

42<sup>nd</sup> Annual YSU

# ENGLISH FESTIVAL 2020

**VIRTUAL  
EDITION**

*Festival of  
Writing*

## FEATURING

**Rich Wallace and Sandra Neil Wallace**  
THOMAS AND CAROL GAY LECTURERS

**Rita Williams-Garcia**  
JAMES A. HOUCK LECTURER

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10<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> Grades  
Wednesday, May 13, 2020

7<sup>th</sup>–9<sup>th</sup> Grades  
Thursday, May 14, 2020 or Friday, May 15, 2020



**YOUNGSTOWN  
STATE UNIVERSITY**

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# INTRODUCTION

Without a doubt, 2020 has been the most challenging year in the forty-two-year history of the Youngstown State University English Festival. As the country and world adapted to the difficult conditions brought about by the coronavirus pandemic, the English Festival, too, had to adapt. We missed the enthusiasm of bringing thousands of young people to campus in the spring, but on short notice we were able to produce an online event that included author presentations, insight sessions on the books, fun contests for the students, and our traditional awards ceremony.

One thing that hasn't changed in 2020 is this annual publication of student writing entitled *A Festival of Writing*, whose purpose is to publicize the exemplary work that students do for the English Festival, both in reading selections on our booklist and in composing thoughtful and engaging pieces in response. This year's publication includes winning entries in all of the pre-Festival writing contests and in the poetry-writing competition held during the virtual event.

The YSU English Festival Committee congratulates those students whose works appear in these pages, and it commends the teachers and parents who have supported these young writers.

**Jeff Buchanan   Angela Messenger   Gary Salvner**

Co-Chairs of the English Festival Committee



## 2020 English Festival Booklist

### 7<sup>th</sup>–9<sup>th</sup> Grades

***Babe Conquers the World:  
The Legendary Life of  
Babe Didrikson Zaharias***

Rich Wallace and Sandra Neil Wallace

***Between the Lines: How Ernie Barnes  
Went from the Football Field to the Art Gallery\*\****

Sandra Neil Wallace

***Bound by Ice: A True North Pole Survival Story\****

Sandra Neil Wallace and Rich Wallace

***Gone Crazy in Alabama***

Rita Williams-Garcia

***One Crazy Summer***

Rita Williams-Garcia

***The Graveyard Book***

Neil Gaiman

***Hey, Kiddo\****

Jarrett J. Krosoczka

***Flying Lessons & Other Stories***

Ellen Oh

### 10<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> Grades

***Between the Lines: How Ernie Barnes  
Went from the Football Field to the Art Gallery\*\****

Sandra Neil Wallace

***Bound by Ice: A True North Pole Survival Story\****

Sandra Neil Wallace and Rich Wallace

***Wrestling Sturbridge***

Rich Wallace

***Jumped***

Rita Williams-Garcia

***Shadow and Bone***

Leigh Bardugo

***Hey, Kiddo\****

Jarrett J. Krosoczka

***Dreamland Burning***

Jennifer Latham

***Long Way Down***

Jason Reynolds

\*indicates a title common to both levels

\*\*bonus book – not required reading for Festival attendance, may not be substituted for one of seven required reading books.  
May be used for Candace Gay Memorial Essay Contest, Jeremy Salvner Music Contest, Festival Art contest, and/or Graphic Essay Contest.

# 2020

## CANDACE GAY MEMORIAL ESSAY PROMPT

A how-to guide is a kind of process description that explains how to carry out a task. It gives a sequence of steps and uses both headings (possibly including bullet points) and explanations to give precise instructions for how to accomplish something.

For this year's Candace Gay Memorial Essay, choose one or more books from this year's Festival booklist that could be developed into a "how-to" guide(s), and write an essay explaining what process or task the book might serve to instruct and why the book fits that subject well. For example, a book might explain how to handle peer-pressure, how to develop healthy relationships or avoid poor ones, or how to live with and love an addicted family member. Or, less seriously, a book might explain how to get along with people who have been dead for hundreds of years, how to make the Pro Football Hall of Fame for something other than playing football, or how to learn all about your family yet still like them.

Still not sure how to write a great entry? Here's a short how-to guide for how to complete this year's Candace Gay Memorial Essay:

### How to write a Candace Gay Memorial Essay

1. Select one or more books from this year's YSU English Festival booklist that provides information that could be used in a "how-to" guide for how to accomplish something.
2. Based on that selection, identify a process (series of steps or actions) that could be explained in a how-to fashion.
3. Write an essay that explains in detail why the book you selected would be good source material for an instruction manual or "how-to" guide.
4. Include examples—teasers or excerpts—from the "how-to" guide you imagine.
5. Remember: you're not writing the "how-to" guide itself for your entry. Instead, you're explaining why your book or books provide good ideas or examples for the guide. Still, you should use examples to show off the useful material from the how-to book(s) you imagine.



**Candace McIntyre Gay**  
Mike Stoffa, Oil on canvas, 1978  
Rockport, Massachusetts

## First Prize Essays

Wednesday

Melia Lenkner

Lincoln Park Performing Arts Charter School

### How to Practice Patience (In Any Country)

"This is a glorious country to learn patience in," remarked George W. De Long of the Arctic, as he and his crew struggled to reach their desired destination by winter (page 41). *In Bound By Ice: A True North Pole Survival Story*, Sandra Neil Wallace and Rich Wallace detail

the many discoveries made on the *Jeanette's* expedition to the North Pole, but perhaps the most important thing a reader can learn from these historical accounts is how to practice patience. From the two years Emma De Long waited for news of her husband to the agonizing hours the crew spent pushing

against drifting ice, the historical figures whose stories are described in this book were experts in patience. If I were to write a how-to guide on practicing patience, I would find their accounts to be a valuable source of support.

To begin this how-to guide, it would be best to draw from the most common



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approach to patience portrayed in *Bound by Ice*, especially observable in the crew of the *Jeannette*: keeping oneself distracted. It is easy for a reader to accept that a long, tedious trip to the Arctic would require patience, and a reader might be more likely to take advice that is offered by those who have experienced such a thing first hand. If I were to write a how-to guide, I would cite examples of the crew's distractions to prove the importance of taking breaks in situations that require patience, as in the following excerpt:

"The first approach to practicing patience is to take breaks from your work and find activities to keep yourself occupied. The two-year expedition to the North Pole was tedious for the crew of the *Jeannette*, but they found ways to pass the time while they waited for the ice to break, the weather to change, or the ship to reach its destination. On holidays, the crew of the *Jeannette* put on performances of music and poetry to distract themselves from the monotony of their expedition. However, these departures from their daily duties were not exclusive to holiday celebration. De Long himself emphasized the importance of daily participation in sports and games on their Arctic expedition: 'Were it not for our daily walking exercise of two hours I fear we should stagnate,' he wrote (page 53). If you find yourself in a situation requiring patience, you may find that it is much easier to be patient if you have some way to occupy yourself."

While the crew successfully distracted themselves for much of the journey, this strategy did not work forever. A good how-to guide would require more than one step anyway, in case the first step isn't enough to address the reader's situation. Fortunately, *Bound by Ice* provides examples of another approach: several people described in the book learn patience by focusing on the reason for their journey. Some of the men found it easier to deal with the hardships when they remembered the end goal of obtaining information and discovering land. In this part of the how-to guide, I would focus on a man who used this technique the most effectively:

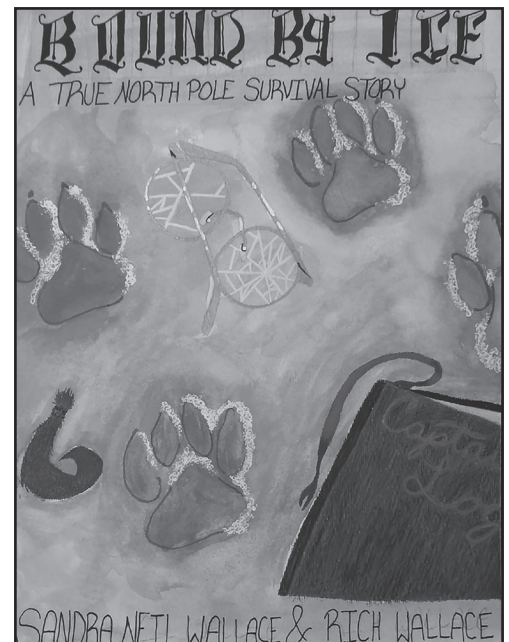
"In extremely stressful or long-lasting situations, it may be more difficult to remain patient. If distractions aren't enough to help you practice patience, it is best to remind yourself of your end goal. Eventually, the crew of the *Jeannette* found that their usual distractions were no longer effective at fighting boredom. However, one crew member was the exception: Raymond Newcomb, who reportedly overcame the monotony of the trip with his 'intense focus on his work as the ship's taxidermist and naturalist,'" (page 50). Perhaps you don't have a passion for taxidermy at your disposal, but focusing on the end goal of your patience (i.e., recording and observing the creatures of the Arctic) can help you remember that it will be worth it in the end."

