

KIDS!
SAN DIEGO
POETRY
ANNUAL
2020 + 2021



San Diego Entertainment + Arts Guild
Rainbow, California

San Diego Entertainment + Arts Guild (SDEAG)
1953 Huffstatler St., Suite A
Rainbow, CA 92028
(760) 728-2088
sdeag.org sdeag1@gmail.com

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The views expressed in this anthology of poems are solely those of the poets and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Publisher, and the Publisher hereby disclaims any responsibility for them.

Foreword

to the 2020 + 2021 combined edition

The full impact of the COVID-19 pandemic continued to trouble the planning of workshops, how they were conducted, and even the scheduling of publication of this volume due to the organizing of a final workshop in November, 2021.

This combined edition of the *2020 + 2021 KSDPA* will be donated to public libraries throughout our region and to the libraries of the schools that hosted our free workshops.

We are grateful to the workshop facilitators, the host libraries and schools, the staff of the *KSDPA* and, most of all, the young poets whose voices enrich us in a time of stress and uncertainty.

—WILLIAM HARRY HARDING
Founding Publisher

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YING WU
Executive Editor

AMEERAH HOLLIDAY
Editor

RAE ROSE
Founding Editor



2020

Foreword

to the 2020 edition

This collection reflects a year defined by pandemic, disruption, and uncertainty – as well as resilience and innovation.

Despite the closure of libraries and schools which have hosted *KSDPA* workshops in previous years, our dedicated coalition of poets, educators, and community stakeholders launched our first ever series of virtual workshops in 2020 for young people throughout the San Diego region. We thank the public libraries, schools, and other organizations that supported these workshops, as well as the poet-teachers who designed and facilitated them.

And most importantly, we are grateful to the families whose children put to words glimmers from their hearts and minds. Through their poems and drawings, we are reminded that, even when we cannot come together in person, our voices unite us.

—YING WU

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Laylani Scott

The Man on the Porch

The man looked sad sitting there doing nothing.
He looked like things are going to the end for him.
He was frowning until I smiled and waved at him.
He waved back. The man seemed
miserable. He went back to frowning in his
rocking chair on his porch.

People

People at home, people on the streets,
there are people all around. There was a
man I saw by Costco holding a sign that
said, *Please help and anything works.*
He was wearing a torn shirt that was
brown and jeans that were also torn.
He looked sad.
He had so much dirt on his face,
it looked like he hadn't taken
a shower in days.

I Wish

A man lived on a corner with a sign
that said, *No food or money*.
I felt really bad. I wanted to do
something. I imagined how happy he
would be having some food and money.
I wanted to give those things to him but
I didn't have either one.
I wish that I could give food and money
to poor people.
Some people around the world don't have
food, money, homes, or a family.

Jennifer Borbon

I Wanted to Help

Saw a family of three, a mom with two kids, sitting
by a grocery store. The mother was holding a sign
and it said,

Please help no home and two kids.

I looked around but there was no father.
The family looked like they'd been through a lot.
I felt so bad. They had no home to go to.
They didn't have jackets or blankets
to keep them warm at night, they had
no food to fill their tummies.
I wanted to help but I could not.

Sandy Juarez

Dust in Their Eyes

I feel sorry for some people I
know. I see them every year.
They're in the hot sun with the
dust in their eyes when I'm sitting
here relaxing in front of the AC.
They're asking for food while I eat
a fresh meal.
They're in rags.
I get brand new ones.

Just in Case

I saw a girl on the side of Denny's
when I was going to the store.
She had a sign that said,
Can you help me get some food? I thought that she
needed some help so my mom and I went to get her
some food. Then we got her some pancakes with two
sides of fries and a Sprite and iced tea. I thought
that she was homeless because she was wearing
khakis that had holes and was really dirty. Her
jacket was ripped and her hair was a little messed up
so my mom and I went to the corner store to get her
some shoes and clothes. On top of that we gave her
\$40 just in case she needed something else.
She was so happy she started to cry.
That made my heart feels so good.
I prayed for her and also started to cry.

Saved the Day

When I was done eating
I was full, but there were some leftovers.
I didn't want to waste them so I wanted to give
them to a homeless person who I'd seen outside
on the wall of the mall with his shopping cart,
and so dirty he looked like a person who hadn't
showered in a year. But he was gone—like the wind
blew him away. I looked around to find another
homeless person, as if I was a detective.
I looked 'til I found one.
The sign said, *Anything would help*,
and we gave him the food.
He said thank you, then we drove away.
I felt like a hero who just saved the day.

Poverty

One time my mom and I went to the store.
I saw someone with a kid. I wanted to help
but didn't have any money.
I thought to myself
they might buy drugs so I decided
I wouldn't give them money, but I would give them
food. In my life I have hope and everything,
but I ask myself, Do kids have hope?
Everyone has nice clothes but this kid
had torn clothes.
So why is no one helping him?
My mom and I went to the store.
I got the family some food.

Why?

