Dear poet-athletes,

WORD UNSCRAMBLE
How many soccer and poetry words can you unscramble?
¿Cuántas palabras de futbol y poesía puedes descifrar?

rocces ____________________
eopm _____________________
tmeawrok _________________
nuf ________________________
riendsf ___________________
occh _____________________

TIC-TAC-TOE
Let’s play Tic-Tac-Toe!
¡Jugamos Tic-Tac-Toe!

Dear America SCORES

Congratulations on being a leader in training. Not many young people have the patience and ambition that you possess. You all inspire me to put my game face on when I challenge the world. Though you all are beams of light, the adult world has grumpy grown-ups and boring corporations. Here are my three secrets for surviving through the unknown world of adulthood.

1) Be Bold!
When you get older, people (for some reason I have not yet understood) get lazy, lackluster, and careless. These people can discourage some and inspire others. I need this to motivate you. To empower you and break the silence of stale life and be electric. Be loud and fierce about what and who you love. Tell the world about your family’s country. Tell us about what needs to be known, remembered, and loved. Tell us everything. I promise we will listen. We need voices and change-makers. Luckily at America SCORES, everyone has the potential to be one!

2) Stay around people who love you!
Yeah, when people see you being a relentless leader, they’re going to discourage you, but so what? If the energy isn’t positive, you don’t need to be concerned about it. Disconnect from people that don’t support you and stay close to love. Love inspires you, makes you work harder, and is honest. Love is going to hold you accountable and bring out the best in you. Always invest in love.

3) Invest in yourself!
My last piece of advice is to use your free time to invest in yourself! I don’t care how old you are. Whether you’re 7, 17, or 70, each second matters and can be an investment into your future self. Invest in your future writing self and read a book in your free time. Invest into the future professional soccer player version of you and play outside every day. Investments can even be spending time with your loved ones. Whatever you do, reflect on how you could be advancing your future self. (Gotta look out for the most real one, and that’s you, poet-athlete!)

I’ve been waiting for an audience to share these pieces of advice with, and you all are most deserving. Thank you, America SCORES students for being unstoppable superstars and brilliant poet-athletes. This world needs many more young voices and athletes.

P.S. If you ever need a friend to send poems to, email them to me at maarjannaderi@gmail.com. I promise to take a look.

Peace and Blessings.
Your mentor,
Marjan Naderi
America SCORES inspires youth to lead healthy lives, be engaged students, and have the confidence and character to make a difference in the world.

A international youth development nonprofit, America SCORES provides free after-school programs and summer camps that builds teams through a unique combination of soccer, poetry, and service learning. America SCORES empowers thousands of poet-athletes to find their voices and develop the confidence to make a difference in the world.

During the twin pandemics of COVID-19 and racial injustice, America SCORES helped keep poet-athletes safe, supported, connected, and hopeful even while school buildings were closed. In 2020 alone, SCORES put on over 100,000 hours of virtual workshops and programming attended by many thousands of young people, and distributed more than 5,000 free player kits.

248 SCHOOLS

5518 PLAYER KITS PACKED

595 COACHES

100,150 VIRTUAL SESSION HOURS

6233 POET ATHLETES
Daisha has been a coach for America SCORES St. Louis since 2018, but her story with America SCORES starts much earlier than that - she is also a proud alum of America SCORES St. Louis! She joined as a SCORES poet-athlete in the 4th grade in the 2009-2010 school year. Daisha remembers her favorite moments as a poet-athlete were when she was able to learn about poetry - having a chance to explore different rhymes and raps helped her find a new passion for self-expression.

“**The most important thing I learned is to remember who you are and where you come from.**”

During her year at SCORES as a poet-athlete, the things Daisha learned about poetry, soccer, and speaking up stuck with her. After graduating high school, she began taking classes at St. Louis Community College, where she decided to come back to America SCORES. This time, she wanted to be a role model for a new generation of poet-athletes and to teach them the same important lessons she learned in 4th grade.

“**Anything you do, do it from the heart because your passion is what makes you, you.**”

Today, Daisha coaches a team at America SCORES St. Louis partner school Washington Elementary. She loves her poet-athletes and wants them to remember that anything is possible as long as they believe in themselves. Daisha says that being a part of America SCORES all those years ago was a truly unique experience, and being able to inspire new generations is what she appreciates the most.
Navigating Online Learning with Pilsen Academy

Even through the pandemic, America SCORES Chicago’s team at Pilsen Academy has continued to provide important afterschool programming for all their poet-athletes!

Everyone at Pilsen Academy was so excited to kick off a whole year of amazing SCORES fun at the start of 2020 with expansions planned for in-person programming along with a brand new “Bike Club.” After the COVID-19 pandemic hit, Pilsen Academy had to make quick decisions to adjust for a virtual learning environment.

In the spring, Pilsen Academy hosted asynchronous learning sessions where poet-athletes had a chance to learn anything from soccer and poetry to Zumba or drumline! Families were also encouraged to get involved with their “Family Zumba Nights” and Family Paint Classes. Over the summer, poet-athletes were able to join in on Virtual Summer Camps, and Pilsen Academy made sure all their poet-athletes had access to any supplies they needed.