These two approaches to patience are both good examples of how to stay patient on a journey, but this how-to guide would need to address a variety of different situations in order to be useful. *Bound by Ice* includes first-hand advice from Emma Wotton De Long as to how she coped with her husband's expedition. While paraphrasing her might get the message across, I think that it would be best to include an exact quotation from her in the guide, as follows:

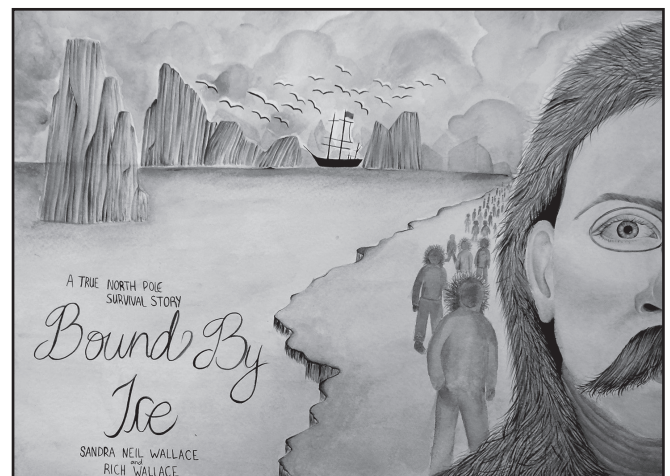
"Emma, while waiting for news of the crew, wrote 'letters to nowhere' and sent them on ships in the hope that they might reach her husband. In one such letter, she reveals how she remained patient in his absence: 'I have made it a point not to be affected by any newspaper reports I read, as I reason they know no more about your whereabouts than I do, and therefore I will hope for the best,' she wrote (page 64). George W. De Long described Emma as 'the truest [wife] that man ever had,' and it is clear that she was an expert in patience (page 35). As she states, practicing patience is much easier if you try to remain

grounded. It may be tempting to give into fantasies, but this will only serve to make you more restless. Instead, it is best to take Emma's advice and focus on the facts rather than speculation."

Perhaps the Arctic is a glorious country in which to learn patience, but not everyone can take a trip to the North Pole for a lesson. Luckily, George W. De Long and his crew were able to obtain this lesson for us at the Pole, so *Bound by Ice* is full of sage advice on how to practice patience. If I were to write a how-to guide on the topic, the experience of the historical figures described in *Bound by Ice* would serve as a valuable resource.



**Hon. Mention: Caydence Golias**  
Grade 9, Niles McKinley HS, Mr. Ries



**Hon. Mention: Jayne Seele** Grade 11, Blackhawk HS, Ms. Steppe

Thursday/Friday

Megan M. Ickes  
Greenville Junior/Senior High School

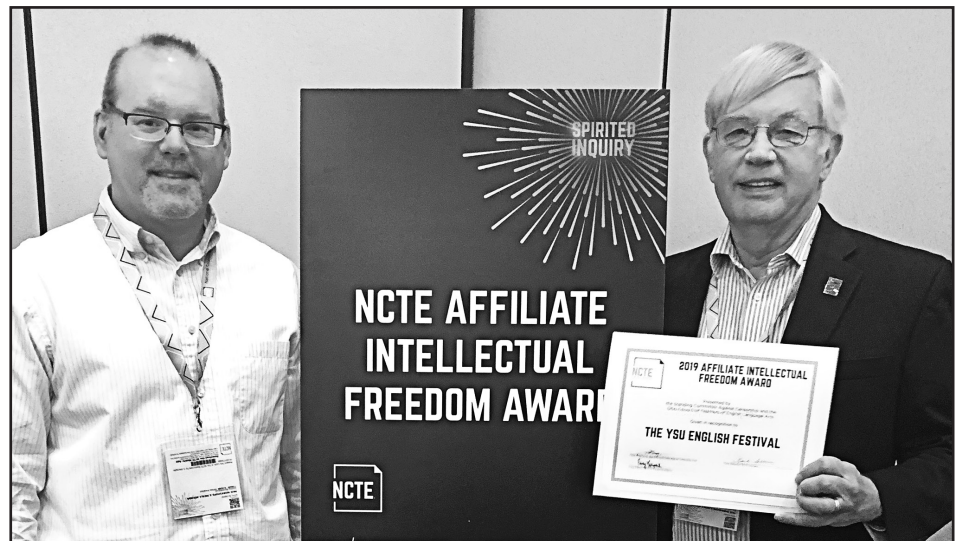
## How to Conquer Fears

Throughout life, fears often interfere with people achieving their dreams, as they can be overwhelming and extremely difficult to overcome. In *The Graveyard Book*, Bod Owens is faced with several dangerous and terrifying fears that he must overcome to survive. Delphine Gaither, from *One Crazy Summer*, is faced with less life-threatening fears, but nevertheless fears she must overcome. These captivating novels provide the ideal information required to write "The Ultimate Step-by-Step Guide to Conquering Your Fears."

Reflection can be an essential part of overcoming fears. It is so important that "The Ultimate Step-by-Step Guide to Conquering Your Fears" uses this skill multiple times throughout different steps. The first step of the process would be, "Realize you have conquered fears that have seemed just as terrifying, before." This step of the how-to guide originates from Bod's encounter with the Indigo Man. At the time when Bod was forced to face this creature of the Sleer, he was petrified. However, he soon was able to push through his fear and that alone defeated the Indigo Man. This situation taught Bod that fear is only as big as it is made out to be. The young boy reflects on and utilizes this lesson later in the novel when he is faced with his biggest fear, surviving the man who killed his family. In addition to step one, step three also uses reflection. Step three focuses on assessing the reader of the guide's potential, by reflecting on the reader's ability to do anything they can dream of, as long as they have faith in themselves. This is an absolutely crucial step and is well supported by Bod's guardian, Silas. When Bod felt that he would rather be safe than face his fear of the man trying to kill him, Silas reminded him, "You are alive, Bod. That means you have infinite potential. You can do anything, dream anything. If you change the world,

the world will change" (Gaiman 179). When Bod realized his potential, he was able to fight back against Jack, the man trying to kill him, and conquer his biggest fear.

possible, for you." This step is backed up by both novels. Bod finds his support through his childhood friend, Scarlett, as well as graveyard friends and family. Delphine finds the support she needs



**English Festival Co-Chairs, Jeff Buchanan and Gary Salvner, receive the Intellectual Freedom Award from the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE).**

When difficult times are upon people what they often need is strength. They find this strength through coping mechanisms as well as support from those around them. The Gaither sisters inspired step two of the guide, which focuses on blocking out negative thoughts and feelings that cause the reader to doubt their abilities. Delphine describes the sisters' coping mechanism as their "la-la-la song" (Williams 90). The young girls sing this song when they feel like they need a way to block out the bad in their lives. Their song provides an ideal example of how to take something negative and channel it into something positive and uplifting. Step four instructs the reader to find support in those around them. The guide advises the reader to

"Surround yourself with those who will create the best support system

through her younger sisters and newfound friend, Hirohito. Both children relied on support from these people when they needed encouragement to be brave and face the fears that were holding them back.