I saw a kid wearing rags, torn and dirty.
I thought to myself, *Why?*
Why won't anyone help him? As he passed by,
I started thinking.
What if that was me?
Would people not care?
Then I made a decision.
I found him and gave him my lunch.

Elena Garcia

Fluffy

Once I saw a man on a corner.
He seemed to be hungry.
He also had a dog.
I felt bad for the dog.
It looked skinny. So did the man.
His clothes were torn and dirty.
He had a sign that said,
Can you help me and my dog get food?
So my mom and I went to get some food for them.
Then the man said he was happy
and the dog was wiggling.
He asked me to name his dog
so I named him "Fluffy."
Then I petted Fluffy for a few minutes and left.

Joseph Carrillo Rosas

Happy

I always see a lady at a store, clothes torn, out in the cold. I'm standing there wondering if she has any children.

So I asked my dad if I could have \$20. I bought the lady a warm meal and some new clothes. That made her day, and mine, too. Before we left I looked back and saw two kids go up to her. They were her children and they were all happy.

Nataly Cardenas

The Smile

I saw a homeless man with brown pants that were ripped. He had a white shirt and wore white and blue shoes. He was sitting on the sidewalk next to KFC.

I felt so bad, so I just smiled at him and he smiled back.

Grateful

I've seen a guy always in the middle of the street holding a sign so he can get something to eat. But he barely got food from people. So I gave him some because he looked in bad shape. His clothes were ripped and his teeth were bad. I gave the man some gift cards so he could get some food. A lot of people use the money for other stuff. But I give them gift cards for some food if they're starving. They always say, "Thank you so much," and I tell them, "You're welcome."

Nevaeh Manley

Our Differences

I saw a man and thought to myself, Raggedy clothes
clean straight clothes, Holey shoes nice brand new
shoes. Next to IHOP we just ate at.

Thought of our differences.

Wanted to give. Time goes by so fast and I could not.

So I said a prayer hoping it would be answered.

Wondering Why

On a cold night
a woman and a man
sit under the black starry sky as people walk by
and wonder why.

These random two people were asking for supplies.
When offered, they judge them for not having good
materials.

A boy walks by, asks them why they ask for supplies.
He replies, "I mostly need supplies for my wife.
As long as she's okay,
I'm fine."

I asked my mom for money. She hands me \$10, and
I go back to the man and woman.

Joel Rodriguez

Because of One Man

On a street corner nearest Murphy's, a man who looked hungry, ripped shirt and pants, ripped gloves, shoes with holes, dirt and dust on his face, had nowhere to go. No home! Only a sign that said: *Help me please. I need food.* He was sad with generosity in his eyes.

Another man looks him in the eyes and says, "I will help with all I can."

The woman gives the man a box
with unknown ideas.

As the man leaves, he says, "This will give me hope."
The man had comfort,
but also uncertainty with the box. He needed to open the box but was nervous, scared. What the box had inside might change his life — food, clothes water and money as well.

This generosity gave him hope,
hope that things would get better.
This would help with the colder-than-cold times,
the badder-than-bad times. The man was happier
than a child on a trampoline.

He was ecstatic, now knowing he will be fine.
He can help himself and his family.
He is finally someone who feels comforted and safe.
He's happier than ever because of one man.

Grass

Grass is a living coloration, Mother Nature, a part of
our hands. Help with its cultivation —

a material that saves our lives.

Beautiful as the sunrise shining.

Grass is like water getting poured in your mouth.

Grass makes you feel like a part of your family.

Grass can lead you to heaven for your living.

Grass is such a gorgeous plant.

People crush grass like it's not your savior.

Grass is family your family ???

People think this life will die, grass is a living thing.

What is grass to you? Not just to walk on,

but your pathway leading to heaven,

for grass will be on your side to live.

Well, you may think your life is worthless.

Feeling worthless makes you worry about your life.

Life is ??? People love each other, but God made us
to be happy, not gloomy. Gloomy means your life

doesn't need to be as lonely as grass being dried,
and dying in your own eyes.

It may be difficult to be one with the grass,
but you are one, my friend.

Sherlyn Lopez
Quechan

Once the world was perfect
My Native Culture is Quechan or Kwtsaan
I am the Hoka
The Bird Songs teach me our Culture, our language
I am from the gourd rattle and the gourd
When I hear coyotes, they howl
The collage team showed me
that you can do anything
The medicine comes from tribes and helps people
when they are sick when there are no doctors

Sherlyn Lopez
Quechan

I am Sherlyn Lopez
I wonder who was ever first ever born
I hear laughing
I see dogs and cats in the street
I want an art set
I am Sherlyn Lopez
I pretend to be a football player
I feel something about my cat always by me
I touch a light bulb
I worry I'm not getting answers right
I cry when someone hurts my feelings
I am proud
I understand when I get answers to questions
I say unicorns
I dream to be an artist when I grow up
I try everyday to do my work
I hope one day to meet an artist
I am proud to be myself

Rocco Howard

La Jolla

Once the world was small
My Native Culture is Native American
I am *nusun*
The Bird Songs teach me speak
I am from the gourd rattle and gourd
When I hear coyotes, I listen
The collage team showed me loyalty
The medicine comes from berry picking.