The excitement didn’t stop there! As Pilsen Academy started their Fall season, they were able to provide their students with over 100 supply and activity kits, and they ended their season with a virtual party. Pilsen poet-athletes really had a chance to shine as they showed off everything they learned over the fall season. After school Parent Assistant Juanita Romero remembers the event fondly, “All the coaches and kids did a great job, and everyone just had a great energy the whole time. The kids will definitely remember this experience for a long time!”

While 2020 programming didn’t go as planned for Pilsen Academy, everyone really knew how to make the most out of a tough situation. Pilsen Academy’s Resource Coordinator Amy Thayer says that, “the switch to virtual programming has definitely created a strong focus on providing tangible supplies and prizes to engage our students.” America SCORES coaches at Pilsen Academy helped their poet-athletes stay connected not just online, but at home as well by sending supplies for any activities they could participate in.

Poet-athletes were still able to engage virtually thanks to the support from Pilsen Academy! Parents of poet-athletes Adam, Andy, Alyssa, and Aydelle had great things to say about Pilsen Academy’s approach to a virtual year of SCORES: “The transition to the America SCORES virtual afterschool program was very valuable to our family. It was an ideal way to keep our children engaged given the situation. I strongly feel that it was rewarding for both our children and us as parents. To see our kids happy made us happy also!”
Coach Jordan Talks About Connecting During the Pandemic

When she joined America SCORES Cleveland last year, Coach Ariel Jordan was excited to be a role-model for her poet-athletes at A.B Hart School. She was drawn to America SCORES because it was a chance for her to give back to the communities she cared about, and it was impossible not to get involved. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic changed a lot of the things she looked forward to, but that hasn’t stopped her from making great memories alongside her team!

America SCORES Cleveland was able to adjust to a rapid switch to virtual learning thanks to the efforts of their coaches. Coach Jordan says that COVID has encouraged her to be more creative: “There are so many things to consider these days to assure safety but also to make the most of the opportunities we do have to connect.”

Every week, AS Cleveland coaches are working to post YouTube tutorials for poet-athletes to practice their skills on their own time and hosting virtual learning sessions that have kept poet-athletes engaged at home. She says that watching her students participate enthusiastically in virtual SCORES programming after a long day of virtual school has really humbled her. “NOTHING beats connecting in person, but virtual programming has been incredibly nourishing. Poet-athletes have a genuine desire to be involved.”

Throughout this past year, having to do virtual programming has influenced the way Coach Jordan thinks about her role as a mentor for her poet-athletes: “A major theme has been: sometimes things do not go according to plan, and sometimes there’s little control we have over that.” She talks about how at times it’s okay to move away from a rigid schedule, and that meant adjusting to how her poet-athletes were feeling in each session.

Even though the setting was non-traditional, Coach Jordan was still able to be there for her poet-athletes when they needed her the most. One of her favorite moments was during a virtual session when two poet-athletes were sharing their poetry: “The voice, the passion—y’all, these young scholars motivated a strengthened appreciation of poetry for me.” But really, she could name a favorite movement with any of the poet-athletes she’s mentored!

Coach Jordan looks forward to being able to meet with her poet-athletes in person soon. She misses being able to have face-to-face connections with the students she mentors, but hopes that life can return to normal sometime this year. Until then, she continues to work with her poet-athletes virtually and in limited in-person spaces to make sure they feel safe, supported, and connected!
AMERICA SCORES NEW YORK - COACHING FOR CHANGE ACADEMY WITH NIKE

In August of 2020, America SCORES New York launched a brand new initiative titled the Coaching for Change Academy, powered by Nike. It is a year-long professional development and mentoring academy for youth coaches between the ages of 16-21 all over New York City! Youth Coaches are able to build peer-to-peer relationships, gain an introduction to coaching through digital seminars, and earn certifications in coaching and other subjects. Throughout the program, the Academy Coaches have been gaining experience with coaching through video blogs, community maps, and lesson plans. Much of their progress is being documented on social media as well, and we’re looking forward to seeing these young coaches make a difference in their communities!

Check Out these Quotes From the Youth Coaches!

"Sports have always been one of my outlets to work out my stress or frustration and when I commit to doing something, I always work my hardest. Being in a leadership position with Coaching for Change Academy and being able to build up my skills, especially in the field that I am working towards, is really essential.

Ayanna

"I wanted to be a Coaching for Change Academy youth coach because I want to see the younger players improve both skillfully and mentally - I can relate to those who have the drive to improve."

Erick

"I see the Coaching for Change Academy as an opportunity to improve myself and add more value to the team and I want to improve my coaching ability to help others this year."

Emmanuel

Last season, Boston SCORES launched their Poets for Good program! Poets for Good fosters students’ entrepreneurial mindset and allows them to create social impact in their community. During the program, students learn about loans, marketing, customer service, and more. Combining these skills and their creativity, students are able to put a business idea to life and begin selling a product they created. Profits from the sale of products supports student business teams and the charities they choose to partner with.