The last push needed to conquer fear is often confidence. This is why step five of the guide states, "Gain confidence from all the past steps you have completed!" This step is shown in both Bod and Delphine's experiences. Bod uses his support from the ghosts who live in the graveyard to help him have the confidence to fight back against The Jacks of All Trades, who were out to kill him. Delphine uses her past experiences of getting over her fear of Cecile, her mother, as well as the support of her two sisters to stand up to her mother and express how the girls have been feeling. She also uses the support



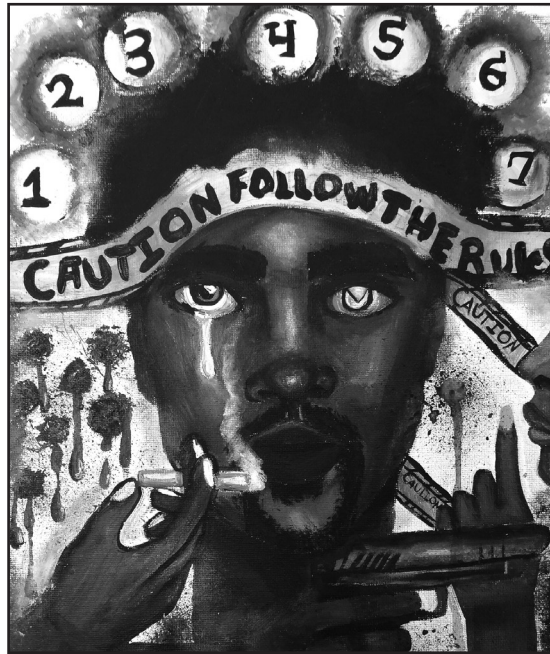
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of friends and family to have the confidence to stand and recite a poem in front of a large number of people at a rally. These examples of confidence come right before the character must face their fears, which is the reason step five of the guide would be placed right before the final step, conquering the fear. The last step, step six, reminds the reader that once they conquer the fear they can move on to the next chapter

of their life. Both children were able to move into the next seasons of their lives after they were brave enough to face their fears. Delphine was able to get to know the mother she had been longing to know and Bod left the graveyard in search of a life of adventure.

Bod Owens and Delphine Gaither are able to conquer numerous fears through reflecting on past experiences,

using coping mechanisms, realizing their potential, depending on support from others, and gaining confidence in themselves. The strategies these two young adults use, throughout the novels, to conquer fear, provide the optimal information and inspiration to create "The Ultimate Step-by-Step Guide to Conquering Your Fears."



**Hon. Mention: Leah Tanise Sydney**  
**Grade 12, Valley Christian HS, Dr. Watson**



**Sandra Neil Wallace and Rich Wallace, 2020 English Festival,**  
**Candace Gay Memorial Guest Lecturers**

## Second Prize Essays

Wednesday

Izabella Gault

Greenville Junior/Senior High School

### The Nonexistent / in Team

Stick with me. You're a writer, living decades into the future. There's a story you've had tucked in your back pocket for years now, and you know you can only sit on a story for so long before you lose it. However, there's a holdup. The most sinister prediction of science fiction fatalists and crotchety baby boomers has been realized: people have become so enveloped by the glow of their techy little gadgets that their brains have shrunk, their attention spans have depleted, and they won't read any books unless they get to be part of the show. You think back to all the books humans used to enjoy, and your brain flits to one author, who seemed to have a knack for drawing readers into his stories and characters: Jason Reynolds. You do some hunting around, find his old email account, and send one out, asking how to tell stories to people who resist listening. Based on his book *Long Way Down*, it seems that Reynolds would give a concise and constructive response. Here's why.

His bio reads, "Jason Reynolds is crazy. About stories ... about you," and in his book *Long Way Down*, he makes good on that promise. By the time the reader reaches the back cover, they have flicked through Will's story, told on a backdrop of hazy pages and elevator buttons, and have, in the process, injected a bit of themselves into the story too. By physically laying out the words for the reader to interpret at their own pace, adding gaps in the verse for the reader to fill, and keeping the ending open, Jason Reynolds has proven that he is "crazy ... about you" by creating a book that intentionally counts "you" as a player in the process.

#### 1) *Write your novel like a concrete poem.*

Part of the benefit of writing this story in poetry is the fact that Jason Reynolds was able to engage the reader through the concrete design of the text. The words are printed with curious spacing, allowing the reader's physical act of reading to take part in the pacing of the story. For example, when Buck tells Will that the newest passenger, Frick, is the person who killed him, Will is stuck in a moment of horrified confusion. The words "Wait/ Wait ... wait/ Hold up./ Hold/ up." are kriss-crossed across the page as Will tries to make sense of this new detail (245). For some readers, this page would be read quickly, their eyes pinballing down the page. Others may take their time, read the spaces in the typing as gaps in speech, and absorb Will's internal dialogue slowly. That is one of the reasons Reynolds's poetry feels so personal; if a reader handles traumatic change by quickening their breath and their speech, then so will Will. If the reader takes their time to process stress, the writing allows them to pause and take breaths. By creatively pasting Will's thoughts onto the pages, Reynolds gives the readers the opportunity to add their own pacing and inflection, as an actor would. This personalization can give readers a feeling of involvement, therefore pulling them closer to the characters.

#### 2) *Don't reveal every underlying idea.*

Reynolds draws the reader into the grief and aching of Will's story by leaving gaps in the verse for the reader to fill themselves. By omitting Will's underlying idea during a spiral of thoughts, the reader is forced to guess what would have ended the sequence. For example, Will meets the ghost of his father in the elevator

and tells the reader that his father's voice is "deep," "how I figured/ Shawn's would've sounded/ someday" (205). It is not explicitly mentioned, but just the suggestion that Shawn's voice will never lower to the same adult timbre of his dad reminds Will and the reader of his murder. This is effective emotional storytelling because most people who have endured the process of grieving will know that the smallest details can trigger a reminder of a loved one's death. His dad's voice reminding Will of Shawn's death is a subtle way to include the reader into Will's thought process and to relate the reader's own potential experiences with mourning to the story. By choosing not to include every implicit thought, Reynolds heightens the drama and the emotional relatability of his story, therefore drawing the reader deeper into the story.

#### 3) *Let the reader finish the tale for you.*

The ultimate piece of reader participation Jason Reynolds wrote into *Long Way Down* is the story's open ending. After watching the murder of his brother, planning to kill the killer, and hearing the testimonies of the older generation who experienced similar tragedy, Will finally reaches the lobby of his apartment building. At this point, the ghost of his brother turns and asks "'you coming?'" and the reader is left without knowing his answer (306). Will may step out of the elevator, fueled by the "stinging fire" that fills him, brush off the tenderness that his brother's ghost brought him, and follow the third rule (303). Likewise, he may follow in the footsteps of Dickens's Ebenezer Scrooge, who was similarly visited by spirits then changed by the new perspectives they brought him, and press the button for the eighth floor. Either way, by retracing and making the

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decision for Will, Reynolds encourages the reader to ponder the choice, then come to their own conclusion. Allowing the reader to struggle through this decision not only makes *Long Way Down* a memorable read, it also encourages the reader to empathize deeply with Will, and hopefully be more able to better understand the fear-based nature of violence in the future.

If, in our aforementioned world of overstimulated brains and

understimulating stories, you received a list of tips from Jason Reynolds for writing yourself into the hearts of readers, you would find that each of his pieces of advice were mirrored in his writing in *Long Way Down*. From the flexible structure, to the methodical gaps in the verse, and to the ambiguous ending, Reynolds's story would tick all of the boxes for a book that engages readers who don't give themselves over willingly to stuffy prose and stiff

plotlines. The unfortunate fact is we may truly find ourselves in a world saturated in short bursts of information and entertainment but lacking in stories that expand world views and open up new pathways to empathy. Therefore, we must cherish and exemplify writers like Jason Reynolds, who are writing to prevent that lack.





Thursday/Friday

Irene Dong  
Canfield High School

## A How-To Guide from Two Historic Figures

Human history is defined by a select few individuals. Those people alluded to this in throwaway jokes, writings in texts, and immortalizing in paintings and sculptures, all under the same assumption; that their names are known for accomplishing extraordinary deeds, with a legacy that reaches far beyond their deaths. While becoming one of these people is anything but easy, their achievements have already laid a trail upon which future aspirers can pave roads through. Examining these historical figures, a “how-to” guide for attaining similar accomplishments can be pieced together. Two such trailblazers are George De Long and Babe Didrikson Zaharias, their legacies in Arctic exploration and women’s sports respectively, documented in books by Rich Wallace and Sandra Neil Wallace. Both texts relay their subjects’ achievements and journey there in a way which highlights why they were ultimately successful in making a difference, providing the framework for a guide on how one could do the same. Together, the books *Bound by Ice: A True North Pole Survival Story* and *Babe Conquers the World: The Legendary Life of Babe Didrikson Zaharias* can be developed into a how-to guide on how to become an influential pioneer.

