Sport Leadership Series, an event aimed to inspire and instill qualities of leadership in young female athletes. They heard insightful and motivational speeches from a wide range of presenters: athletic directors, leaders in health care, Heather O'Reilly (three time Gold Medalist), and Abby Wambach (FIFA World Player of the Year).



The speeches, coupled with a smoothie social and breakout activities, sparked important dialogue about healthy living and lessons learned through physical activity.

NO BULLYING ZONE

Bullies In School

Bullies are so tough and mean
They make me eat a jellybean
Do they have to be in our
school?
They act like dumb old fools

They always say that I am in last
place
And they always hit me in my
face
They say P.U. you stink and I
say
At least I can think

I say at least I am smart
You only know how to fart
I say at least I test well
You fall down in a well

David M., age 10
César Chávez Learning Center
Dallas

Too Much (Haiku)

Bullying too much
You think you are tough, you're
not
You got to chill out

Kaleb J., age 8
Washington Elementary
Saint Louis

Bullying

Bullying is Bad
It doesn't get you nowhere
It makes the one you pick on sad
You push them around
Hit them and call them names
But why do it?
Is it because you are in pain
Lets put an end to bullying
And all just get along
To the bullied that were bullied
Stand up and be strong
So I say NO to bullying
No more hurt
No more pain
To all the bullies that are out
there
You should all be ashamed
Hold on, be strong,
No matter what you are going
through
You know that it is going to be
OK.

Lakeina R., age 10
César Chávez Learning
Center
Dallas

Team Poem

Soccer is our sport.
We may be short.
We play in a field.
We play in a court.
We play by a shore.
We play by a door.
Sun School is cool.
It's always full in the mall in the
fall.

Bona K., age 9 & Miguel R., age 8
César Chávez Elementary
Portland

Stop (Haiku)

Bullies mean and cruel
Don't hate others, just love you
Stop bullies, today!

Dai'mone M., age 11
Washington Elementary
Saint Louis

What I See

The sky is blue.
I look up.
It's a cool dragon fly
And an airplane.
I look down and you know what
I see?
A flower.
I see a school bus.
In the school bus I see kids
being respectful and responsible
and using teamwork.
I also saw behind the bus a lady
with a good community and she
was working at Braddock Drive
Elementary at LA SCORES.

Amanda C., age 8
Braddock Drive Elementary
Los Angeles



HOW POET-ATHLETES NATIONWIDE ARE WORKING TO STOP BULLYING



In Saint Louis, Washington Elementary poet-athletes studied the effects of bullying and presented to their school to raise awareness and to discourage their classmates from using bullying behavior.

In New York, PS 325 poet-athletes created an anti-bullying rap, which they performed in front of all SCORES students at the local Poetry SLAM! in New York.

In Washington, DC, Burrville Elementary poet-athletes came up with slogans, made posters and marched around their school during recess. They also gave a presentation on bullying to their principal and made daily morning announcements against bullying.

In Los Angeles, Palms Elementary School poet-athletes used technology, language, and performance to bring the topic of bullying front and center at their elementary school. The project embedded an understanding of how people treat each other in the consciousness of students, teachers and administrators.

TEAM POEM

The world can be sad.
People can be mean.
They insult me harshly
Try to tell me who to be.

You're a stick! You're a wimp! You
are weak!
NO! I'm fearless! I am brave!
I don't care what you think!

Your parents have no money
To get you toys.
Only girls can like pink.
Pink isn't for boys.
You can't eat lunch!
You can't eat that!
You're too tiny! You're too fat!
You can't like girls!
You can't like pink!
You can't be nice!
You have to be mean!

NO! I make my own decisions!
I'm a human being.
I have friends, family, teachers,
coaches,
Who care about me!
I believe in myself! I have pride.
No one on Earth can change me!
I will not hide!

You can't wear shorts:
Your legs are ashy!
You can't take a haircut:
You look like a bum!
You can't buy Jordan shoes:
They're too cool for you!
You're too little!
You're too dumb!

NO! I am amazing!
You can't change me!
I am strong! I am brave!
I am smart! I am free!
You can't tell me what to do.
I don't like the words you say!
Don't bully me.
Don't call me names!