Rocco Howard
La Jolla

I am funny and nice
I wonder what happens in 2021
I hear my mom's voice
I see a shadow
I want VR headset
I am funny and nice
I pretend to have powers
I feel happy
I touch the clouds
I worry about bullies I cry at sad movies
I am funny and nice
I understand ghosts are real
I say I believe in the Loch Ness monster
I dream about being in my favorite TV show
I try be the best at playing video games
I hope for 2021 to be good
I am funny and nice

Presley Howard
Cheyenne, Luiseño, Cupeño

I am Cheyenne and Luiseño-Cupeño from my dad
and my mom
I wonder if COVID-19 is going to stop spreading
I hear my cat purring
I see my cat sunbathing in the window
I want an ice cream
I am Cheyenne and Luiseño-Cupeño from my dad
and my mom
I feel great
I touch my phone
I worry about my cat, he's been with us for 3 years
I cry because my cat is getting old
I am Cheyenne and Luiseño-Cupeño from my dad
and mom
I understand that my cat is old
I say I believe in scary stories
I dream of my cat that went missing one year ago
I try to paint my nails but I always mess up
I hope COVID-19 will stop
I am Cheyenne and Luiseno-Cupeno from my dad
and mom

Presley Howard
Cheyenne, Luiseño, Cupeño

Once the world was fresh
My Native Culture is Cheyenne, Luiseño, Cupeño
I am the *Ahom*
The Bird Songs teach me to never give up
I am not from the gourd rattle
When I hear coyotes scrap, they make my dog bark
The collage team showed me family
The medicine comes from my family

Miley Magee
Rincon

Once the world was peaceful
My Native Culture is Luiseño I am the *nokiitam*.
The Bird Songs teach me to dance I am from the
gourd rattle and I don't come from that
When I hear coyotes, I ignore them
The collage team showed me nothing
The medicine comes from the ground

Miley Magee
Rincon

I am Miley Magee
I wonder what it would be like if my loved ones
were still here
I hear the drum
I see *tishmal*
I want my family to be happy and healthy
I am Miley Magee
I pretend to be a designer
I feel happy most of the time I touch the stars
I worry the way the world is
I cry over the loss of my great-grandpa
I am Miley Magee
I understand that life has up and downs
I say the creator is a great mystery
I dream of the world one day healing
I try to be better person
I hope to make my family proud
I am Miley Magee

Nokaamay Calac
Rincon

I am Native American
I wonder, can I learn my culture
I hear animals
I see land
I want this chaos to end
I am a Native American
I pretend that I have a million dollars
I feel nothing
I touch animals
I worry that I am going to die
I cry because of my sister
I am Native American
I understand cooking
I say, help me
I dream that I have a million dollars
I try to have a million dollars
I hope I have a million dollars
I am Native American

Isabella Sanchez
Diegueño

Once the world was clean, now it's not clean.
My Native Culture is bird dancing.
I am English.
The Bird Songs teach me about the past and now.
I am from the gourd rattle and palm seeds.
When I hear coyotes, I think, *bad luck*.
The collage team showed me
how to show a good role model.
The medicine comes from the Earth.

I am sleepy and mad
I wonder what life would be without me
or when I'm older
I hear my old friend's voice in my head
I see my imaginary friend
I want to be a music hunter
I am sleepy and mad
I pretend to play with my imaginary friend
I feel weird like sad or mad it's a weird feeling
I touch my imaginary friend's hand because when
I was little he used to hold my hand
when I needed one to hold
What worries me is when I think about when I die
I cry when I talk about my past
I am sleepy and mad
I understand slender man is still alive and hidden
I say I believe in sally
I don't have dreams
I have some nightmares
I try to be a better person everyday

Isaac Guzman
™ and La Jolla

Once the world was peaceful
My Native Culture is La Jolla and ™
I am the *neyuul* chi-ish
The Bird Songs teach me La Jolla
I am from the gourd rattle and fiesta
When I hear coyotes, I feel a good vibe
The collage team showed me our culture
The medicine comes from culture

I am from ™ and La Jolla
I wonder if COVID-19 is going to end
I hear clock
I see a red light
I want money
I am from ™ and La Jolla
I pretend to skydive
I feel
I touch money
I worry when I go to school and I get in trouble
for no reason
I cry when the Raiders lose a game.
I am from ™ and La Jolla
I understand that I am a Raiders fan
I say that I am going to be a rapper and be famous
I dream me being a rapper
I am from ™ and La Jolla

Evelyn Toedt
Rincon Cahuilla

Once the world was peaceful
My Native Culture is Luiseño-Cahuilla
I am a *Nushune* (my sweetheart)
The Bird Songs teach me about creation stories
I am from the gourd rattle and make music
When I hear coyotes, I get scared
The collage team showed me pictures
The medicine comes from our ancestry