As history has repeatedly shown, pioneers come from special beginnings, and both George De Long and Babe Zaharias are no exception. Notably, they made decisions during their childhood and adolescence which greatly contributed to their success later on. For example, De Long had always hungered for adventure and the type of fame an Arctic voyage would bring. As a teen, he applied for the Naval Academy, wanted to join the Civil War, and “[spen]t his spare time reading books of adventure to satisfy his almost uncontrollable longing for the sea” (S. Neil Wallace and R. Wallace 22). Meanwhile, Babe Zaharias was always determined to be best at everything she did. Dominating all the sports she played, Babe knew

from a young age her passion lay in winning competitions. Accordingly, these early starts can be translated into the beginnings of the how-to guide. As an example, it could begin with 1. Begin early. Find your passion, what you want to be known for in history. 2. Take measures to prepare and pursue that dream as soon as possible. Clearly, early birds are the ones who will soar above the rest.

Furthermore, both *Bound by Ice* and *Babe Conquers the World* emphasize the importance of support and preparation. Rather straightforwardly, Babe Zaharias practiced. Her golf teacher, Stan Kertes said, “She hit ball after ball until her hands began to bleed, and I had to...finally beg her to stop and rest” (S. Neil Wallace and R. Wallace 155). Meanwhile, George De Long prepared through careful planning of each factor. The supplies, crew, and type of data they would aim to collect all fell under scrutiny. In fact, were it not for the persevering men recruited, all of them would have perished and the journey ending up accomplishing nothing. Melville’s leadership skills, Danenhower’s seafaring knowledge, and Dr. Ambler’s medical expertise allowed some members to survive, retrieve crucial scientific records, and disprove Peterman’s false assertions. De Long and Babe Zaharias also both had emotional anchors in their beloved families; De Long in Emma and Sylvie, and Babe in her parents and siblings. In this section, the how-to guide could read, “Acquire the following: 1. Supplies and training, 2. People who inspire and motivate you.” Having the right training and right people, as shown, are further steps on the road to success.

Finally, response to obstacles must be examined. Both Babe Zaharias and George De Long strove to overcome their challenges no matter what, despite the sometimes-detrimental effects. Throughout Babe’s life, people claimed it was wrong and unnatural for her to be too masculine, a mental battering that has eroded the will of many women. Babe, however, endeavored to prove women could do just as well as men

in sports, despite constant attacks from sportswriters. For her goals, she was willing to make sacrifices to her reputation. In contrast, De Long and company faced the monumentally daunting task of trekking back to civilization across miles of ice. Evidenced by how he refused to part with their scientific records, De Long’s mission was always to further mankind’s knowledge of the Arctic. This meant prioritizing the “two metal cases that held...Jeanette’s records” above carrying more food and clothing, possibly the difference between life and death (S. Neil Wallace and R. Wallace 141). In the how-to guide, these ordeals convert to “Never lose sight of your goals. Persistence is key.” Perhaps tragically, sacrifices will have to be made for the sake of achievement.

Having considered all this, it becomes clear Sandra Neil Wallace and Rich Wallace have written *Bound by Ice* and *Babe Conquers the World* in a way that captures how people make history. George De Long and Babe Zaharias accomplished their ambitions in many different, yet similar ways, providing a varied basis for future generations to follow in their footsteps. Thanks to Babe’s determination, she became Woman Athlete of the 20th Century, while De Long’s records provided data valuable to both future Arctic explorers of the time and research today. A how-to guide of how to become a pioneer like them seems a fitting result of their work. However, the sacrifices they made and challenges they went through mean this life is not for everyone. Some will buckle under the strain. Some will not want it in the first place. Not everyone is willing to become a luminary of history. But for those that are, a how-to guide based on those books can assist, because there will always be people willing to try. The how-to guide will simply end with: “Conclusion: Remember; life is short. Make sure you spend your time wisely and know how you want to live it.”

Thursday/Friday

Emma Harris

Maplewood High School

## Capturing a Dream

The book *Flying Lessons and Other Stories* has many individual stories included in it. All the stories carry a similar theme. Many of the stories are about teenagers or kids that are going through a difficult period of time in their life. Some of the issues it covers are self-identity, family problems, and more. *Flying Lessons and Other Stories* would be a good source to make a how-to guide because it contains many examples of characters working step by step to reach their goals.

With the content inside the book, it would create a great how-to guide on capturing dreams. When trying to pursue or "capture" a dream, knowing exactly what someone wants is key. To capture a dream someone must know what they want and care about. It must be clear what the dream is. An example of this in the book is from the short story "Sol Painting, Inc." The main character Merci wants to take over her dad's painting company when she is older and expand it. It is her dream. "I'm going to take over his company one day and turn it into an empire" (43). She has wanted that dream her whole life and cares about it very much. There are more steps on a how-to guide on capturing a dream.

Another step on the how-to guide is practice and sacrifice. These things are essential when it comes to achieving goals. People need to practice and sacrifice to make their goals come true. Nothing is easy and many have to work hard for things. In the short story "How to Transform an Everyday, Ordinary Hoop Court into a Place of Higher Learning and You at the Podium" the main character's dream is to one day become a professional basketball player and he will stop at nothing to achieve his dream. He struggles to keep his determination, but he snaps back ready to keep working for his dream. "When reality finally settles in, the lazy part of your brain will try and sweet-talk

you back to sleep: Maybe we could, you know, skip the Muni trip today ... go ball at the park instead. There's always tomorrow. Reach into your own skull and smack this part of your brain upside the head" (5). Not only does it require practice, but it also requires sacrifice. To sacrifice means to give something up in exchange for something better. In the short story "Flying Lessons," it has a great example of sacrifice. Santosh the main character sacrifices his free time and fun to achieve his dream. He wants to prove that even though he isn't good at sports or popular he is still the best when it comes to school and intelligence. " ... when I'm valedictorian and I go to Harvard and I have a real life while they look back and realize that I was the cool kid all along and they were the losers" (142). Santosh doesn't have any childlike memories because he sacrificed them to be the very best in school.

The final step on the how-to guide on capturing someone's dream that is

present in the book is to be courageous and take chances. To accomplish a dream someone must learn to get out of their comfort zones. In the short story "How to Transform an Everyday, Ordinary Hoop Court into a Place of Higher Learning and You at the Podium," the main character branches out in a new environment to learn new tactics and ways to be better at basketball. It is his dream to be a professional player. He starts playing at the new city gym with men much older than him. They don't let him play until one day he is challenged. He dominates the court and proves he is meant to be there. It was very nerve-racking for him to play in front of all those people and not mess up, but he had to take a chance and get out of his comfort zone to prove he is the best: "It takes a minute to realize what's happening. They're letting you play. And if you mess up, it's over" (16).

Another example in the book about a character taking a chance is in the



short story "The Difficult Path." In this story, a young peasant girl named Lingsi learns how to read and write, even though it is rare for women to learn those skills. She is afraid she is going to be forced to wed the prince of the kingdom she works for. She thinks he is disgusting and would rather die than marry him. One day when the palace was raided by pirates, Lingsi is given the chance to leave her old life and travel with the pirates. They want her to come aboard their ship because she can read and write. Lingsi takes a chance

and abandons her old life to live a new exciting one on the water. "Can you read these?" Tianyi asked me. I nodded. She looked at me, her eyes sparkling with an inner fire. 'Teach me,' she said, 'and you can stay'. So I did" (38). Lingsi followed her dream of creating her own path by leaving behind her old life and taking a chance on something new. This book displays many scenarios that the characters must get out of their comfort zone.

Many characteristics of the how-to guide are present in the book *Flying*

*Lessons and Other Stories*. Knowing what someone wants in their life is a great start to capture a dream and is shown in the book. Many examples of practice and sacrifice are shown in the book. The book has many characters that have to go out of their comfort zone, which is essential when it comes to achieving a goal. The novel *Flying Lessons and Other Stories* is a great resource on creating a how-to guide showing how to capture a dream.