So if someone's ever tried
To tell you what to do,
Remember, you are free to be
however suits YOU!
I am amazing!
No one can change me!
I am strong! I am brave!
I am smart! I am free!

Boys Team
PS 192 Jacob H. Schiff
Elementary
New York

THE WEATHER

Hip Hop Weather

The sun beams around the
clouds
Peaking to see if anyone's
paying attention
Am I bright enough to make a
difference?
Do you see the sparkle in my
eyes?
The rain pours down, hitting
the ground like a boombox
Sadly the tears slide down my
face
Reaching the pavement
And feeling the bass
Hip hop, tap, and rap
Feelin' the need to step back
I never know when the
weather's gonna change
But I definitely know Hip Hop's
my name
My voice makes a sunset
explode with colors
Red, blue, black and pink
My pen refills with ink
As time goes by, like an hour
glass full of sand
The earth just stops with one
musical command
Hip hop gives me inspiration to
love each note
I write my rhythms and rhymes
like a wrinkle in a time
From the west to the east to
the north to the south
That's what hip hop weather is
all about
Peace

Samari A., age 10
Dunlap Elementary
Seattle

Painful Rain

Painful rain bursting from the
blue sky
The dark clouds drifting back
and forth
The beautiful red roses getting
hurt
From the painful rain
Hurray! The painful rain has
gone away
So we say, bah bye painful rain
Word. Dunlap Elementary
Pride.

Mizpajoy G., age 10
Dunlap Elementary
Seattle

Otoño

Otoño has llegado
Las hojas caen
Las hojas vuelan
Adonde irán?

Una taza de
Chocolate caliente
Me espera
En casa
Jugosas
Calabasa
Granadas comemos
En el otoño

Otoño te puedo ver
Por la ventana
Otoño no te vayas
Por favor te voy a extrañar

Henry L., age 11
Mission Education Center
Bay Area

Sunset

Sunset is beautiful.
The brightness and darkness
come together
The color red and orange begin
The moon is getting brighter
So are the stars.
The sun is going West.
Down mountain and valley it
went.
The sun is resting.
The moon comes out.
The sun is going to another
hemisphere.
Peacefulness and night came
and lullaby the people to sleep.

Bao H., age 9
Rogers Street Academy
Milwaukee

Fall

Fall has color changing leaves.
It's time to harvest the crops.
It's time to cover up and look
fat.
Play time with family and
friends in the pile of leaves.
It is celebration time for special
holidays.
It's time to put on our costumes
and go trick or treating.
BOOO!
It's time to get together and
have a feast.
We hope you had a safe
Halloween and we hope you
have a great Thanksgiving.
Have a fun fall

Girls Team
Eli Whitney Elementary
Chicago

Sweetie Sara

Sweetie Sara smiles with a
smirk.
She saw a snowflake shining
so bright.
She said it's so shiny and
beautifully silver.
Somehow she shakes and
does something weird.
She shivers and says, "Can I
get my
Sweet smelling sweater?"
She goes to see the sunset
and says soon it will start
getting warm.
The sun is slowly arriving
Pretty soon it will be summer!

Natalie G., age 10
Lincoln Avenue School
Milwaukee



OUR FREEDOM

I Challenge You

Statistics say there is a child dropping out of school every day
No matter what color, age, or size, some of these kids have taken their own lives
It's a shame, what bullying can do
Falling victim... it could happen to you!
Kids today... we can't even learn... because every bully wants a turn
Our parents are scared for us too, so now we must challenge you!
Don't laugh at us or call us names
Don't take pleasure in our pain!
Bully... find yourself something positive to do
How would you feel if someone were bullying you?!

Boys and Girls Teams
Arts & Technology Academy
DC

A Special Thank You

To fathers and mothers in our military
Who are fighting here and over there
Who make so many sacrifices to be everywhere

Your bravery is outstanding
Whether you are on land, in the air or the seas
You are constantly leaving your loving and caring families
To protect us to keep us in the United States free.