"The purpose of Poets for Good was to give students the opportunity to connect with each other and with other students from different schools... while also giving back to the community."

Gabrielle DeAngelis, Middle School Enrichment Coordinator

Meet one of the budding entrepreneurs!

Tali is a Boston SCORES poet-athlete, and co-founder of Chapeau Affamé (The Hungry Hat), a streetwear brand that has partnered with the Greater Boston Food Bank. 60% of proceeds from Chapeau Affamé go directly to the Greater Boston Food Bank to help serve communities in need during the COVID-19 pandemic. Tali says her time with Boston SCORES had helped her learn to be herself and explore her passions.

Learn more about their work:
Website: https://www.chapeaufame.com
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/chapeaufameofficial/

SERVICE LEARNING

AMERICA SCORES

I see myself when I play
If I do something wrong, the haters gonna hate
I go after the ball, like a lion that chases everything
I want to score more than anything

When I make a mistake
I feel like I messed up
My team gives me a break
Even though they know I’m so fresh

I love to run and I love to score
When the air hits my face
Its hits hard like a cinder block
I might get a concussion
My head is tough like a rock

A breath when I’m shocked
Or when I’m scared
It’s like I found something super rare

I go after the ball
No I don’t quit
Never,
Not the slightest bit

I want to be a Coaching for Change Academy youth coach because I want to see the younger players improve both skillfully and mentally - I can relate to those who have the drive to improve."

Emmanuel

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JUSTICE FOR ALL

BLM
Black Lives Matter
We have to mix together like batter
Police and blacks have to make better relationships or we will shatter
Black Lives Matter
We have to stand up for the better
We have to end this madness with sweet children laughter
Black Lives Matter
Police crimes are spreading faster than blacks can scatter
We have to make things better for the next chapter
Black Lives Matter

ERICK H.
5th Grade
America SCORES New York

ALLYSHIP
Allyship.
A way you can be an ally is if someone is down,
Don’t wait.
Do something.
Allyship is helping.
Allyship is kindness.
Allyship is made by the heart.

ANGELIA E.
5th Grade
Canada SCORES Vancouver

I WISH
I wish so hard to the moon and back
That we’d change our manners in
All of our communities
There would be no more racism.

People judge me by my skin color
I wish they would not bother
Talking ‘bout people’s clothes
Do not listen! It does not matter
Because someone had a dream
His name—Martin Luther King
We can go to the same school
We can share our poetry
And be friends—don’t you see?

Listen up!
If we do all these things together
We can destroy racism forever
And
That’s not a bad thing, whatsoever.

CEDRIC B.
4th Grade
America SCORES Milwaukee

I DREAM, YOU DREAM, WE ALL DREAM
I dream that people stop being mean
we are all the same.
I wish we wouldn’t have a war about race.
We are all the same, it doesn’t matter about your skin color.
I think we need to have the same rights.
Freedom feels like not being told what to do.
Freedom looks like the waves at the beach moving slowly
or having fun while rolling around in the grass.
I dream to make the world a better place
this includes clean air, clean water and clean land.
I can have fun while helping the Earth.
I hope one day everyone will want to get together and make
the world a better place.

ICS/TCN
4th Grade
America SCORES Bay Area

VOTING
WHEN IT COMES TO VOTING IT GIVES US A VOICE
I know we are not old enough to make a choice

IF YOU VIEWING ELECTIONS THROUGH A NARROW LENS
THEN PUT ON YOUR BIFOCALS AND VIEW IT AGAIN

IT’S NO JOKE SO LET’S COME TOGETHER
BLACK, BROWN, WHITE AND LET’S MAKE IT BETTER

VOTING IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE IT MAKE CHANGE
IN THE WORLD WE LIVE IN IT’S NOT A GAME

WE VOTE FOR PEOPLE WITH IDEAS WE TRUST
AND HAVE THE SAME VIEWS ON THE WORLD AND LIFE AS US

WHEN YOU ARE AN ADULT YOU HAVE A CHOICE
WHEN THE TIME COMES, WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR VOICE
SO, TAKE OUT SOME PAPER AND MAKE A NOTE
TO REMIND YOURSELF 4 YEARS FROM NOW, GO AND VOTE

AMIR H., MAXIMUS B., ALEXANDER B.
KIPP DC: Quest Academy
DC SCORES
Proud to be

ME!

Don't Touch My Hair

Puffy and small
Don’t touch.
My hair can shrink or be big as day.
Don't touch.
My hair, very unique, amazing to me.
When strangers meet me they are in awe.

AAIYAH A.
5th Grade
America SCORES St. Louis

Nairobi

I am Nadriya
I am from Nairobi
People call me Nairobi because I
look like a Narwhal
Narwhals are nice
Never nervous
I am the nicest Narwhal from Nairobi
you will ever meet!

NADRIYA H.
4th Grade
America SCORES Seattle

Jeraylis's
Rainbow Sky

I am a rainbow
So bright and blue
when you see me
I see you.