### Third Prize Essays

Wednesday

Amelia Kovach

Sharpsville Area High School

### How to Tell Stories to Those Who Don't Want to Learn

Any task, large or small, is never accomplished entirely by one person. Commonly, a network of people supports and works towards a singular goal. Successful teamwork is a complicated skill that is not easily taught but can be demonstrated through masterful examples of it. If a "how-to" guide were written, it would be absolutely filled with excellent examples of teamwork. Sandra Neil Wallace and Rich Wallace's *Bound by Ice* and *Shadow and Bone* by Leigh Bardugo both reveal a three-step, intricate process of teamwork: creating, functioning, and succeeding realistically. As "how-to" guides, these books would expertly portray the process of assembling and cohesively working as a group.

A team depends primarily and exclusively on the people on it. Successful teams are completely compiled of hardworking, persistent people. George De Long assembled a phenomenal team for his mission, as the crewmen on the *Jeanette* described in *Bound by Ice* clearly demonstrated these traits. These men were more than willing to die for their mission. An excellent example of this is Nindemann, who, when the ship was leaking, "stood in knee-deep water, filling the cracks with

oakum and tallow ... Nindemann never seemed to tire or feel pain, and the captain called him 'as hard-working as a horse.' With the *Jeanette* in danger of sinking, he and fellow carpenter Alfred Sweetman didn't rest for days" (58-59).

Similarly, the Grisha are an elite, powerful group of summoners, healers, warriors, and fabricators in *Shadow and Bone*. Each group of Grisha works together in the masterful scheme of the Darkling, and each use their abilities to protect and serve their country. From childhood, Grisha spend years learning to harness their abilities, and are dedicated to their craft throughout the course of their lives. They are just as hardworking and dedicated as De Long's team, demonstrating this step as well.

Additionally, a team includes those who each bring forth his or her own unique set of skills. An important value of teamwork essential to its success is acknowledging how each member's contributions take part in accomplishing tasks, and this is another step in the process of teamwork. This is very apparent in *Bound by Ice*, as each member on the *Jeanette* had their own assigned titles, listed before the table of contents. Each member was completely

committed to their assigned tasks. They had a surgeon, a cook, a taxidermist, a navigator, dog drivers, and coal heavers, to name only a few. A crew of thirty-three men managed to cohesively and seamlessly work together throughout many tribulations because they recognized their part in the team.

This is just as prevalent in *Shadow and Bone*. Genya explains that Grisha "become members of the Second Army. Many are sent to the great houses to serve with noble families, or they're sent to serve with the First Army on the northern or southern front, or near the Fold. The best are chosen to remain at the Little Palace, to finish their education and join the Darkling's service," (131). This novel exemplifies the reality of a team that few actually recognize: Not everyone can be a sun summoner, but, alongside their teammates, can be just as powerful. Alina cannot defeat the Darkling without the Grisha on her side because they are immensely powerful. If there is even a sliver of hope for defeating the Darkling, Alina needs to lead the Grisha to victory.

Unfortunately, many teams struggle in accomplishing their main goal. Disheartening as it may seem, De



## A FESTIVAL OF WRITING 2020

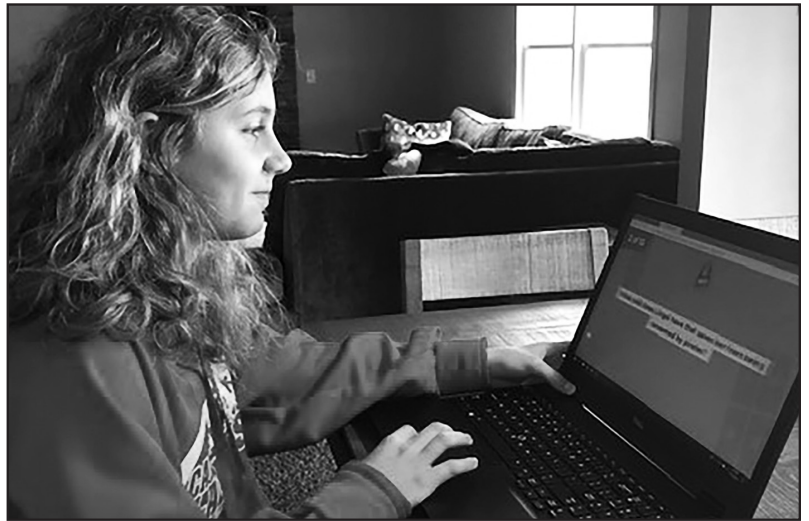
Long's team never found the riches they longed for. These books encapsulate the beautiful thing about teamwork: brotherhood. A team such as De Long's equally shares the burden of failure and converts it into triumph. Although their main goal was not accomplished, the crew managed to make a valuable contribution to the Arctic exploration. "De Long's detailed observations of weather, temperature, astronomy, ocean depths, animals and plants, and the westward drift of the ice pack revealed just how much the Jeannette expedition did accomplish" (168). The final step of teamwork is evaluating and growing from the journey, and the survivors of the Arctic expedition did so. Although most of his friends and teammates died, George Melville ultimately recognized its true accomplishments by saying, "If men must die, why not in the honorable pursuit of knowledge?" (169).

The Grisha are commanded by an odious, manipulating leader and will never demolish the Shadow Fold under his rule, so it seems as though they will continue to fail at accomplishing their main goal. While they ultimately choose not to join Alina, there is still hope for Ravka. "Is that the future you want? A world of darkness? A world remade in his image ... It's not too late to stop him! Help me!" Alina begs (346). When Alina made this declaration, the original plan of demolishing the Shadow Fold was

a predisposed failure, but it served as the bridge to the Grisha's next success, if they chose to join her. Alina is the brilliant beacon that shines in the Darkling's cruel world. Once the Grisha realistically evaluate their options, they will undoubtedly be drawn like moths to Alina's flame.

It is often said that failure is not an option, but, arguably, it is the best option. Although the teams in these books ultimately failed, it was necessary for their success. Many failures may contribute to even the most miniscule tasks. Realistically, a group of driven, dependable people will not reduce the number of failures, but, in the end, have

accomplished much more. Successful teamwork is more than people working together; it is a family of determined individuals who logically recognize their failures and succeed nonetheless. It is purposely crafted by including those who actively support and benefit the team. It is a group of competent people who each possess diverse skills but fit them into those of their teammates. All of these traits of teamwork are clearly displayed in *Bound by Ice* and *Shadow and Bone* and would make outstanding "how-to" guides.



**Mia Gaffney**

Canfield Village Middle School

**Thursday/Friday**

**Jennifer Tedrow**

Valley STEM+ME2 Academy

## A, B, C Delightful Life Guide

As long as you know your A, B, C's reading this life guide should be as easy as naming them. The books *Hey, Kiddo*; *One Crazy Summer*; and *The Graveyard Book* all inspire tips listed in this guide. These books portray tips about giving people space, finding a hobby, cherishing gifts, spending time with others, and the importance of the A, B, C's.

Starting with the book, *Hey, Kiddo*, one life tip would be to give space

to people when needed. Tip one is inspired by the book *Hey, Kiddo*. *Hey, Kiddo* helps display tip one because the main character, Jarrett, gives his mother space when she needs it. His mother soon realizes that she needs to have her son in her life. This ploy can assist in personal lives as well. For example, instead of continuing a fight just walking away and giving space is much more efficient. Use this tip wisely.

Tip two is to find a hobby to distract oneself from uneasy feelings. Tip two is also inspired by *Hey, Kiddo*. *Hey, Kiddo* displays the tip listed because Jarrett takes up the hobby of writing comics to hide his emotions that he feels due to not being with his mom and not knowing his dad. Tip two can help in many personal situations. Specifically, during the time of a break up finding a hobby can help distract oneself from

## A FESTIVAL OF WRITING 2020

feeling the heartbreak. Hobbies could include sports, crafting, collecting, art, astronomy, fashion, reading, writing, etc. Dangerous hobbies are not recommended. *Hey, Kiddo* does an excellent job of hinting this tip to the readers.

Tip three is to cherish anything a loved one gives oneself. This tip is inspired by *Hey, Kiddo* as well. *Hey, Kiddo* presents this tip when Jarrett's mother gives him a teddy bear. Jarrett holds the teddy bear close to his heart. The teddy bear is a small reminder of his mother. Even with something as small as a note can mean a lot. Jarrett's mother gives him the teddy bear to hold on to as she comes and goes from his life due to her addiction troubles. Cherishing the item given to oneself can spark certain memories of the loved or of childhood. Even if the loved one has not passed keeping something meaningful from them can represent love in the time of absence.