Because of what you continue to do
Please accept this hearty "THANKS" from us to you and yours
Along with this special "SALUTE" too!

Trenton S., age 12
Brookland Education
Campus
DC

Stand Up For This King!

Crowds of people descended on the National Mall on October 16th.
Young and old, white, black, and brown!
They came to show respect to one of the greatest kings around!
He was the mountain of hope that grew out of despair! His chants of "I have a Dream" and "Free at last" ...
"Free at Last" helped our nation declare what's right and fair!
He taught us to boycott, march for what was right, and move to the front of the bus and stop all this fuss!
He's the reason I can dream big and succeed!
I stand tall and proud because I know this King!
Thank you Dr. Martin Luther King for letting our freedom ring!

Kennijah D., age 9
Arts & Technology Academy
DC

What Happened to the Dream?

Martin Luther King had a dream to make peace in the world
But now it seems no one cares
Everyone is acting like wild bears.
Dr. King was very kind
And had a brilliant mind
But if Dr. King, were to see this, terrible tragedy,
He would feel unappreciated
He would see... People that FIGHT!
In the middle of the NIGHT!
Killing for no reason,
Destroying families for seasons

His words moved swiftly
Like the ocean waves
Listening to his speeches for Days
He said we should all be free
But today, those thoughts are history
I can't go back in time
But I know the future is mine
I believe in his dream I'll follow his dream Do YOU believe?
Can YOU achieve?
If you can, lets come together and make peace
To make Dr. King's dream REALITY

Yayanna V., age 11
Noyes Education Campus
DC



MY COMMUNITY

Dallas

Dallas is a palace.
A kingdom indeed.
All that we do is tend to
succeed.
We help people in need.
Plus earn the honor to lead.
Welcome to Dallas where
The Rangers play.
If you don't like to lose, it's
best you stay away.
If you like big buildings, come
check out downtown.
If you got a minute take a
stroll and walk around.
I sure do love my town.
I love to see amazing things
all around.

Dallas is the most awesomest
palace
My wonderful Dallas.

Karina C., age 10
César Chávez Learning Center
Dallas

How to Help the Environment

To save our planet from
global warming and pollution
We must come up with a safe
solution
Let's plant more trees
For cleaner air and breeze
Litter, litter, litter, all over the
street
Pick it up, so it doesn't smell
like feet
Trash can, trash can, where
are you?
Do you want me to litter or
come find you?
Paper, plastic, aluminum
cans too
Recycle, recycle, it's the right
thing to do
Don't waste energy, turn off
the lights
Don't be afraid to do what is
right
Pick up your trash, keep the
world clean
Do your part, so our Earth
can stay blue and green

Boys and Girls Teams
H.D. Cooke Elementary
DC

When I Open My Eyes...

When I open my eyes...
I see my friends, teachers,
and family.
When I open my eyes...
I see nature all around me,
like birds, and grass, trees,
and flowers. Every hour.
When I open my eyes...
I see life, people dying,
people cry. I see people trying
to survive.
When I open my eyes...
I see the world.

Ideal L., age 11
Mather Elementary
New England

Sights Around Me

I see tall buildings all around
me
I see beautiful flowers all
around me
I see leaves all around me
Is the wind blowing me?
I wonder what you feel
What do you see when you
step outside?
Maybe, you will see and feel
just like me!
When my community is dirty
I can help
I can clean, clean all day
American SCORES can plant
flowers
In my neighborhood
Community Service is.

Jameka D., age 11
Earl Nance, Sr. Elementary
Saint Louis

My Community

The sky is blue
The grass is green
That is what
the community is for me
The floor is clean
The flowers are blossoming
I love the smell
of my community
In the morning,
The birds are chirping
I love the sounds
Of my community
The best things
In this life
Can be found
In my community

Tano M., age 13
Buhner Dual Language
Cleveland

When I open my eyes

When I open my
eyes I see a land
of nature and
peace.
When I open my
eyes I see everybody
together and we
own this world forever.
When we open our eyes let's
make the world a
better
place.
A really
better place.