Evelyn Toedt
Rincon Cahuilla

I am tiny and bossy
I wonder if the corona virus is going to be over
before Halloween
I hear relaxing songs
I see a waterfall falling into a river
I want a quad for Christmas
I am tiny and bossy
I pretend to be bigger and wear makeup
I feel funny
I touch clouds and rainbows
I worry about failing school staying in 5th grade
I cry and am sad when I get hurt
I am tiny and bossy
I understand my work sometimes
I say family will always love you
I dream about becoming a nurse
I try to be good in school and make good choices
I am tiny and bossy

Atilano Bojorquez
La Jolla Band of Indians
La Jolla Indian Reservation

Once the world was whole
My Native Culture is a mix
I am a descendant of Chief Arimo
The Bird Songs teach me our culture
I am from the gourd rattle and drums
When I hear coyotes, I burn sage and pray
The medicine comes from Earth and my Mother

Atilano Bojorquez
La Jolla Band of Indians
La Jolla Indian Reservation

I am Nelson-Bojorquez. My clan is Guassac.
I am Luiseño, Mohave, Sho-Ban. I am Native.
I love my home. I love my land.
La Jolla Indian Reservation.

Oshiila
Luisseño

Once the world was damaged.
My Native Culture is Luisseño.
I am a Luisseño Indian.
The Bird Songs teach me what my culture is.
I am from the gourd rattle and La Jolla.
When I hear coyotes, I don't care for them.
The collage team showed me
how creative I could be.
The medicine comes from plants and herbs.

I am brave, confident
I wonder if I can become an author
I hear the angels singing
I see the songs with joy
I want to be successful in life
I am brave, confident
I pretend I'm going to be okay everyday
I feel angels hugging me
I touch the wind while I fly
I worry that life is too short
I cry when angels hit my hair
I am brave, confident
I understand that people leave the world to be free
I say life is really short
I dream about being an author
I try being an author
I hope for living a long life
I am brave, confident

Nayaloni Magee
Pechanga

Once the world was Happy again.
My Native Culture is Luiseño.
I am *Nokiiyam*, meaning family.
The Bird Songs teach me how to dance.
I don't come from the gourd rattle. It's music.
We don't listen to coyotes; they are bad luck to us.
The collage team showed me nothing.
The medicine comes from a medicine man
& medicine woman.

Nayaloni Magee
Pechanga

I am Nayaloni Kuulei Magee
and I am nice and helpful.

I wonder how we made regalia back then.
I hear birds sing and whistle.

I see my *yawaywichup nokiiyam*.

I want nothing

I am Nayaloni Kuulei Magee
and I am nice and helpful.

I pretend to sleep.
I feel mad, sad, happy.
I touch the sky.

I worry about losing my *nokiiyam*.

I cry when my loved ones pass.

I am Nayaloni Kuulei Magee
and I am nice and helpful.

I understand right from wrong.
I say, enjoy every day.
I dream about my future.
I try to learn something new every day.
I hope I stay healthy

I am Nayaloni Kuulei Magee
and I am nice and helpful.

Mimi

La Jolla band of Luiseño Indians

I am playful and funny.
I wonder when COVID-19 will end.
I hear ringing.
I see orange juice, my phone, and the Chromebook.
I want to hurry up and be done with school.
I am playful and funny.
I pretend to pay attention.
I feel coldness.
I touch air.
I worry about family members.
I cry for my dog Sammy when he passed
in February.
I am playful and funny.
I understand that COVID-19 is everywhere.
I say, I do my work.
I dream about random things.
I try to work.
I hope I will graduate soon and maybeeee
umm I hope COVID-19 ends soon.
I am playful and funny.

Freedom

Dreams are in my heart, everyday and every night.
Martin Luther King Jr's dreams helped us fight for
freedom rights.

When I look up into the sky, I think about Martin
Luther King Jr. and how he helped our lives.

He practiced equal rights with positive vibes. Martin
Luther King Jr. was a great leader who lives in our
hearts, when we think of freedom and equal rights.

Leroy Salgado
Cahuilla

I am strong and brave.
I wonder, how do we sleep?
I hear whispers in my ear.
I see spirits.
I want a PC set up.
I am strong and brave.
I pretend to ride a lion.
I feel happy.
I touch the moon.
I worry about failing.
I cry when I think of my grandma.
I am strong and brave.
I understand tomorrow's another day.
I say ghosts are real.
I dream of having a bear as a pet.
I try to do my best always.
I hope I get into a good college.
I am strong and brave.

Once the world was good.
My Native Culture is awesome.
I am a *wasa*.
The Bird Songs teach me culture.
I am from the gourd rattle and salgado family.
I hear coyotes crying in the night.
The collage team showed me spirit.
The medicine comes from shaman.