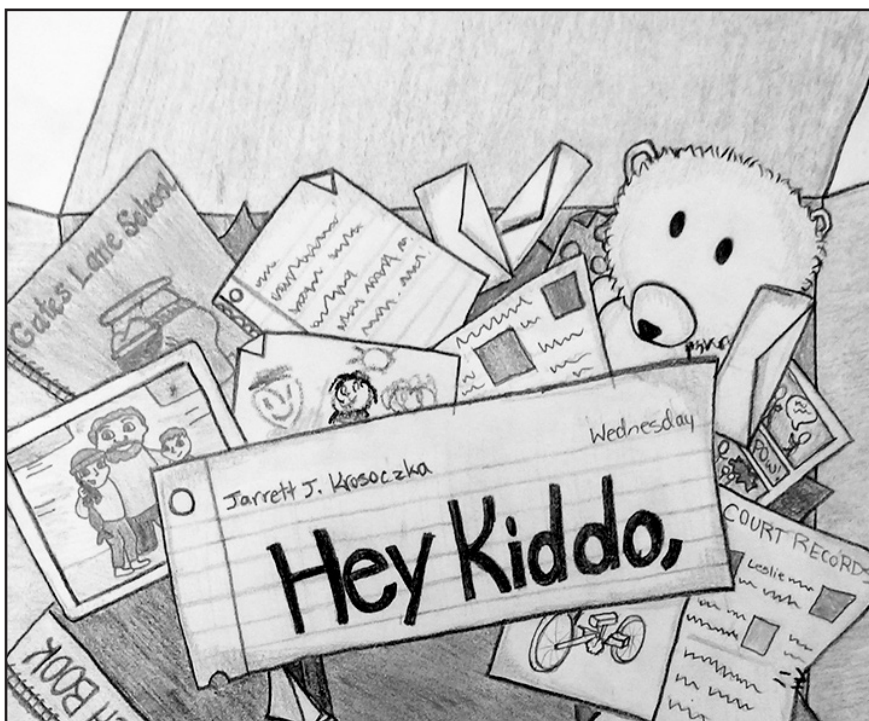
Tip four is spending a lengthy amount of time with someone can change feelings. This tip is inspired by the book, *One Crazy Summer*. *One Crazy Summer* displays this tip because after a long time with the girls' real mother they finally got the good outcome

they wanted. Fern was finally called by her real name and not just 'little girl'. At the beginning of the book their mother refused to call Fern anything but "little girl." However, by the end of the book Fern's mother calls her by her true identity. By doing this, the author proves how spending lengthy amounts of time with unfamiliar people changes feelings. For a personal example, by spending time with a person you are unfamiliar with may change the way you feel about them. *One Crazy Summer* portrays this image clearly towards the end of the book.

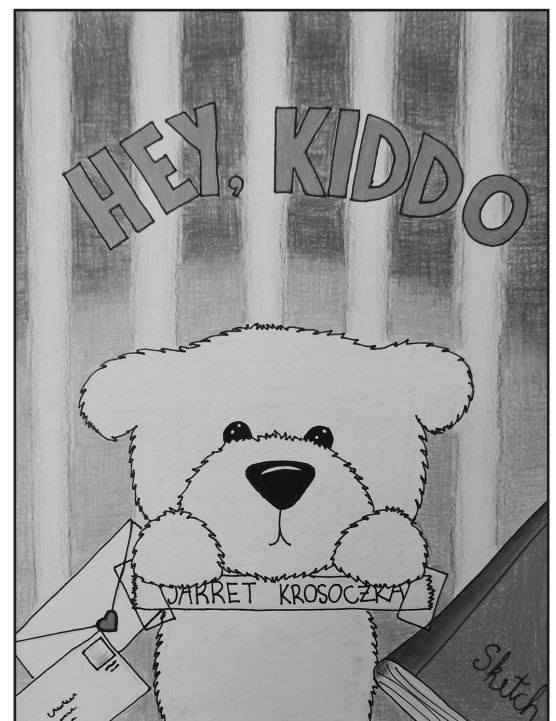
Tip five is that the *A, B, C's* is a very important concept to know. Tip five is inspired by *The Graveyard Book*. The *A, B, C's* are important because without the knowledge of this concept school, work, and life in general would be very difficult. Without knowledge of this concept school would be difficult because school is based around the idea. Without *A, B, C's* life in general is difficult because it is a part of the basic blocks of life. Without this even getting a job would be a difficult task. *A, B, C's* become a part of life at a young age for most children. *The Graveyard Book* inspires this tip because Nobody grew up with ghosts in the graveyard

who taught him the *A, B, C's* on the gravestones. By teaching him the alphabet, Nobody was able to learn how to read, speak, and learn other basic concepts. Overall, the alphabet is a very useful tool used in everyday lives. Unfortunately, some children in other countries or homeless will never get the chance at a proper schooling facility. Therefore, take advantage of knowing your *A, B, C's*.

Overall, the books *Hey, Kiddo*; *One Crazy Summer*; and *The Graveyard Book* are all useful examples of life guides. Giving people space, finding a hobby, cherishing gifts, spending time with others, and the importance of the alphabet are all tips that have a meaning and now are known. Each book gives out mass amounts of tips that can be easily selected from each book. By reading these books they can guide you through an easier life by thinking about the ideas in the book given. Picking out tips for our personal lives are as easy as *A, B, C*.



**Hon. Mention: Ava Formaini**  
Grade 9, Armstrong Jr/Sr HS, Mrs. Burkett



**Hon. Mention: Alyssa Collins**  
Grade 9, Niles McKinley HS, Mr. Ries



# GRAPHIC ESSAY CONTEST

## 2020 GRAPHIC ESSAY PROMPT

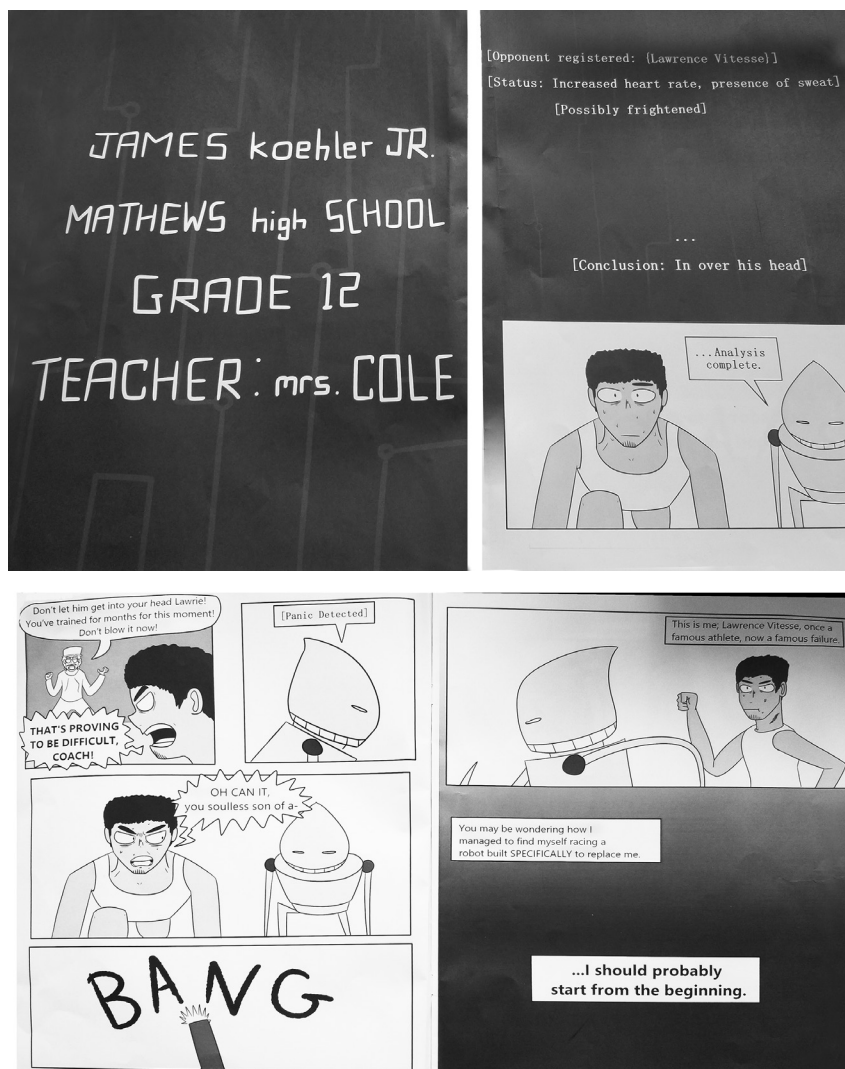
Sports writing, either fictional like *Wrestling Sturbridge* or non-fictional like *Babe Conquers the World*, has long been a staple of American culture. Create a graphic work that depicts or discusses either traditional or nontraditional athletics, athletes, and/or competition. This could be fictional (write a story featuring an athlete or athletic competition), non-fictional (a profile of an athlete or team, a report on an under-appreciated sport), a memoir (something from your own experiences with sports or athletes, whether positive or negative), or a reflection on some aspect of an athletic subject.