Jacory M., age 10
Henry Grew School
New England

What Did They Do To My Beautiful Earth

I'm up in the sky looking at
people
Throwing trash to the floor
I say, "No, No you better pick
that up"
I was so angry for what they
did to my earth
People cutting trees
The Earth was so sad
She felt so brown
There was no oxygen
People look what they did to
our Earth
The Garbages were so full
No more trash could fit
There were a lot of factories
The air was not clear
It turned into something awful
that no person could smell it
It surrounded the whole world
The next day I was so mad
I just wanted to make the
greatest thunderstorm
And I did
I splashed everything
Not even a crumb of trash
Everyone was happy
No more factories that spread
out the smoke
I am always watching
For those days I have not
forgotten in the sky
I am a cloud
And I will never forget what
they did to my Beautiful Earth

Hector S., age 10
César Chávez Learning Center
Dallas



MAKING AN IMPACT AS COMMUNITY LEADERS

Through more than 200,000 hours of community service, America SCORES students complete hundreds of projects each year, making an incredible impact on communities nationwide.



CLEVELAND

The boys and girls from the Artemus Ward middle school teams organized games and movie-watching held during recess. They asked people to bring canned goods in order to participate and sold popcorn during the movies - collecting over 500 cans and raising \$150 for two Cleveland youth to participate in the Salvation Army's summer camp.



DENVER

Cowell Elementary boys and girls teams worked together to reduce bullying in their school. After researching bullying and its effects, they created anti-bullying posters for the school's hallways and organized a school-wide talent show with a professional acting troupe that helped present the anti-bullying message to the whole school.



SEATTLE

The Roxhill Elementary SCORES boys team investigated litter in their community by mapping how much litter there is in the park and trying to find out the causes and the effects of littering. After their investigation, they participated in the White Center Community Development Association's "Spring Clean" Day and with help from adults from the White Center community, were able to make their local park a better, cleaner place to be for the entire community!



NEW YORK

The PS 325 girls team showed what it means to them as girls to be playing sports, and why more girls should join them. After noticing that they were the only girls' team that practiced soccer on the field, they created a girls-only field day and invited girls from the entire school to try out different sports. The poet-athletes encouraged their peers to stay active and play sports.

REFLECTIONS

BE REFLECTIONS?



"I like soccer because it's fun and you get to learn teamwork with your friends. I love game days because we get to make friends with the other team and score goals."

Zeyla A., Dallas



"What I like about writing a poem is that it helps me express my feelings and what I'm like on the inside instead of on the outside."

Erin B., DC



"It's amazing because I know one day our garden is going to grow even larger around our community and eventually people will come to us for fresh fruits and vegetables instead of going to the market."

Tre'Shaun A., Cleveland



"I like poetry because it helps you express your feelings in what you do in your life. And we get to perform them in front of other people."

ShaeLynn D., Portland

THE 2012 NATIONAL POETRY SLAM!

Harlem's World-Famous Apollo Theater

With each awe-inspiring poem, the 6th Annual America SCORES National Poetry SLAM! showcased how incredibly brave and gifted our poet-athletes are. From Black History Month to Demon Cats to Shining Smiles, no topic was left out in front of a captivated audience of families, coaches, and supporters. The evening was hosted by John Harkes (D.C. United), featured a musical performance by smart-rapper Psalm One, honored Chris Heck (New York Red Bulls), and welcomed New York Red Bulls players: Mehdi Ballouchy, Kenny Cooper, Stephen Keel, Dax McCarty, and Jan Gunnar Solli.

DAY 1



Roy and Tatiyanna (Atlanta) checking in at the airport



Andres (Portland) travels 3,000 miles, 30,000 feet in the air



Karina (Dallas) and Tya (Seattle) having a blast at the orientation

DAY 2



William (Seattle) rehearsing at PS 192



Nisrine (Bay Area) at the Empire State Building



Tiana and Andres (Chicago) at Times Square

DAY 3



Poet-athletes and Chaperones at Central Park



Tamia (Cleveland) and Jose (Dallas) with NY Red Bulls



Poet-athletes performing with Psalm One

Meet a National Poetry SLAM! Star: Tya

From America SCORES Seattle

Hi,

This is Tya from America SCORES Seattle with "Tya's Tips To Terrific Trips" - as in trips to New York City and performing at the National Poetry SLAM!