I am a rose so
pretty as can be
like a swan so
elegant and pretty
Never dark like a cloud
Always light as the sun
Bright pink like the stars
But never dark as black
I’m a Lamborghini fast and cool
I’m not a slugbug
Slow and jinky
People don’t understand
I like me for me
You can’t change me
Into who you want me to be.

JERAYLIS R.
6th Grade
America SCORES Cleveland

I Am Somebody

I am Somebody
I may be a different culture,
I do not look like you or speak like you.
But I am somebody.
I may be a different color,
I am not like everyone else.
But I am somebody.
I feel powerful when I stand up for myself.
I feel inspired to be a team player.
I am scared when someone makes fun of
my culture
and when I am treated differently.
I am proud to be beautiful and strong.
I am somebody that believes in
God and second chances.
I am me, myself, and I -- beautiful, kind, and
pride.

ASIAYANA A.
5th Grade
America SCORES Bay Area

They Thought

They said I couldn’t do it
They thought I couldn’t succeed
Challenges are a part of life
And I have the tools that I need.
I had lots of struggles
Like all these bullies around me still do.
Because they won’t quit what they do that’s true
They keep trying to push me down hard
Cause they think I’m light like a card
I’m not falling anytime soon
Cause I don’t quit doing my part
And I will push through everyday
Because that’s what I do
I don’t care what they say
And that’s what you should do too.
When I have struggles it is very disappointing
And when I start to call them out they start pointing
At me saying all these bad things
Only negative thoughts that it brings
And I felt them "haters back off" because I know how you act.
I’m nothing like that
And that’s an absolute fact
I want to know why
Cause sometimes they make me cry
By doubting me
They don’t know that I can Fly
I don’t stay down for long
Because if I don’t get up won’t succeed
I keep getting stronger
So in the right direction I can lead

JENDAYI B.
4th Grade
Boston SCORES

Where I’m From

I’m from India
Where I see nature.
Who holds the 2nd most people in the whole world.
Where it has greenery to see
And connects to the sea
And my home country by me.
I am Aadiv and in India I’m free.

AADIV C.
4th Grade
Canada SCORES Vancouver

What Makes Me Special

I am special because I am athletic
Funny and kind
These are things that keep me alive.
I am special because I think for myself
Make my own decisions.
I am special because I have a great family who loves me
A father, a brother, a mother
Who are special to me

CARLOS H.
4th Grade
America SCORES Los Angeles

I am somebody
I may be a different culture,
I do not look like you or speak like you.
But I am somebody.
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CARLOS H.
4th Grade
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Tyler Adams is a professional soccer player currently playing for RB Leipzig in the Bundesliga. He went professional with the New York Red Bulls II at the age of 16 before joining The New York Red Bulls first team. Tyler also plays for the U.S. Men’s National Team and has been preparing for the 2022 FIFA World Cup Qualifying. He is a Volkswagen Ambassador who has committed to help support America SCORES mission of making soccer accessible to all young people in the United States.

What is it like to play soccer professionally?
It’s such a blessing to play the game I love for a living and also have a platform to try and help my community and the causes I’m passionate about.

Who were your role models growing up? Were there any soccer players you looked up to?
In general, seeing how hard my mom worked helped me establish a strong work ethic at an early age. In terms of soccer, Thierry Henry was who I looked up to on the field and motivated me to keep progressing as a player.

What or who inspired you to play soccer professionally?
The support system my family provides was really influential in not only encouraging me to go after my dream, but also helping to make it happen. For example, I still didn’t have a driver’s license when I first turned pro, so my mom would drive me the 70 miles to training every day.

For you, what does it mean to be a leader on and off the pitch?
It’s so important to me in both respects. On the pitch, I try to bring the right energy and mentality every day and really lead by example. Off the pitch, I feel a duty to give back and make sure I’m using what soccer has given me to help others and try to inspire the next generation of players.

What advice would you share with America SCORES poet-athletes today?
I think the America SCORES poet-athletes program is great because working hard at both athletics and academics has always been a core principle for me. Even today, I’m still working on my college degree and generally think people should never stop learning.
Soccer Field Maze
Take your soccer ball to the other side! ¡Lleva el fútbol al otro lado!

Wacky Word Search
Can you find all the words we hid in this puzzle?
¿Puedes encontrar todas las palabras?

COMMUNITY
EXPRESSION
KICK
PRIDE
VOICE
CONFIDENCE
FUN
LEADERSHIP
SOCCER
CREATIVITY
GOAL
POEM
TEAM
Mercedes Zapata

In the summer of 1919, Chicago experienced the most violent race riots in United States history. Lasting eight consecutive days, it was only halted by a severe onset of rain. floods have always shushed the loudest flames—how floods have always shushed the loudest flames— how floods have always shushed the loudest flames—which rocks he chose to halt by a severe onset of rain.

Jonathan Mendoza

is a Boston-bred, Chicago-based Jewish and Mexican-American activist, spoken word poet, and social justice educator. He is a National Poetry Slam Champion, winner of the 2018 Sonia Sanchez – Langston Hughes Poetry Prize, and a three-time award winner at the College Union Poetry Slam Invitational. Jonathan is a community organizer for housing justice and youth power with Pilsen Alliance, a teaching artist with I Learn America, and a freelance writer, performer, and educator throughout the U.S. He is a proud anxious Virgo, Greek yogurt enthusiast, and devout believer in the power of young people to change this world for the better.

