

STORIES OF INSPIRED YOUTH:

Chicago

My Family

Other Writing

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THE GREAT CHICAGO FIRE, by Latrice T.

I'm going to tell you about this article I read about the Great Chicago fire. The fire was started by Ms. O'Leary's cow. Really bad things had happened, some things like the river had blown up, and the tower bell fell down. The fire had spread everywhere while taking buildings out. The fire had continued to spread, because the wind and it was hot and dry and human failures in the alarm system. Once the fire reached the courthouse bell tower, it plummeted through the tower. The fire had lasted for three days and was put out, finally, by the rain. If their fire measures were better there wouldn't have been a fire.

THE CHICAGO FIRE, by Deirdre C.

During the Chicago Fire it was so hot and humid. They couldn't tell there was damage. The towns people were panicking because there was a lot going on. Fire men rushed to the scene, running up the firey stairway risking their lives for the people.

There were a lot of big buildings involved that got damaged, and some didn't get damaged. The fire wouldn't stop at anything.

THE CHICAGO RIVER, By Maria E.

I researched the Chicago River. The Chicago River is 156 milers long and 800 feet across. The river is named after the city Chicago. The Chicago River is beautiful. The Chicago River is the longest River in Chicago. The deepest part of the river is 20-21 feet. There are many fish in the river, like carp and goldfish. There are also over 50 species of fish in the river. The fish can swim in the river because there is a lot of space and because the river is clean. The Chicago River starts at Park City and ends in the DesPlaines River. That is all I learned about the Chicago River.

SOME GORILLAS ADOPTED ANOTHER BABY GORILLA, By Andre T.

A gorilla male silverback live with three gorillas female. The birth cannot bring 14 gorillas of the birth. It could only bring it to birth up to 13 at Lincoln Park Zoo. Once the gorillas share the ape center with 12 chimpanzees. I did not know that man. They brought a new friend gorilla to the zoo. They were thrilled.

NAVY PIER, By Janelle W.

At Navy Pier it is a lot of rides. It has this big boat their that you could look at at night time. It has a movie theater there. If you go inside it is always a clown their. He would give you a balloon. They sell roasted peanuts, and walnuts. I mostly like the Children's Museum. It is fun. You could play games and make things.

NAVY PIER By Jasmine W. and her tutor Danielle Scarolla

Navy Pier is a fun place to go. There is a lot of different stuff that you can look at and do. There is a mall, restaurants, you can do arts and crafts, and learn how to CPR on people. You can go to the Children's Museum and they teach you how to dial 911, and other safety stuff, like buckling your seat belt. There are a lot of boats and you can take a ride on the boat around Lake Michigan. It made me sea sick so be careful, don't eat food before you get on the boat. They have shows on the pier like clowns, and Santa Claus at Christmas time. The IMAX is a cool thing to do too because you can watch movies with 3D glasses. They also have rides like the Ferris wheel, the tea cups, the bumper cars. On the Ferris wheel you can see the whole city when you get high enough. They even have a chocolate store where they show you how they make ice cream.

Navy Pier is a cool place to be in Chicago. It was supposed to be a boring place where ships

could stay and it was also gonna be used for the army so they could train their men. This was during world war one and world war two. It also was supposed to be used as a campus for the university of Illinois in Chicago. They also wanted to use it so people could watch other people sing on stage. Navy Pier first opened in 1916 and it is on Lake Michigan. It is very important to the people of Chicago because it is a special place that you can take your family and to get snacks.

It does not cost you anything to just walk around and look at all the cool stuff. It does cost money to get on rides, to eat, to get something to drink, to see a movie, to get souvenirs, to go on the boats and to get in some of the museums. I think it should be free but the stuff is really fun so it's okay to spend the money. I wish it was free though because if you don't have any money you can't have as much fun as everyone else, and you will feel left out.

Navy Pier has a cool web site called <http://www.navypier.com/> where you can look up anything you want about the place. I think everyone should look it up so they can see how cool it is and how much fun it is to go there.

SUE THE DINOSAUR, By Fabricio S.