#1: practice your poem over and over again - until you can practically say it in your sleep!

#2: PROJECT YOUR VOICE - say it loud and proud!

#3: practice using hand and body movements to emphasize your points.

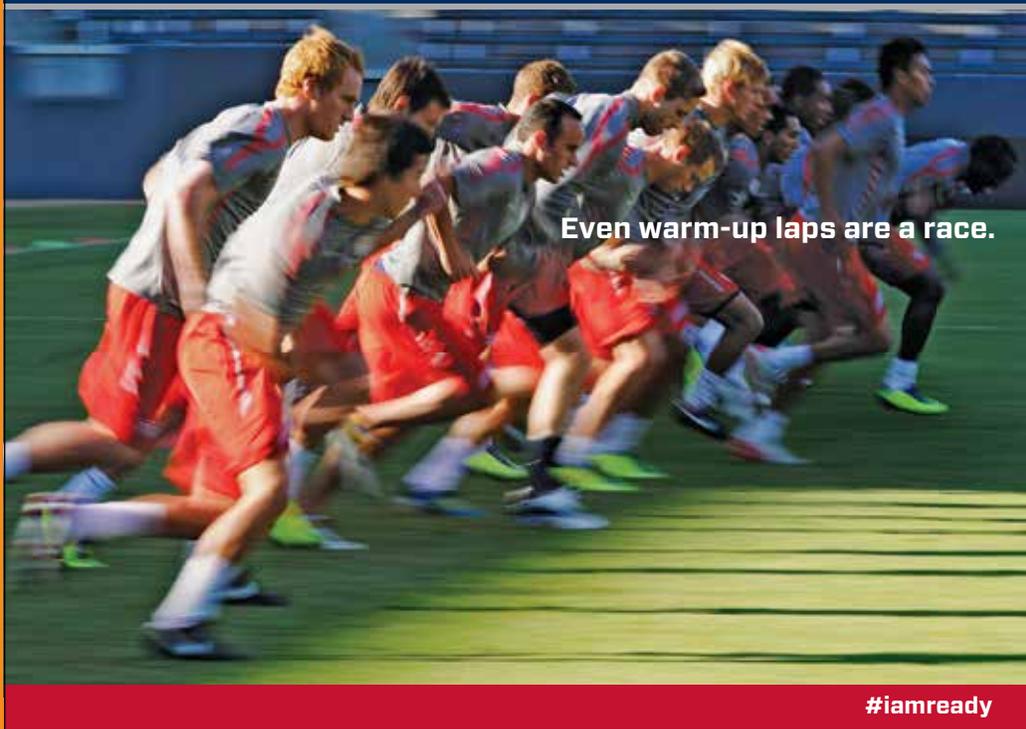
#4: don't be nervous - have confidence in yourself!

#5: go back to #1 - practice, practice, practice.

Oh, two more things - when you are in New York, make sure to visit Central Park and finally and most importantly - Go out on stage and HAVE FUN!

So long for now!

-Tya



Even warm-up laps are a race.

#iamready

She Held Me Tightly

My mom held me tightly
She held me tightly like Saturn
holding its rings
We were in Morocco on a camel's
back
I was five and the camel smelled
like bitter chocolate
But I wasn't scared because my
mom held me tightly

I heard thunder loud as a howling
wolf
I saw a flash of lightening
Right outside my bedroom window
in San Francisco
I was six and my mom told me
"It will be ok"
My mom spoke louder than thunder

My mom is strong
She climbed a hill steep like a
mountain for me
Every week she climbs the streets
of the Castro
Raising money to support me
My mom's love for me is strong

Bismillahihrahmanirahim
She opens the gate to reading the
Koran
I memorize lines
Scrambling words until I put them
together
She teaches me what she learned
in her childhood
Her wisdom and love will live on in
me.