In the summer of 1919, Chicago experienced eight consecutive days, it was only halted by a severe onset of rain. In the summer of 1919, Chicago experienced eight consecutive days, it was only halted by a severe onset of rain.

Petarchan of the Red Summer

I don’t think I could tell you of the man, or of the kids, of how they met, what clash he might have sought—which rocks he chose to halt by a severe onset of rain. I don’t think I could tell you of the man, or of the kids, of how they met, what clash he might have sought—which rocks he chose to halt by a severe onset of rain.

When did you first start writing poetry?

It was really early on. In elementary school where I had a couple teachers who encouraged me to participate in poetry competitions. And I did pretty well! My interest ebbed and flowed towards middle and high school where I started to kind of resent poetry as it got more complex and Shakespearean. Then, once I turned 16 or 17, I was exposed to Spoken Word Poetry, Slam Poetry, and performance. That was when I really got hooked and started doing it in a more serious way.

What are your favorite topics to write about?

I write about what I do outside of poetry, which is community organizing, activism, and social justice. So I see poetry as another method of organizing people and mobilizing people and inspiring folks to take action. It often entails educating folks on issues I see, and trying to give some analysis on the injustices and oppression we’re seeing, and how we can target them collectively and then hopefully trying to inspire folks to take some sort of action around it. So, in short, I write about anything relating to social justice, especially in a way that I personally have a connection with and can speak on.

Why do you think poetry is important?

I think one of the reasons why I gravitate towards poetry as opposed to more traditional academic writing is because I think the latter is often really confined and limited to our current reality. For example, there’s a problem with our government and the options on the table to address them are X, Y, and Z in more traditional forms of writing. I think poetry opens up more opportunity for imagination, both around the origins of the problem and also which solutions can go beyond solving just one problem - poetry is able to address things holistically.

Many people get nervous when they go up on stage to perform, what do you do to stay calm and charismatic when you perform?

I think stage fright is something that never left me. I have just gotten more accustomed to (performance) the more I do it. In terms of more concrete advice, knowing where to focus your eyes and specifically looking at the spaces between chairs or between people’s shoulders. People think that you’re looking at their eyes or someone next to them, but you’re actually staring at a chair. Know what works for you: some people really like eye contact, and they thrive off of that, but really you can play around with it. Be aware of what works for you and run with that.

What inspires you to write poetry?

I have this constant hunger for creativity and performance. I think self-expression in particular is a really beautiful thing to do and to see other people do. I think that probably comes from my family. At least 80% of the people on my dad’s side of my family are musicians or artists in some way. My grandfather was a painter, guitarist and singer - he passed that down to my dad, brother, aunt, and cousins - so I’ve just always had a real appreciation for making things beautiful and making messages beautiful. Also, I’ve always felt very passionate about social justice and moving and shaping the world to make it better for everyone. If I can do both of those things, that is what really inspires me to write poetry.

What advice do you have for America SCORES poet athletes?

Keep on doing both! I think there are some people that go all-in to artistry, or music, or film, and sometimes deny their other needs and ways to take care of themselves. They can sometimes neglect their own wellness - and physical or emotional health - and that can be really scary and unhealthy. On the other end there are people who have enough in intellectual and artistic stimulation, and there is a lot that they also miss out on. So being able to have this balance of playing a sport: socializing, and doing something that feels good for your body - which is really important - and being able to balance that with self expression and creativity. Trying to find ways to do that in your life for the long term is really key.

Books, updates, and more information can be found at MendozaPoetry.com and @JMendozaO18 on Twitter and Instagram.

In the summer of 1919, Chicago experienced eight consecutive days, it was only halted by a severe onset of rain. In the summer of 1919, Chicago experienced eight consecutive days, it was only halted by a severe onset of rain.
COMMUNITY
My neighborhood where has it gone STRAIGHT DOWN
Hear my frustration

Have you seen what is happening in our neighborhood
Our community frees violence and the fears in children’s faces
Grandmothers chasing memories of a past when we could
Knock on a neighbors door and ask
Can you walk my son to school?
Can you help me with my daughter’s homework?
You know what I mean
Community

No child left hungry Nor left behind
You see It’s not about the money It’s about the power of the
mind
Some may say it’s for survival
Others may say it’s for greed Whatever the case may be
I see that the times are changing And we must change with it
At least hope to change
And plant a seed of positive change Water it, love it, care for it
And watch it grow, grow, grow
And spread this message
I see that times are changing
And so we the children
Need to start living
We need to start giving We need each other
To recover the best of our souls
Make our ancestors glow with PRIDE
I see that the times are changing
But the question is DO YOU?

KARLA U.
6th Grade
America SCORES New York

PEER PRESSURE
Dear Peer Pressure,

Sometimes it’s hard to see
Are you my friend or enemy
Because what I want
Is to be the best I can be.