- 1) He is a dinosaur.
- 2) He's real but he is already dead.
- 3) He has bones.
- 4) They couldn't put the skull of the dinosaur because it was heavy.
- 5) Sue stands 13 feet high at the hips and 42 feet long from head to tail.

THE DINOSAUR SUE, by Lucas D.

Sue was put in the Field Museum on May 17, 2000. Sue is 13 feet high and 42 feet long. Sue's real skull is on the 2nd floor because it was too heavy. The Field Museum made a fake rib, forelimb, and tooth so people can touch them.

CHICAGO, by Ramiro L.

I like Chicago because they have special things. I also like Chicago because it has a lot of work that my family is working. Chicago has a lots of parks and beaches. Chicago is another big city. It has a lots of stores and a lots of parks. It has a lot of things that other cities may not have. Sometimes Chicago trade things to another city. They trade good things not bad things. Chicago has a big candy factory but I don't know where usually is located at.

HAROLD WASHINGTON, By Jasmine T.

Harold Washington was born in 1922 and died in 1987 he was 65 years old when he died. he was born in Cook County Hospital, Chicago Illinois , south side. He went to Roosevelt College and Northwestern University Law School.

He was employed at a meat packing company until 1942 when he joined the Army. In 1954 he became a corporation lawyer for the Third Ward Democratic Organization.

In 1964 he did lots of good things in the House of Representatives.

After Richard J. Daley's death in 1976 he ran for Mayor but he did not win so he tried for State Senate in 1977 and that's when he became State Senator of Washington. He ran against Mayor Jane Byrne for Mayor in 1983 and that is when he became Mayor. In 1987 he died and his service was held at Christ Universal Temple on South Ashland.

PICASSO, by Fermin E.

The Picasso is a Picasso statue. Its build in Chicago Downtown. It's made of steel, and 50 feet high and weighs 162 tons.

CHICAGO BLUES, by Johnesha J.

Blues is an African-American music that transverses a wide range of emotions and musical styles. "Feeling blue" is expressed in songs whose verses express longing for a better life and lost loves, jobs, and money.

The introduction of "race" records aimed at black record-buyers and the emigration of black Americans from the rural South to the urban North began after 1920. Many of the earliest black American recording stars were blues singers. The first blues songs to be recorded, often called "classic blues," were jazz-influenced songs in a vaudeville style, sung by the great blues women. These singers were often accompanied by pianists, guitarists, or even small jazz combos. There are several regional styles of country blues, including Delta blues from the Mississippi Delta, Texas blues, and Piedmont blues from the southeast.

Blues from this century is often called "urban blues," "electric blues," or simply "Chicago blues." Blues remains with us in contemporary American culture, and as a traditional musical form it has been subjected to countless revivals and reinterpretations. Its current practitioners often integrate the sounds and instrumental pyrotechnics of rock music and the sheen of urban soul; but the twelve-bar form, variations on the blues chord progression, and emotive lyrical content remain relatively unchanged.

THE GREATEST FAMILY IN THE WORLD, By Jasmine T.

My story is about my family. My father was born in 1978. My father's father was born in 1912. My father's mother was born in 1912. My mother was born in 1921. My mother's mother was born in 1921. Some of my family members are smart, some of them are very, very funny and some of them are the coolest dancers in the world. We come from Chicago and Kansas City. Because we are the coolest and smartest family in the world, my family wears glasses. If you ever want to meet the Anderson/Tripp family, please call [773]-111-1111 to get more information about them thank you. You will say the same thing too, if you just call this number [773]-111-1111.

MY BEST FAMILY, By Alejandro S.

December 2004. My family always gives things to me and my brother and my sister too. My family gives presents to our relatives. We have a big tree in my house and we go to my aunt's house to give gifts and we eat together. We have turkey and coca cola and juice.

MY FAMILY, by Fabricio S.