Nisrine R., age 11
Redding Elementary
Bay Area

*Nisrine performed this poem at the
2012 National Poetry SLAM! in New
York, on local NBC during The Great
America SCORES Soccer Dribble, for
the Mayor of San Francisco
and at a corporate
conference in
Las Vegas.*

THOMSON REUTERS CONGRATULATES AMERICA SCORES AND ALL POET-ATHLETES

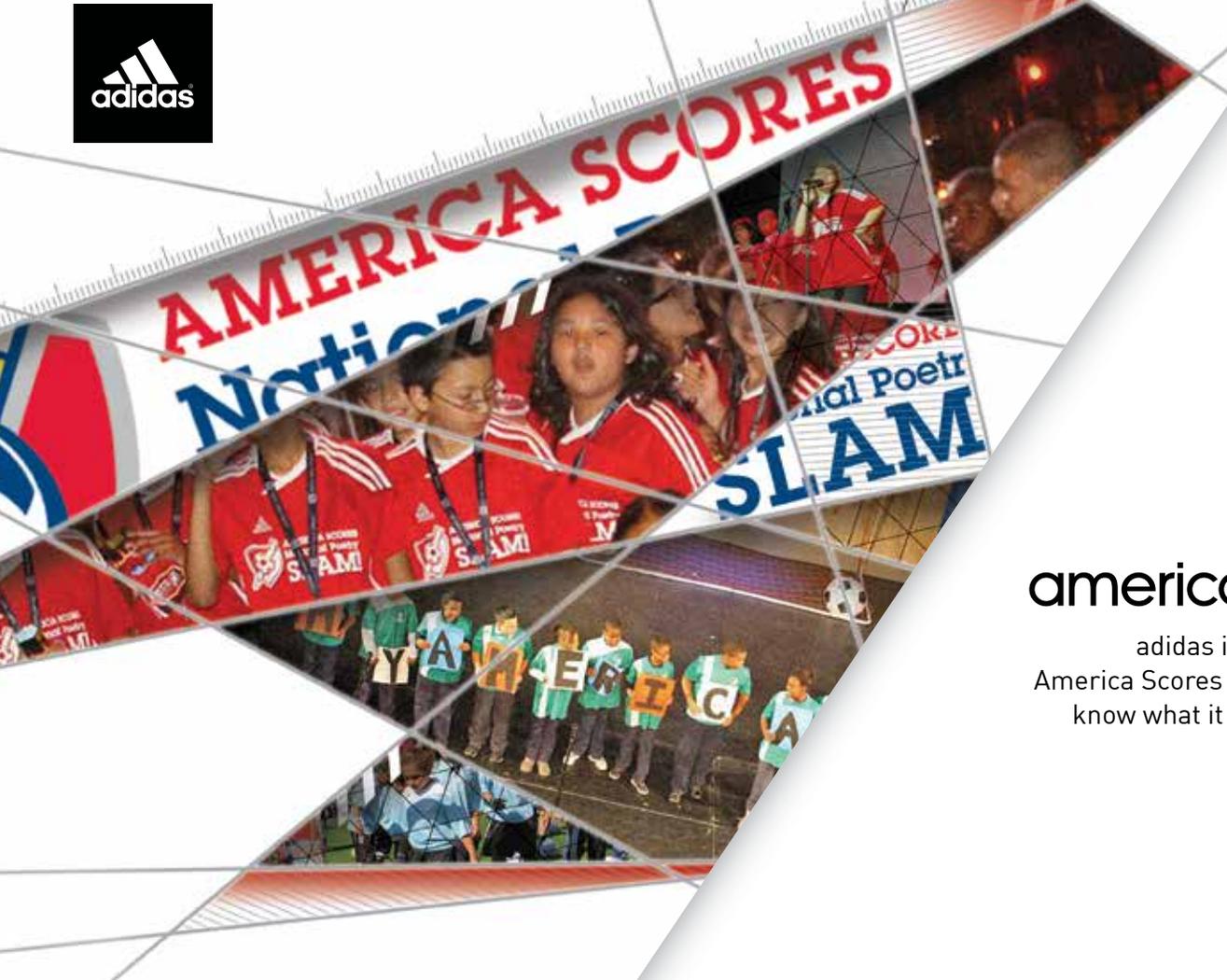
We salute all who lead healthy lives, are engaged
and have the confidence and character to make a
difference in the world.