In school you show your ugly side
Asking me to listen to
Dares and challenges
Inside I question…..why?

Sometimes you show me opportunity
Because the choices I make reflect on me.
You make me feel brave and strong.
Dear Peer Pressure,
I am learning right from wrong

Peer Pressure!
You don’t get the last say!
If I’m having a rough day, I remember to:

L earn
Be O ptimistic
V ulnerable
And E ager to succeed

Peer Pressure…..
You won’t get the best of me!

VICTORIA N.
5th Grade
America SCORES Milwaukee
IF I COULD CHANGE THE WORLD

If I could change the world I will stop cutting trees
I feel your heart pounding next to mine
I see your eyes wide and bright
You are an everlasting light
You bring us all fun and joy
My days are slow when you’re not here
But when we go on adventures you sit on my lap
And we try very hard not to take a nap
I love you Mia
My little Sis

APRIL B.
5th Grade
America SCORES Bay Area

THE ONE AND ONLY

They call me
The small player
The chicken wing slayer
The skilled ball player
Never the one to be the “nay-sayer”
The jelly shaker
The one and only Shot maker
The back board breaker
The smooth, funny and handsome Girl taker
Not trying to brag, but also…
The 3 point God
The leader of the squad
The one who should be… outlawed
On the flip side...
The cat box cleaner
The apple and cherry pie
The one that’s off the meter
The “Hello, good morning” greeter
But never, ever-mistaken as a “cheater”
And those are just a few of the names
They call ME!
The One, The Only… Stacey

STACEY T.
4th Grade
America SCORES Cleveland

A POEM FOR MIA

My life is filled with your smiles
I love it and I can’t see it from a mile
I feel your heart pounding next to mine
I see your eyes wide and bright
You are an everlasting light
You bring us all fun and joy
My days are slow when you’re not here
But when we go on adventures you sit on my lap
And we try very hard not to take a nap
I love you Mia
My little Sis

APRIL B.
5th Grade
America SCORES Bay Area

THE SWITCH

I am from a bright and cold Place
Where I like to put a smile on every face
Life is full of happiness and love
I’m from a great family,
Where our home is filled with love
Through huge and baking delicious food
I’m also from a very dark place
Far away
Where I see war going on and on
And I see people dying
One by one
I’m from Canada
A happy place now
Where I feel safe for once in my life
I’m Ali

ALI M.
4th Grade
Canada SCORES Vancouver

IF I COULD CHANGE THE WORLD

If I could change the world I will stop cutting trees
I will stop cutting trees because they make clean air
If they’re all gone we will all die
I will feel lonely because I will have no one to talk to
My friend Martin will no longer be around to make my tummy hurt with laughter
I will miss my dad telling me funny stories
I will stop cutting trees because they destroy the habitat for other creatures
Owls and squirrels will be gentrified from their homes by force
Losing your home is a hopeless feeling
You have nowhere else to go
I will stop cutting trees because they will go extinct and they will seize to exist
I imagine growing to the size of the gigantic redwood trees
I will stop cutting trees because they are essential for our planet to survive
If I could change the world I will plant a tree in the empty spaces of the world
Including the hearts and minds of the people who destroy them

HUGO M.
5th Grade
America SCORES Los Angeles

FLOATING

Flowers floating in the sea,
As the waves pass by.
As the sunset rises the flowers sink into the sea.
Petal by petal,
The flowers break hearts.
The journey of the flowers never ends.
As the sand surrounds the sea on every side,
They find a little hole so deep.
Inside the flowers wish to be more and they are searching for a home.
They will sink alone and deep,
But they will always have me.

NDEYE B.
4th Grade
America SCORES St. Louis
Love, Family

Family
Moms are just like overprotective bears
They care for you
Feed you
Have a home to go to
It’s thanks to her

Fathers seem to be cold-hearted
But just like a black bear
They seem cold and nasty
But when you look into their eyes
They love you
They’re warm like a volcano

Little sisters are just like a sloth
They learn little by little to walk
Slowly they love you
At the end

Big sisters may act mean like a bull
But if you know them really good
Like a little sister
That big sis will watch over you too

Dear Abuelita,
It’s me, Cristian.
I only met you once when I was five.
Do you remember me?
I remember you and I have some questions for you too.
Do you like music and do you like to dance?
How did you meet Grandpa? Was it love at first glance?
Was school hard when you were growing up?
Did you have a favorite class?
How did you feel when my Mom came to America?
Were you happy or were you sad?
What do you think that I should know
About what life is like in Mexico?
Because even though we may be far apart
I think about you all the time
you live with me, in my heart.

CRISTIAN L.
5th Grade
America SCORES Chicago

Dear Abuelita,
It’s me, Cristian.
I only met you once when I was five.
Do you remember me?
I remember you and I have some questions for you too.
Do you like music and do you like to dance?
How did you meet Grandpa? Was it love at first glance?
Was school hard when you were growing up?
Did you have a favorite class?
How did you feel when my Mom came to America?
Were you happy or were you sad?
What do you think that I should know
About what life is like in Mexico?
Because even though we may be far apart
I think about you all the time
you live with me, in my heart.