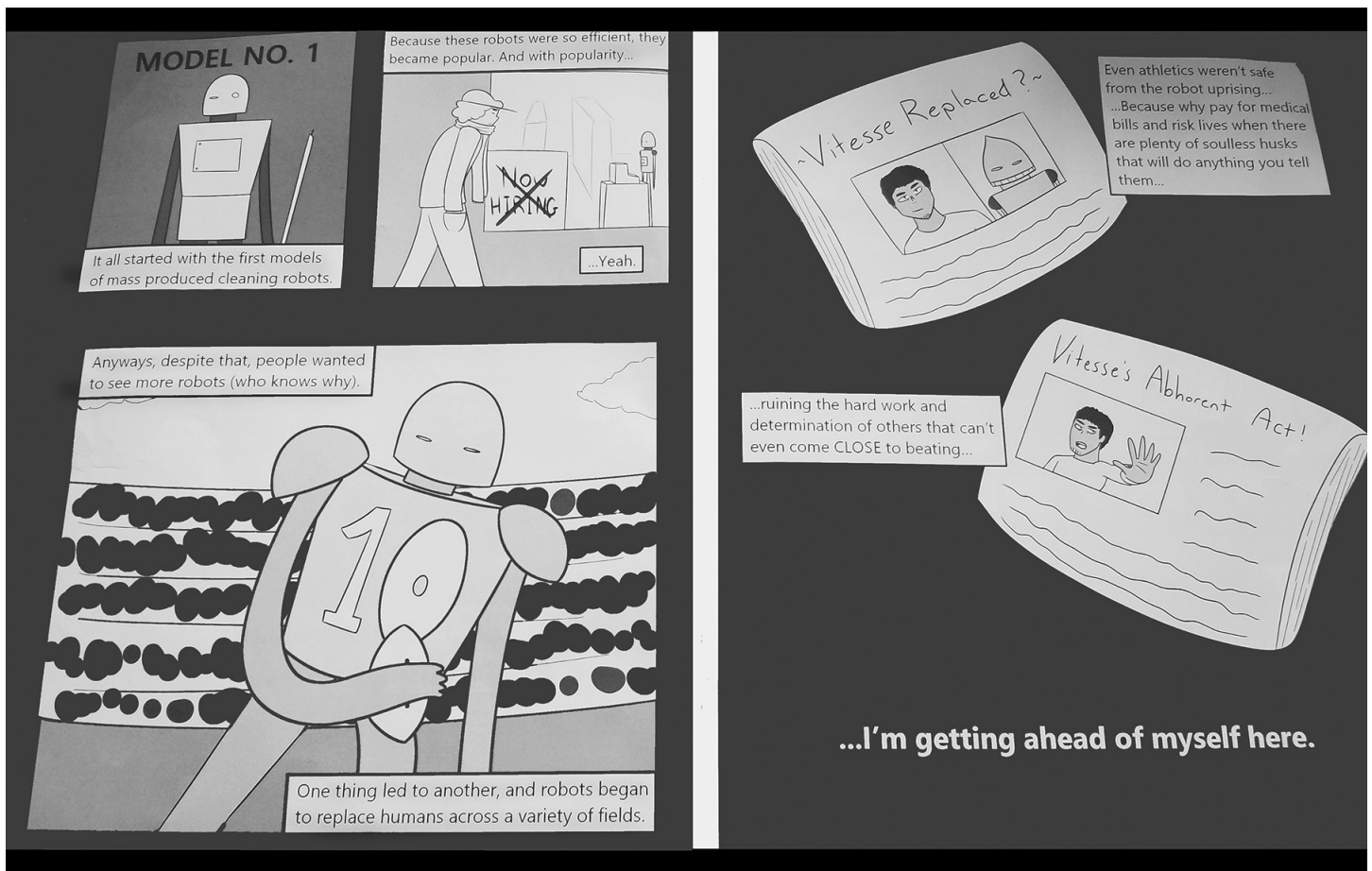
Entries should contain panels (in comic book style), which may further be arranged into tiers (rows of panels like a page from a graphic novel) and may contain both "dialogue or thought bubbles" and captions (commentary by a narrator or other non-dialogue text).