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all in for america scores

adidas is proud to support America Scores poet-athletes who know what it means to be all in.



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We Can Do More

Soccer is my favorite sport
We kick it up and down the court
We keep it so fresh on the microphone
We like no interruptions when the game is on!

I'm not small, I'm very tall
Sometime I fall, so my parents I call!
I like loud claps that make me score
My parents keep saying, "Score some more!"

I go into the game and sometimes I feel shame
But I really don't blame
Because I take responsibility for who I am!

I go to the goal
I have a lot of soul
I use teamwork
I lead the team
When we come out
We are bravely seen

PS192, they really rock
When they came out they gave me a shock!

They show teamwork on the field
Their goalie is a human shield!
They have good kicks
They make me sick!
They have good passes
They don't pass gases
They play like Heather
They're light as a feather
And they ALWAYS play together



Our coaches wonder if we're a team, and we understand
And we run out there like we're a band
Our coaches say, "I know we can do it"
Then we say, "There's nothing to it"
Our coaches wonder if we're a team
They stop in the hallway and wonder and dream
We ARE a team and we can do more
I'll tell you why:
Because we're America SCORES

Zimani A., age 11
PS 325
New York

Zimani performed this poem at the 2012 National Poetry SLAM!, as a duet with Kenny Cooper of the New York Red Bulls, and on PBS for American Graduate Day.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
27 POET-ATHLETES REPRESENTING
THEIR CITIES AT THE
2013 NATIONAL POETRY SLAM!

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Did you know...

America SCORES was
founded in 1994 by Julie
Kennedy, a teacher who
loved soccer and poetry.

Maria Reed Learning Center
was where it all began!

Thanks Volkswagen for
keeping it there!

Meet a Graduate: Leasly

from America SCORES LA

Leasly joined America SCORES in 2002. After participating in SCORES in elementary school, middle school, and high school, she got her diploma and headed to Duke University in North Carolina. She has traveled across the country, from LA to Durham, and across the ocean, from USA to Spain!



“America SCORES isn’t just some after-school program for students; it’s a family, a community that never leaves you, even if you do end up 3,000 miles away from home - or 6,500 miles away on a different continent.” Leasly says.

Hear how America SCORES helped Leasly write, play, and achieve:

SCORES has made me so much more passionate about soccer and what it means to play it. Playing soccer isn’t just about having skills and talent – you have to be smart about the game. America SCORES isn’t just about playing soccer; it is about learning teamwork, camaraderie, sportsmanship, community, and giving back. I’ve made amazing friends just discussing the players from Barcelona and Real Madrid, and we always have a round of free-for-all soccer when we get the chance.

SCORES’ writing program helped me develop my creativity as well as my sense of community service. I had never written poetry before America SCORES, and now I write dozens in free verse, and do creative pieces. I would never think of going into a retirement home and brighten a senior’s day with poetry dedicated to her. At America SCORES, I learned the importance of giving back to the community, especially since my community has helped me get to where I am. The skills and tools you take away from America SCORES help you in the future in ways you can’t even imagine.

SCORES [is] a program to help kids develop study skills. America SCORES was filled with role models, and I could see myself becoming a role model in my tutees’ eyes. I stepped into the shoes of our writing coaches and took their role in this new community.



HIGH SCHOOL



MIDDLE SCHOOL



ELEMENTARY

YOUR SCHOOLS

ATLANTA

Carter G. Woodson Elementary
Coretta Scott King Young
Women's Leadership Academy
Jean Childs Young Middle
School

BAY AREA

Junipero Serra Elementary
Cleveland Elementary
Bryant Elementary
Bret Harte Elementary
Hillcrest Elementary
E.R. Taylor Elementary
Marshall Elementary
Longfellow Elementary
Paul Revere Elementary
Redding Elementary
Webster Elementary
John Muir Elementary
Salvation Army at the KROC
Center
Up on Top at Tenderloin
Community School