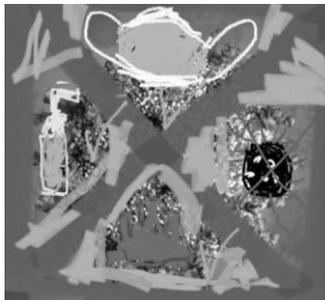
COVID-19

COVID is red
19 is gray
We need it gone before it's too late.

Face is white mask is blue
we need to wear
the face mask before
the worst sickness gets me or you.

Hand is green
sanitizer is red
We need to use
hand sanitizer to stop
the spread of COVID.

Disposable is blue gloves
are white we need
to wear gloves before
we touch anything in sight
which might have on it
that deadly virus bite.



Denise Caballero

Rainbow Feelings During COVID

Bright

Colorful

Multi-colored stripes

that change with peoples' feeling.

Red: Anger like when I don't want to wear a mask.

Orange: Afraid like if a raging fire

gets close to our house.

Yellow: The happiness I feel

when I get to go to the beach.

Green: The disgusting COVID virus

under a microscope.

Blue: The sadness I feel

when I don't get to visit classmates.

Purple: The peace I'll feel when I'm back in school

with my rainbow friends.

Snow

Could be tough but not too tough.
Could be flying in slow motion.
Hurt if it was ice, but it's snowing.

Snow running in motion, with a little Compassion.
Snow soft but hard.
It makes tasks for itself when thrown,
when grasped, when kicked, while running.

Snow
COVID-19 can't take that away, my love for it.
I will always love snow.
But COVID-19 with its Stay-at-Home policy
can push me away from my dream.
I may never have a chance to be with snow.

Osiris Valdez

The Smallest Blanket on Earth

I am the one who protects human hands from
COVID disaster. I am the one who hides your hand
like a small blanket.

I'm the one who should be trusted.

I'm the force field people see.

I cover. I protect.

The smallest blanket on earth, I am your glove.

Xbox One X

I'm a white rectangular special edition Cool
Controller with purple, blue and silver dots.
So enjoyable, I take the boredom away.
Make friends and create them.
Make parties talk.
Learn about other players
I can text, play different games need batteries.
Heat up if played too much.

When Allan touches the button, it all begins.
Allan chooses the game to play
so I can take his boredom away.
Allan, using my controller, plays for hours.
Fortnite, Need for Speed, Heat, and Minecraft.
Allan builds and races in worlds
where players connect.
My magnificent colors make me unique.
I bring together friends who help him
pass levels and chat together.
When Allan touches the button
it all ends for the day.

Chocolate

Candy bars all day long!

Hot Cocoa! Delicious!

Off I go to taste another candy!

Chole, please buy me one of those Kit Kats!

Oreo Cookies!

Licorice! Yum!

All that chewing gum does not make me tired.

Trick or Treat Halloween! We get more candies!

Eat and eat and not get tired of it!

Isabella Harvey

Reading

I feel like reading is like a tree.
It starts off small where you might just be, then
when you grow, it grows with you.

I love to read when each adventure is new.
And after years pass I read some more, it is like
knocking on an unopened door,

so when you read just know to read with ease,
just like standing in a nice summer breeze.

This life's an adventure just like a book,
So go outside and take a look, just like you would in
a lovable book.



Isabella Harvey

Mom

Dear mom, I love you so much you see,
but sometimes I don't treat you as you would to me.
But you love me no matter what happened, you see.

Your love is as big as all the seas.

You will always be there when I fall down, you
always think of us even when you have a frown.

You still love me when I make a mistake,
and help me figure it out
when baking a yummy cake. I love you mom.

Taylor Lampman

My Love for Spider-Man

Spider-Man is great

He is my favorite superhero and person

Spider-Man is my everything

I love Spider-Man

Carter Lampman

The air is hot and steamy.

A caterpillar makes its way down the table, around
teapots and chairs.

About to round a corner, it stops.

The lights flicker on, and the passengers depart.

The caterpillar does not move.

Act

When you see somebody do something mean, act
Don't act mean, act nice We act all the time
just not in the right way
Act nice not mean
Act

Philippa Laffler

The Best Part of Me

The best part of me is my eyes
They help me when I am doing turns in dance class
I can enjoy a funny movie
I can follow the soccer ball with my eyes
when I'm goalie
Look down at the numbers on the harmonica
Tell I have the correct amount of lemon juice
to make lemonade
My eyes can guide me when I'm biking
on busy streets
Help me plant pretty tulips in the garden
They can help guide me out of any cave
when I'm hiking
Help me read my books,
such as *The Who Was* series
I especially like Milton Hershey
My eyes help me not burn myself while
I'm taking cookies out of the oven
Help me see their golden brown crispness
I can look at colorful fun animals at the zoo,
Hot pink flamingos elegantly standing on one leg
I need my eyes to put finishing touches
on some jewelry I make
My eyes allow me to play Trivial Pursuit
with my family reading the cards out loud
I can tell when my homemade whipped cream
is ready and delicious
Seeing the mandala-like patterns the whisk makes
when I lift it

Benjamin Scheckner

Once there was a blueberry
who wanted to be eaten
He tried his best
more than the rest
but still wouldn't get eaten

Elliott Manning

I Love

I love planets, plants, home.
I love the earth.
If it was not a thing,
I would never see or have food, the ocean,
my friends.
I could never have read comics or books.
I would never get warmth from the sun, cold from
ice cream.
I would never enjoy drawing, chocolate,
or the galaxy.
Never would I like sharks, music,
or pink.
I would never eat salmon or tuna.
I would never have liked to watch birds
or play at water parks.
I would never have a family.
I would never like puppies.
I would never enjoy my mom, my brother,
and my dad.
I would never think about cutting folded paper or
playing video games.
But I love the earth and every thing.