I was born in Ecuador. I have three grandparents who is in Ecuador. I was born in the capital of Ecuador which is Quito. In Ecuador they do good food, like seviche. My mother's parents have a farm. There are pigs, little chickens, chicken, and roosters, and ducks. My grandma which is the mother of my father lives in the same state which is Quito. Ecuador has many many high mountains. My mother, brother, and sister, and I came here to Chicago.

MY FAMILY, BY LATRICE T.

My mother didn't raise me. My aunt raised me. After my mom gave me birth to me I moved in with my aunt and her two daughters. I think of my aunt as my mother, because she raised me.

My aunt is a Christian who attends church every Sunday. My aunt went through a lot of private problems when she was a child and still has health problems.

My aunt's two daughters are all grown up and in college now. She has one daughter that lives with a friend from church and is still in college. She has another daughter that is in college, but still lives with her. I say that she isn't a grown up yet, but she says she is anyway.

When I grow up I hope that I can be a good mother like my mother was to me and my brothers and sisters.

MY FAMILY, By: Fermin E.

My family are from Mexico, the city is called Iguala Guerrero. We all borne in the same place .My grandparents worked on the cornfields, and My grandmothers took care of the house .I went with my mom to the town market to buy things that my mom needed for the kitchen and food.

We wok up on the morning to feed the animals, and some times we went to the supermarket to buy things that she needed , and she asked me what things I wanted .She bought me a car.

We lived close by each other, and we visited to each other. Some times we went all together shopping to the Town Market. Some times we stayed to sleep in each other house....

Where My Family Came From, By Andre T., December 14, 2004

My family came from Evanston.. My Family names are Ebony, Latrice Jasmine , And Porsha . My Family cooks Spanish rice corn And cornbread .and then I go to a camp ; And then I go to eat . and what I ate at the camp is hotdogs ,cake ,burgers ,and pop. and we did projects together. We sing songs .and then we talk about what we like; and what we want to bring for the Christmas tree, and what we want to do for Christmas and then we had a birthday party. green ,red ,white . happy Christmas

The Sunset Island, by Andrew T.

Here is my family. Everybody is at the Sunset Island to hang out for a little bit for a week. There were a lot of fish in the island. It has two different kinds of fish. One kind of the fish are nice and don't fight. There are some bad fish and they fight and disobey their parents. They don't swim in the same water.

The island is pretty, nice, and beautiful. It has palm trees and we swim with the good fish. I am with my mom, my sister Jasmine, Latrice, my brother Red, my sister Ebony, and me. I'm reading a book. My sister Jasmine is looking at the water. My mom is swimming and bringing food. My brother Andre is playing cards, little men, and trucks.

We are not going home until we have more fun and stay another night and some more days.

MY FAMILY, By Linda M.

There are seven people in my family. Their names are Octavio, Jeffrey, Ramiro, Linda, Crystal, Saturnina, and Perfecto. Octavio is 22 years old and he's my oldest brother. Jeffrey is 16 years old, he is the second oldest. Ramiro is 13 years old, and he is next. Then goes me, Linda. I'm 10 and will be 11 on April 1. Then goes my parents, their older than Octavio but my mom is older than my dad. My mom works in two jobs. My dad works in a team that fixes plants and trees. My brother Jeffrey works in a restaurant called Byron's Hot Dogs. The person that is special to me is my grandma Lucia Jaimes because she feeds and helps animals. She feeds chickens, turkeys, pigs and cows. My family helps out each other and takes care and has love for each other.

MY FAMILY, by Martin D.

My mother is from Mexico and my father is from Mexico and all my family is from Mexico. My sister is from Chicago. My family is from Gerrero and my father's father is in Mexico. My father's mother is also in Mexico. My mother's mother is in Chicago. I have a dog, and all of the farm in Mexico is in Gerrero. My mother's mother came with my mom .she came to Chicago too.

My mother comes from Mexico and my father comes from Mexico. First my father came from Mexico to Chicago and then my mom came to Chicago. Then my brother came with my mom and father, and I came to Chicago with my brother.

MY FAMILY, By Daniel A.