CRISTIAN L.
5th Grade
America SCORES Chicago

Mi mama
Mi mama es hermosa como una flor blanca que florece en la primavera
Mi mama es inteligente como Siri porque cuando le hago una pregunta me la contesta
Mi mama es tan fuerte como Wonder Woman porque ella no se rinde y no se da vencida en su trabajo.
Mi mama es como un robot
Elta empieza a trabajar por la manana y termina por la noche sin parar.
Mi mama tiene unas como una princesa porque las tiene bien arregladas y bonitas.
Mi mama es como una osa cuando tiene que defender a sus crias.
No deja que nada le pase a mis hermanas y a mis sobrinos.
Mi mama es mi hermana.

SOLMARINA M.
4th Grade
America SCORES Milwaukee

What Matters Most
Your family gives you luck
Even when you’re stuck
They pick you up when you fall, “whack”
And they always have your back
Your friends make you happy
Even when you’re tired and happy
They are just like your teddy bear
And with them they make you feel the glare
School is cool
And without it you would be a fool
Breath in writing, social studies, and math
And you’ll take the right path
Soccer is a true shocker
And it is also a knocker
It’s like a mission, “kick”
To our nutrition
This is what matters to me
Tell me if you agree
I’ll be over there drinking tea.

HABIBA I.
5th Grade
Boston SCORES

Mom
My mom is so giving
She gave me life
She gives me loves
She gives me food
She gives shelter
She gives me kindness
She gives me courage
That is why I love her.

ADDI S.
5th Grade
America SCORES Seattle

Thanks
Dear Mom,
Thank you for your comfort.
You always make me happy.
I appreciate your love.
I feel lucky because of your cooking.
I want to make you happy.
I remember when we went to the soccer game. You made me jump for joy because you are nice. When I am sad you make me happy.
I hope we get to go out together again. You make me feel good when you are here.

IVY L.
5th Grade
Canada SCORES Vancouver
Our Schools!

BAY AREA

1460 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94103
Daly City

Pacific Elementary School
Woodrow Wilson Elementary School

Hayward

Berkeley Elementary School
Burbank Elementary School
Cherryland Elementary School
East Avenue Elementary School
Eden Gardens Elementary School
Estudillo Elementary School
Fairview Elementary School
Foothill Elementary School
Glendale Elementary School
Hander Elementary School
Longwood Elementary School
Lorin Eden Elementary School
Palma Celsa Elementary School
Park Elementary School
Elva Elementary School
Schafer Elementary School
San Francisco, CA 94103

Boys Hope Girls Hope
Artemus Ward
3631 Perkins Ave,

William Monroe Trotter K-8 School
Lilla G. Frederick Pilot Middle School
James W. Hennigan K-8 School
Higginson-Lewis K-8 School
Henry Grew Elementary School
Ellison Parks Early Education School
Eliot K-8 Innovation School
Donald McKay K-8 School
Dennis C. Haley Pilot School
Dearborn STEM Academy
David A. Ellis Elementary School
Charles Sumner Elementary School
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
San Pedro Elementary School
Laurel Dell Elementary School
Davidson Middle School
Laurel Dell Elementary School
San Pedro Elementary School
Jersey Valley School K-8

BOSTON

29 Germania Street,
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

Boston Latin Academy
Charles Sumner Elementary School
David A. Ellis Elementary School
Deaconess STVM Academy
Denny C. Haley Pilot School
Donald McKay K-8 School
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. K-8 School
Eli K-8 Innovation School
Elkon Palm Early Education School
Gardiner Pilot Academy
Henry Grey Elementary School
Hippocratic Lewis K-8 School
Hugh K. O’Donnell Elementary School
James W. Hennigan K-8 School
John F. Kennedy Elementary School
Josiah Quincy Upper School
Lila S. Frederick Pilot Middle School
Mark Linn Academy
Martin Luther King School
Orchard Gardens K-8 School
Patricia J. Kennedy Elementary School
The Matha School
Thomas J. Kenney Elementary School
Washington Irving Middle School
William Monroe Trotter K-8 School

CLEVELAND

6361 Perkins Ave,
Cleveland, OH 44114

Albert Burnell Hall
Athena Ward
Bethel SDA Church
Boys Hope Gals Hope

Cuyahoga Elementary School
Macedonia Elementary School
Joseph Lee Recreation Center
Lakewood School
Lakeview Elementary School
Manitou Elementary School
Mission Education Center
Paul Revere Elementary School
Sanchez Elementary School
TECA Elementary School
San Francisco Middle School
Everett Middle School
Francisco Middle School
M.U. Middle School
Paul Revere Middle School
TECA Middle School
Valhalla Valley Middle School
Wylie Brown Middle School
San Roque
Buena Vista Elementary School
Culver Elementary School
Dawson Elementary School
Head Start Short Elementary School
Jersey Valley School K-8