Motor

Mower is broke
Oil that glugs
Tools to fix
On the ground
Ready. . .Ignition!

Ideas

When you have an idea,
play with it, think about it,
make inventions with it,
and be happy with it.

My Yard

Flowers, pink and leafy
Grass, green and shady
Skies, light blue
Clouds, white and fluffy
Trees, tall and strong
Birds, flying high
Bees pollinate the flowers
Butterflies decorate the yard
The day, sunny and bright

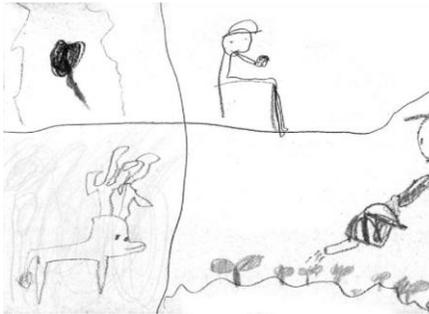
Nature

I care about rocks because they will hide animals

I care about animals
because animals live in nature

I care about nature
because someone needs to take care
of plants and flowers

I care about reading
because you will learn how to care about nature



The Universe Tree

I love the universe
and that's it
because everything comes from
the universe Think about it

Earth made by the universe giving us a place to take
a stand

In turn people made by the earth giving us others to
love and hate

In turn food planted and eaten by people giving us
something to do and enjoy

I love the universe and that's it
because everything comes from
the universe Think about it

Carlo Giovingo Hart

Cookie, My Dog

Cookies are brown, cookies are yummy, but my
Cookie is my little honey. She is a Golden Doodle
a mix of a golden retriever, like Turbo,
and a poodle.

She has to wear a vest every day.
And people can still pet her
because she loves to play.

My Cookie is my special dog
who helps me stay calm and out of danger.

Mariposa Williamson

My Family

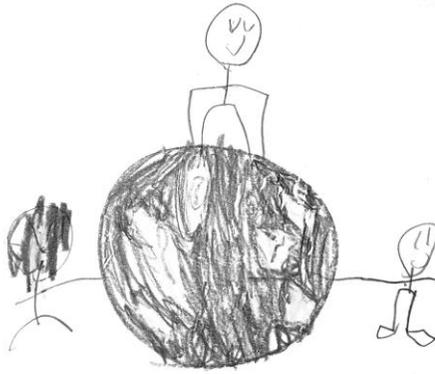
I go to Mexico every month to see my family.
In Mexico we ride horses and go to the La Milpa. It
is a field where we grow garlic
and other vegetables.
Sometimes we go to the ocean and I have a lot of fun
because I'm with my whole family.

When School Starts

When school starts, it sounds like music with no sound. When school starts, it feels like falling into an endless world of math. When school starts, it looks like a blank page. When school starts, it smells like a caramel nut bar you cannot eat. When school starts, it tastes like a sour apple. But I still have to go.



2021



Simran Umatt

What Does the World Need Now

I look through my eyes,
at the globe that is always in my sight,
and I wonder,
What does the world need now?

The world needs love.
Why does the world need love?
Because it teaches us to be compassionate.

The world needs pollution to end.
Why does the world need pollution to end?
Because the Mother Nature doesn't deserve it.

The world needs equality.
Why does the world need equality?
Because every single life matters.

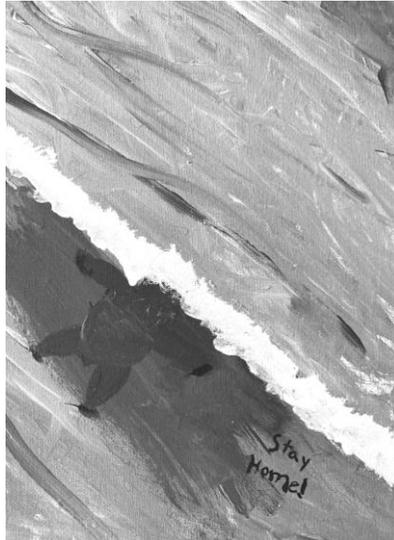
The world needs peace.
Why does the world need peace?
Because peace symbolizes unity.

The world needs leaders.
Why does the world need leaders?
Because leaders are not followers.

The world needs Covid-19 to end.
Why does the world need Covid-19 to end?
Because we all need Covid-19 to end.