I like all my family. My family is very special. I love my family and I like playing with my brother and my sisters and when it is summer I like to play with my sisters and sometimes we go to the park and me and my sister and my brother and my two friends we play tag and we play on the swings and we play more with my family. I love my family.

THE CITY, by Fermin E.

What is needed in the city? It will help us if they destroy old buildings. Collect the garbage everyday. People should clean up the alley. More pharmacies are needed. The city should build more houses. There should be fewer buses because they make many noises in the morning and night.

How could students help the city of Chicago? Help people to pick up litter. Go to school so they are not in the streets causing trouble. There will be less traffic if you could ride bikes or buses.

What could the city of Chicago do to help youth? I wish they offered more sports programs. The city of Chicago should build more schools so all the children could have an opportunity to learn.

My 30 year old life, By Jasmine T.

My life when I am 30 years old is magnificent. I have a husband named Angel Castroe. My children's names are Angel Jr., Kristana, and Marie Tripp. My job is at Bank One, and my husband works with me. That is how we met. My husband is 30 years old too!! My children's ages are: Angel Jr., 8, Kristana, 5, and Marie, 7. My life was going perfect until one day, I woke up and there was a strange man standing over me who was not my husband. He was a strange man that had a black, white and gray beard as long as a tree. I woke up because the tree beard was so long and that it itched my face. My friends were tied up in a double-dutch rope. My friend's names were Linda, Khadiji and Marie. They came over to take me shopping. The man just messed up our day. But that did not stop us because I had pepper spray. The man came over and I pepper sprayed the man. I got away, and I also saved the day. That was my worst and favorite day.

STORY, By Andrew T.

If I walked down the streets and I see a purple monster I will run. Because the purple monster might get me. Then the purple monster will eat me. Then the purple monster eat a burger last week. He went to McDonalds for to buy a meal. He went to his house and it is called dinosaur land. His house is nice because it is a rich house. It has a pool, garden, yard, basketball court, cars. He lives by his self. He was lonely.

1/25/05

MY SATURDAY TUTOR, by Zuleyka A.

Julia Kohn lives in Wilmette. She is very pretty and she has a boyfriend. She is my tutor. I like to be with her because she is very nice to me. Julia Kohn likes to read and listen to music, and she plays the violin.

THINGS I LIKE, by Fabricio S.

I like math because math is a cool subject and I like very much math. The questions. The questions make math cool. I don't like spelling. Because is too boring. spelling is very important. Besides math I like reading. I have many books at home. I like scary stories. The scary story read is Goosebumps. When I go to school I am going to read about the earth.

TENNESSEE

I would like to go to TN. I want to go see my family because I don't like Chicago. I would like to see my family because I miss them. I also like to see the boy who use to be my boyfriend. His name is Osmel. I would like to go to the zoo but the one in TN.

DISNEY WORLD, By Johnsha J.

It started with my birthday. I did nothing for my birthday. Then a few days after, my mom told me that we were going to Disney World. Then I started to

pack my clothes. Before we left she gave me my i.d. card. Then we got on the plane and flew to Florida. When we got there my mom met this lady. She had a daughter named Kaley. Kaley she was 7 years old. She was very fun to hang out with but was also weird because she acted like a dog. Then we went to our hotel. When we got inside we watched t.v. because it was a rainstorm. The rainstorm lasted for 10-15 min. We went to Epcot and got on a driving ride. We went on it two times. The second time we got stuck. We were on the ride stuck in the rain. We were soaked after we got off. When we got off we went back to the hotel and I changed into my swimsuit and went swimming. I had a nice time.

JOURNAL, By Khadijah B.

March 29, 2005: A Malady-Sickness or Other Symptom of Poor Health

Every year when I go to camp I go for two weeks and we have to do stuff at camp and one of the things we have to do quiet time. For quiet time we right to our family and when I right to my mom it makes me feel sad because I want to go home. Then when she rights back it is so sad. But we stay there for five days and we see are parents. It feels good to see your mom so she asked me was I ever nostalgic and I said no.