CHICAGO

Rosario Castellanos Elementary
John Hay Elementary
Community Academy
Phoebe A. Hearst Magnet
School
Matthew A. Henson Elementary
James W. Johnson Public School
Pilsen Community Academy
Nathaniel Pope Elementary
Eli Whitney Elementary
Thomas Chalmers Specialty
School
Washington Irving Elementary
Daniel J. Corkery Elementary
John Milton Gregory
Elementary
John Spry Elementary
Community School

CLEVELAND

Artemus Ward School
Buhrer Dual Language School
Fullerton Elementary
Michael R. White STEM School
Mound STEM School
Patrick Henry School
Robinson G. Jones School
Wade Park School
Walton School
Willow School

DALLAS

César Chávez Learning Center
Lorenzo De Zavala Elementary
Anson Jones Elementary
LO Donald Elementary
Leslie A. Stemmons Elementary
Ignacio Zaragoza Elementary
Nancy Cochran Elementary
Maria Moreno Elementary

DC

Aiton Elementary
Alice Deal Middle School
Anne Beers Elementary
Arts and Technology Academy
Bancroft Elementary
Brightwood Education Campus
Brookland Education Campus
Burrville Elementary
Capital City Public Charter
César Chávez Public Charter
Middle School for Public
Policy - Chavez Prep
César Chávez Public Charter
Middle School for Public
Policy - Parkside Campus
C.W. Harris Elementary
Davis Elementary
E.L. Haynes Public Charter
Garfield Elementary
Hart Middle School
H.D. Cooke Elementary
Howard Road Academy
J.C. Nalle Elementary
Jefferson Middle School
Dr. John Hayden Johnson
Middle School
Kelly Miller Middle School
KIPP DC: Shaw Campus
MacFarland Middle School
Marie Reed Elementary
M.C. Terrell/McGogney
Elementary
Moten Elementary
Noyes Education Campus
Orr Elementary
Oyster-Adams Bilingual School
Paul Public Charter
Powell Elementary
Raymond Education Campus
Sacred Heart Bilingual Catholic
School
Seaton Elementary
Shaw Middle School at
Garnet-Patterson
Thomson Elementary
Truesdell Education Campus
Tubman Elementary
Wheatley Education Campus

DENVER

Barnum Elementary
Brown International Academy
Cheltenham Elementary
CMS Community School
Cowell Elementary
Eagleton Elementary
Gust Elementary
Knapp Elementary
Munroe Elementary
Newlon Elementary

LOS ANGELES

Braddock Elementary
Charnock Road Elementary
Palms Elementary
Palms Middle School

MILWAULKEE

Academia de Lenguaje Y
Bellas Artes (ALBA)
Elementary
Hayes Bilingual Elementary
James Whitcomb Riley
Elementary
Lincoln Avenue Elementary
Rogers Street Academy
Windlake Elementary

NEW ENGLAND

Donald McKay Elementary
Gardner Pilot Academy
Henry Grew School
James W. Hennigan School
John F. Kennedy School
John Marshall School
Mather Elementary
Mattahunt Elementary
Mildred Ave K-8 School
Orchard Gardens Pilot School
Patrick J Kennedy School
Roger Clap Innovation School
Boston Teachers Union School
K-8
Henry Dearborn Middle School
Thomas A. Edison K-8 School
Clarence R. Edwards Middle
School
Lille G. Frederick Pilot Middle
School
Washington Irving Middle
School
John W McCormack School
William B. Rogers Middle School
Franklin D. Roosevelt K-8 School
Mario Umana Academy

NEW YORK

PS 192 Jacob H. Schiff
Elementary
PS 325

PORTLAND

Markham Elementary
César Chávez School
James John Elementary
Barnes Elementary
Harold Oliver Elementary
Parklane Elementary
Whitman Elementary
Davis Elementary

SEATTLE

Bailey Gatzert Elementary
Dunlap Elementary School
Highland Park Elementary
Maple Elementary
Roxhill Elementary

SAINT LOUIS

Barack Obama Elementary
Hamilton Elementary
Jamaa Learning Center
Jefferson Elementary
Earl Nance, Sr Elementary
Walbridge Elementary
Washington Elementary



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