CHICAGO

600 W Cermak Rd #204, Chicago, IL
60616

C.E. Hughes Elementary School
Columbus Elementary School
Cotyfield Maria Charter School
El Whitney Elementary School
Hermine Elementary School
J.A.W. K-8 Middle School
Manor Elementary
McCormick Elementary School
Oscar Adler Elementary School
Pena Public School
Reese Community Academy
Sankofa Education and Sciences Community Academy
Whitler Dual Language Magnet School

DC

1140 Connecticut Ave NW
Suite 1200,
Washington, DC 20036

Aiton Elementary School
American Boys Charter School
Anne Bowers Elementary School
Annie Ross Elementary School
Baron Elementary School
Baron Elementary School
Barnard Elementary School
Barnes Elementary School
Bilingual Education Campus
Bilingual Middle School
Bridge Education Campus
Bruce Monroe Elementary School
Bunnie Elementary School
Capital City Public Charter Elementary School
Cape Verdean Education Campus
Domino Elementary School
Garrison Elementary School
Harlan Elementary School
Harlem Elementary School
H-High School
Imagine Hope Community Charter School - Lomond Campus

Imagine Hope Community Charter School - Tolkien Campus
J.C. Nade Elementary School
Jefferson Middle School
Kelly Miller Middle School
Kinkaid Elementary School
KIPP DC: AM Academy
KIPP DC: KEY Academy
KIPP DC: GUESS Academy
KIPP DC: WILL Academy
Lottie-Dalton Education Campus
Loscil Education Campus
Lincoln Middle School
MacFarland Middle School
Main Street Elementary School
Mary McLeod Bette Memorial
Merritt House
Mount STEM
Newton D. Baker School of Arts
Robinson G. Jones School
R. A. Ruff
Thomas Jefferson International Newcomers Academy
Wade Park
Washington-Allen Leadership Academy
Wilson

LOS ANGELES

2645 Motor Ave #110, Los Angeles, CA 90034

Badcock Drive Elementary
Browning Road Elementary
Chaparral Road Elementary
Clemmons Middle School
Culver City College
Silver Spring Neighborhood Center

MILWAUKEE

7101 Good Hope Rd,
Milwaukee, WI 53217

AUBA Elementary
Brown Street Elementary
Clare School Elementary
Green T. Jackson Elementary
Hays Bilingual Elementary
Jeremiah Wright Leadership Academy
Lafolate Elementary
Lincoln Avenue Elementary
Maple Two Elementary
Floy Elementary
Silver Spring Neighborhood Center

NEW YORK

630 6th Ave #201c,
New York, NY 10018

Hamilton Grange Middle School
11 104 The Flatbush School
11 121 Nelson A. Rockefeler
95 The Greenpoint School
onso The Renaissance Leadership Academy
532 Flatbush Avenue School
532 Flatbush Avenue School
339 Flatbush Avenue School
P.S. 385 The Jackie Robinson School
P.S. 98 Thomas R. Raskopf
P.S. 161 Pedro Abalos Campus
The Martha School

SEATTLE

2450 6th Ave S #203,
Seattle, WA 98134

Adams Elementary
Dunlap Elementary
Maple Elementary
Hawthorne Elementary
Highland Elementary
15th Avenue Elementary

ST. LOUIS

5415 Page Blvd,
St. Louis, MO 63112

Belz Elementary
Dunbar Elementary
Jefferson Elementary
Lucas Crossing Elementary
Northview Elementary
Osborne Elementary
Walton Bridge Elementary
Washington Elementary

VANCOUVER

3023-3713 Kensington Avenue,
Burnaby, BC V5A 6A1

Cresta Hills Elementary
Cougar Island Elementary
Edmonds Community School North Elementary School
Highridge Elementary
Kildare Elementary
Mary Jane Shannon Elementary School
Shay Elementary
Senorita Road Elementary
Three Avenue Community School
Twelfth Avenue Elementary
Wind River Elementary

and Creative Arts
New Design Middle School
P.S. 40 The Duke Ellington School
P.S. 125 The Stephen B. Blaneh School
P.S. 136 Alvaro A. Fierro
P.S. 153 Adam Clifton Powell
P.S. 173 Don Puentes Elementary
P.S. 192 Jacob H Schiff
P.S. 249 The Cohon School
P.S. 375 The Jackie Robinson School
P.S. 399 Thomas Raskopf
P.S. 521 Pedro Abalos Campus
The Martha School

C.E. Hughes Elementary School
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McCormick Elementary School
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Edmonds Community School North Elementary School
Highridge Elementary
Kildare Elementary
Mary Jane Shannon Elementary School
Shay Elementary
Senorita Road Elementary
Three Avenue Community School
Twelfth Avenue Elementary
Wind River Elementary
Build Your Dream Soccer Team!
¡Crea el equipo de fútbol de tus sueños!

City (Ciudad)_______________________________________________________

Team name (Nombre del equipo)____________________________________

Mascot (Mascota)___________________________________________________

Draw the Jersey
(Dibuja la camiseta)

Draw the Stadium
(Dibuja el estadio)
FACTSET IS PROUD TO SUPPORT AMERICA SCORES AND ITS TALENTED POET-ATHLETES!

Thank you to the Embassy of the State of Qatar for supporting America SCORES! See you in 2022!

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