March 30, 2005: Pickle, a Tricky Situation

Yesterday my mom was very mad because this man had hit her car. When she asked him what was he doing when he hit the car he said none of your business and then my mom walk away. So then when the police came the man said that he was talking on the cell phone and the phone drop and he tried to get it. My mom said why would you do that then the police officer told my mom to appease. Then she was like you hit me and that's not good because my mom said that she had to be at a wedding and she was late.

March 31, 2005: Accord

Yesterday at my sisters house my sister and her husband was arguing because they didn't know what to do for my nieces birthday so they were not listen to me. I was telling them that the baby was sleep but they weren't listen and then when they finally came to a accord, the baby was woke and I had to put her back to sleep. So when me Justin and Jala went to the store they were arguing to about what they were going to buy for her. So they came to accord and we all bought her a big kiss. Today me and my mom were in a argument in we bolf came to a accord and bought my niece a baby hat with her name on it.

April 12, 2005: Happy B-day De-De

Today is my cousin's birthday and were taking her out to eat so she can feel happy because she has been very mad lately. We want her to feel better she has a lot I mean a lot of angry. Today when I saw her she said todays my b-day Yea me (clapping). So I was like she must be very happy that it's her birthday. I gave her a big big gift and the gift was a huge sponge bob. She is in love with sponge bob.... and when you press his nose it said happy B-day De-De.

X-BOX, By Tyrone B.

I wanted a X-Box for my birthday. But they got me something else. Then they got me two games that I didn't want. I was mad and said "You can take these games back." So they said "Fine but you will not get a X-Box." I got up and walked outside. Then I said to my mom and dad I was sorry.

SUMMARY OF "NOT OUR PROBLEM," A Tale from Burma and Thailand, by Zuleyka A.

The King and his Adviser are eating. A drop of honey fell on the windowsill. And the honey causes a fight and the whole country is involved in the fight. The honey fell and the fly ate the honey; the gecko ate the fly and the cat ate the gecko. More and more people got involved. The king kept saying, "Never mind it's not our problem. He said this because he was lazy and maybe he thought he didn't have to deal with it.

If my brother broke something, it won't be my problem. An example where someone I know has thought something is their problem is when I need a little help with my homework, my tutor helps me with it.

ANNA AND THE BAKER, By Fermin E.

I read a story about Anna and the baker. Anna always smells the baker's bread. And the baker didn't like that. She always smells the odor of the bread. All the people were laughing because the baker was complaining. He went to the judge and she said she will think what she is going to do. She decided to have a trial. The judge decided Anna should give 100 silver coins to the baker. Then the baker counted all the coins. Then the judge gave it back to Anna. They are even.

BLACK COUNTRIES, by Remi E.

A country I would like is Africa because there is some interesting place there because of culture. Nigeria is a country in Africa in the west of Africa. The ladies were weaves. The men in Nigeria dress African looking.

All the black countries I know: Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Egypt, Nigeria, Niger, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Chad, Sudan, South Africa, Kenya, Uganda, Guinea, Zimbabwe, Jamaica, Haiti, Cuba, Ghana, Senegal, The Gambia, Madagascar, Mauritania, Botswana, American Blacks, Trinidad and Tobago, Black Brazilians, Rwanda, Djibouti.

FAVORITE SPORTS, by Remi E.

My favorite sports are track and field and swimming and I watch tennis. I want to practice track and field and swimming because I want to be in the Olympics. I want to be in the 100 meters and the 200 meters. I will like to practice the hurdles. The Olympics happens ever four years. During the four years I want to practice track and swimming and find something to do with my self until it's time for the Olympics.

I LIKE MATH, by Fabricio S.

I like math because math is a cool subject. The best thing I like doing is fractions. I like math because you have to add, subtract, multiply, and divide. When I do math problems it is cool because you have to figure out the answer and check it because if you don't check it you might get on F on that problem or maybe you might get an A. When I got my report card in math I got an A. That's why I like math very much.

KARATE, by Remi E.

In karate I practice forms and different kinds of things. They have tournaments. I was in a tournament and I won a third place trophy. My family were so happy. They have picnics. You can go swimming and you can play soft ball.