Arianna Larios

Dear future self, this is the year that I won't forget.
Lots of things have changed.
I would like to say a little bit about this year.
COVID-19 came and ruined all our fun,
but that wouldn't stop us from having fun.
We talked and had school on zoom
 until we were ready to come back.
I exercised, met new friends, learned a lot about
myself, saw friends on zoom and had lots of fun.
A lot has changed this year, and I hope to see you,
what the future has for me. Dearest future yourself,
I hope I have a great time in the future, and I hope
you never forget this different and learning year.



Animals

I love animals just like they love me.
I really love dogs, they really love me.
I love Turbo and Cookie Dough.

They both surf with me.
They make me the happiest I can be.

My Friend, Miss Nancy

A friend who invites us to play at her house.

She is an amazing friend who love kids.
She is so kind.

She gives us Otter pops that are sweet like her.

A friend
who loves kids.
I can feel her love.

Light

When I awake in the morn, there is a flaming light.
So bright, so opposite of night.
I welcome it with open arms.
It wakes me, warms me,
 coaxes me to rise out of my warm cozy bed.
It sleeps the hooting owl.
It is part of the formula of life.
Life of the lizard, the plants in the garden box,
 my mother's herbs.
It warms the morn into noon.
When the sun's right above our head, falling down
on our skin, there is a glow from the ground
 and all around.
Then the sun begins to fall toward the ocean's edge—
Light, bright, so much might—yet still will fall
over the sea into another land—
only to wake me once again.

Games

Great games
Full of fun
Great games
I love them
Great games
Full of fun
Great games
Enjoy!
Great games
Full of fun
Great games
I love them
Great games
Full of fun
Great games
Enjoy!

Andrew Aguilar
Rincon

My Life

I was born in Escondido hospital.

I was raised on the Pala Rez.

I moved to Rincon.

Live your life to the fullest.

Naylynn Rose Howard
La Jolla

From the Rez

I'm from the Rez.
We go to our Tribal Hall sometimes for meetings
about us making a waterpark
because our other one is abandoned.
I love listening to bird singing.
I love sitting in the car listening to songs.

Zedekiah Varela
San Pascual-Punka

You Are Beautiful

You are beautiful.

Hi, I am Zed.

I hear a lot of people think they are ugly,
but everybody is beautiful to me anyhow.

Zephaniah Ramirez
Kumeyaay

My Rez

I live on the San Pasqual Rez.
I like it there.
I like the Ed Center.
I wish I had a big pool.

Michael Magee
Luiseno

Family & Culture

Hi, I am part of the Luiseno tribe.

In my tribe we dance and drum for our tribe
and culture.

I love dancing because I love representing my tribe
and making my mom and dad and

my grandpa proud.

One day I'll be just like my great-great-grandpa.

Evelyn Toedt
Rincon

About Me

I am 11 years old.

I am from the Rincon band of Luiseno Indians.

I live in Rincon. I love my family. I like to read.

I like school but I don't love it.

I like to go on my phone.

I don't like talking to people.

I like to paint.

Miley Magee
Rincon-Pechanga

Thankful

I am Native American.

I am Luiseño.

I am from Rincon and Pechanga.

I am thankful for my family
and ancestors.

Christen Cagey
Pala

Doing Push-Ups

Doing push-ups can help everything

Doing push-ups can help the mind

Doing push-ups can calm me down

Doing push-ups is a way of relief

Doing push-ups with my teacher is the way of life

Jodi Diaz
Agua Caliente

Mom's Dogs

Lucky, my mom's dog
He's an old man
He's a dog
Coco, that's my mom's dog
He is grey and black
He is big
He is nice

My Rez

What is it like to live on the Rez. . .
Sometimes it is hard
and sometimes it is easy.
And sometimes relatives live and sometimes
relatives die.
And sometimes it is fun,
like I can go play at the ball fields with my cousins.

Marrienne Diaz
Agua Caliente

Roses

Roses that are small
all grow near the pretty pond.
All morning and night
they all look very stunning.
Roses are small and smell nice.

LJ

I am from LJ.
I love my Rez.
My Rez is beautiful.
My Rez is good and I love it.
My Rez is beautiful and I love it.

Emily Jimenez

The Beach

I rode the waves like a bucking bronco,
but when they got too high they rode me.

When it got too cold,
I buried my legs into the warm sand
and after a little while,
I wanted to get back in the water
to feel the joy of laughter, splashing,
and fleeting bubbles.

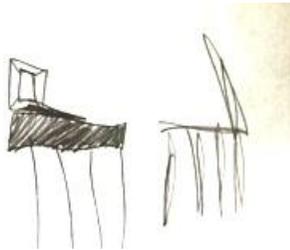
Tank

Tank was my dog,
Tank was very efficient,
when I cried he came over,
sometimes he was not so nice,
and my dog Matilda misses him,
my other dog dislikes it,
they fought over her,
how he is happy.



Zoom

Zoom is not the best,
Zoom I do not like,
Zoom is online,
Zoom is bad for your eyes,
Zoom you touch a computer,
Zoom online is sometimes addicting.



My Nana

She is a strong woman. I see love in her face.

She is the only woman in Sonora, Mexico to work her own farm place.

I love when she dances with me.
It's the way I love to be.

Mexico

In Mexico my grandparents own a garlic farm, or *milpa*.

Sometimes the river floods to the land which is bad and brings harm.

We have big fiestas and celebrate lots of holidays. I love to get dressed up with my cowboy boots and hat.

I enjoy the parades. They are so much fun. I love to watch the dancing horses.

The mountains are so tall. Next to them I feel small.
I love Mexico.

Friends

My friends are nice and loyal.
You get friends by being a friend.

I am a helpful friend.

I have all kinds of friends.
Different colors and different hairstyles.

Some get mad and some get sad.
They have different emotions.

I'm so happy to be a friend.
I'm so happy I have friends.

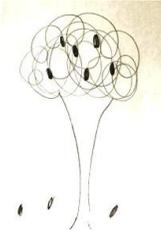
Christmas

The Christmas tree
elf on the shelf
dancing on the tree.
Santa Claus is giving all the presents.
A lot of kids are getting presents of night.
O Christmas, how I miss you.



Peaches

Peaches was my dog.
Peaches gave me piggyback rides.
The day she went to heaven,
I did not know what that meant.
Now when I think of her,
I don't want my other dogs to die,
and now I don't want to eat peaches.



Red light Green light

Red light
green light
how did they
get it to be?
Red, they probably
got the wires
mad.



Lulu

Lulu — furry, fast, funny

Lulu — cute, courageous, caring

Lulu — style, stealth, spirit

Lulu — happy, hilarious, hopeful

Lulu — laughing, loving, lemonade

LULU

Samara Klein

My Heart Contains

My heart contains the ocean breeze and waves.
Crashing. Forming.
Crashing and forming.

My heart contains the great big trees of the woods,
the sounds of birds, animals of many kinds.

My heart contains Oregon —
the woods and ocean all in one.
When I go to Oregon,
the place where my heart longs,
I smell trees, I see birds
and hear the leaves crackle
beneath my feet.
Oregon is the place I love!

Colvin Davis

Mornings Are Unique

Eggs sizzle in a pan, sunny side up and just the way I like them

The sun shines with a bright and cheerful light, unfindable any other time of day

I hear a chirping bird, and wonder where that bird is, or what colorful patterns are held within its feathers

Everything so calm before all the hustle and bustle of the day to come

Mornings are unique, unlike any other time of day

A time that can't be recreated

A time that is calm and peaceful

Ocean

The ocean
reflects my body,
as I walk along the shore.

The ocean,
suddenly,
becomes mad,
and,
brabs me,
swallowing me,
whole.

The ocean
contains others,
others that
have been here
since they were born.

The ocean then
pushes me
deeper
and deeper,
and deeper,
until I hit the surface
of the ocean.

The ocean
carries me to coral reefs
and eels.

Then,
the ocean whirls me around
like I am in a ocean-themed ballroom.

The ocean decides
to push me up
like a spring,
with a fling!

The ocean
throws me into the sky,
where the pretty birds fly.
I start to come down
and I land with a thump.
As I get up,
the ocean's waves
crash on the soft sand,
as if it were saying,
Goodbye,
Little One.

I Am Thinking About My Love Birds

I. Nice

Kinda mean.
Bites me (but not that hard).
He is a boy.
He plays with the feathers that fall from them.
Likes to eat.
Crazy.
Gets bitten by my other bird.
Got hurt on his face.
Used to be nice.

II. Artic

Mean.
Never cuddles.
Bites me (really hard).
Does not like the blanket.
Rude.
Grouchy.
Hates me and my mom.
Angry.
Annoyed.
Pushes Nice when he's eating.
(And he gets mad.)



Gabriel Perez

Ocean

Hearing the ocean makes me calm and safe.
I like when I go to the beach.
I feel really calm and happy.
I think everybody has a place
where they feel calm, happy, and safe.

Memories

Memories keep me safe,
memories contain my identity,
memories help me share ideas,
memories bring me home.

Memories aren't perfect, but, in a way, they are —
never say anything that differs.
Memories are a part of me, you, and everyone else.
Memories connect us as people,
memories unite us all.

Life

Life can be cruel, life can be kind, life is
unpredictable.
Life will never be perfect, nothing will,
but life is changeable —
not many things are.
Life is personal, and special.
It gives us a connection to the world,
Life is the key to the universe.

Time

What makes dark and day?
What does sing and slay?
What creates rock and stone—
strong enough to wither bone?
What we frantically race.
But can never outpace.

Benjamin Scheckner

Shifts in the Mind

the sun sets upon the land,
the earth changes,
imagination lives in the clouds and takes flight.

Molting of the World

the ground cracks as magma intervenes.
the world turning to ash,
after the world cracks,
life is changing.

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O Christmas

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