## First Prize Essays

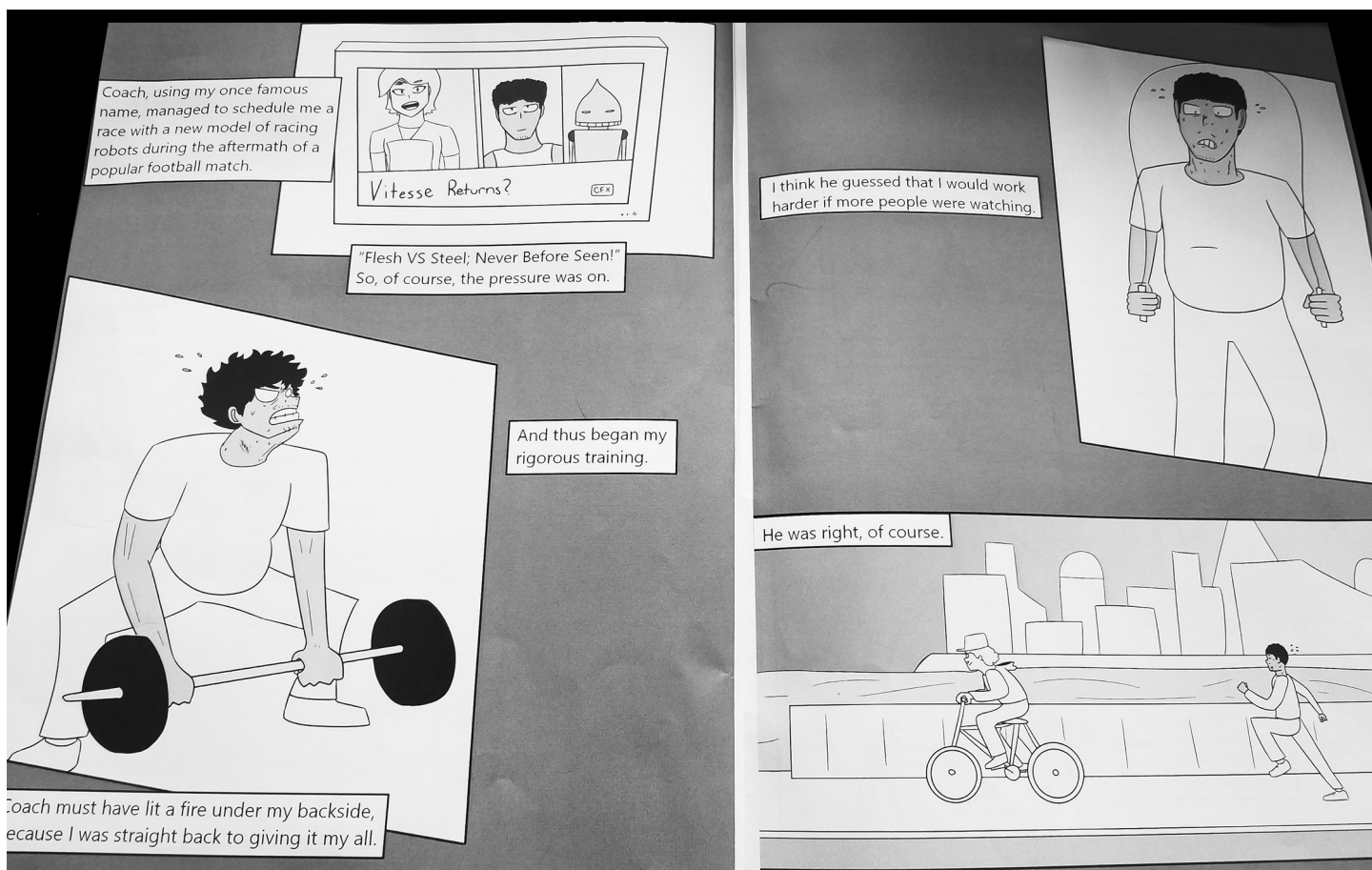
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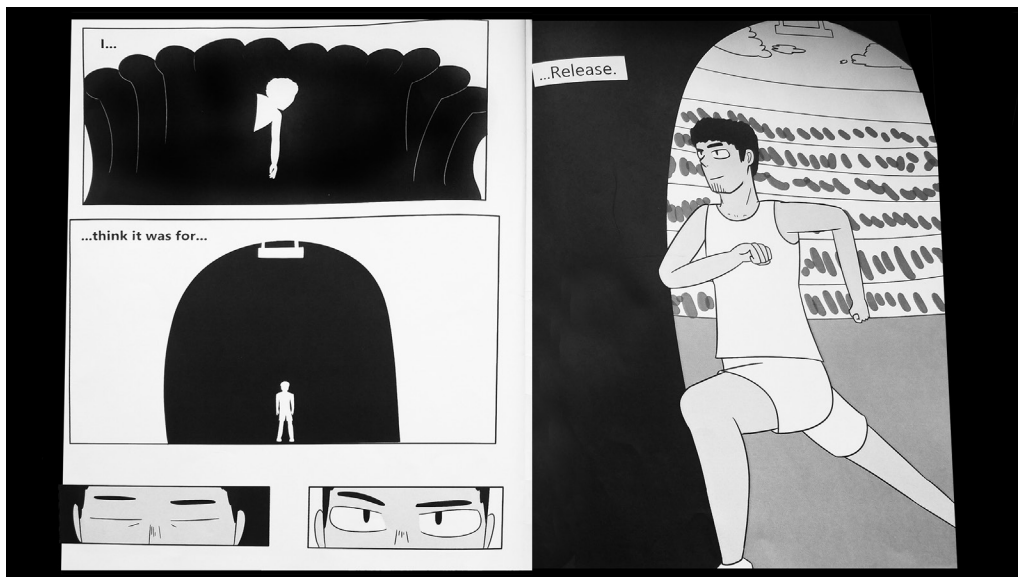
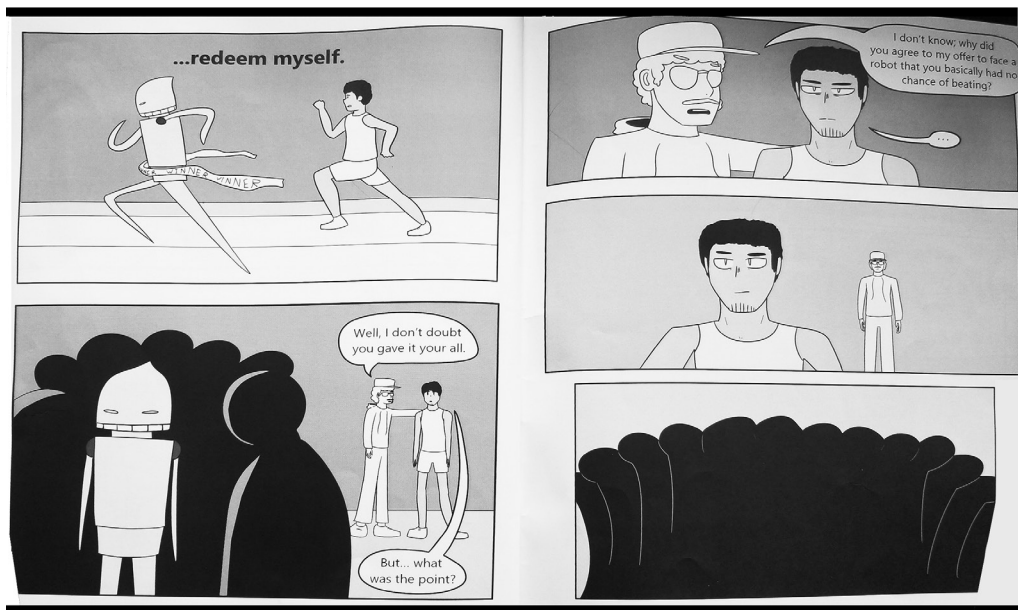
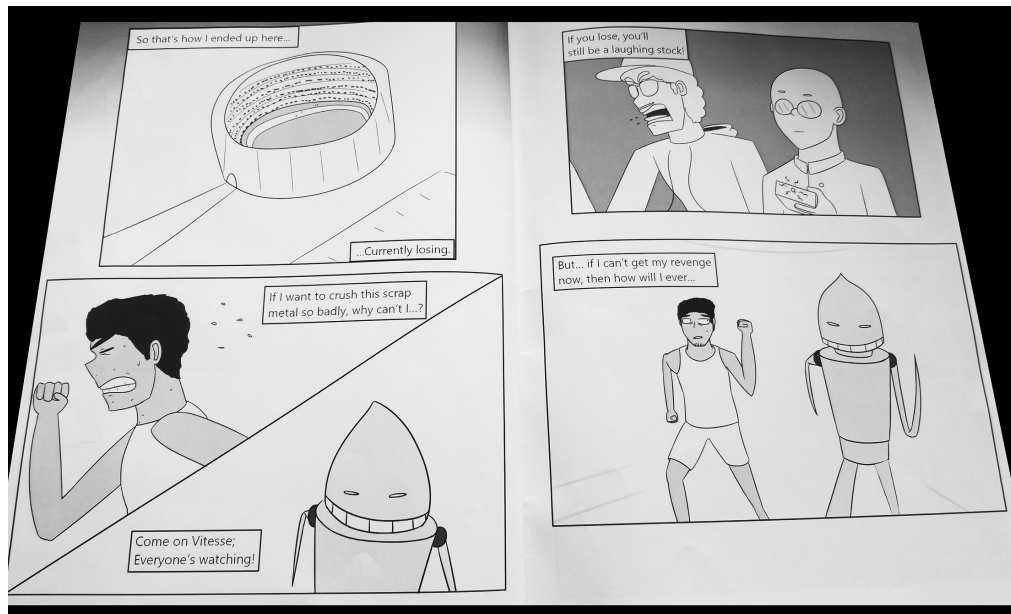
James Koehler Jr  
Matthews High School









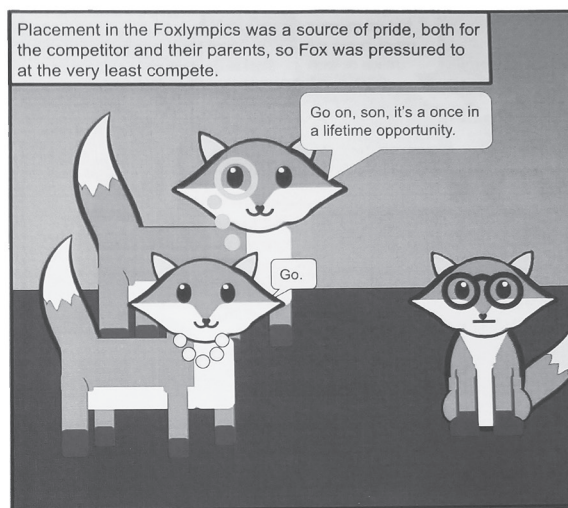
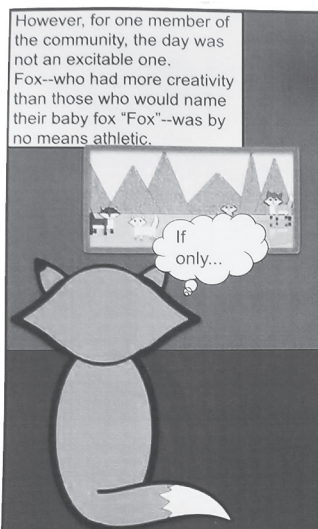
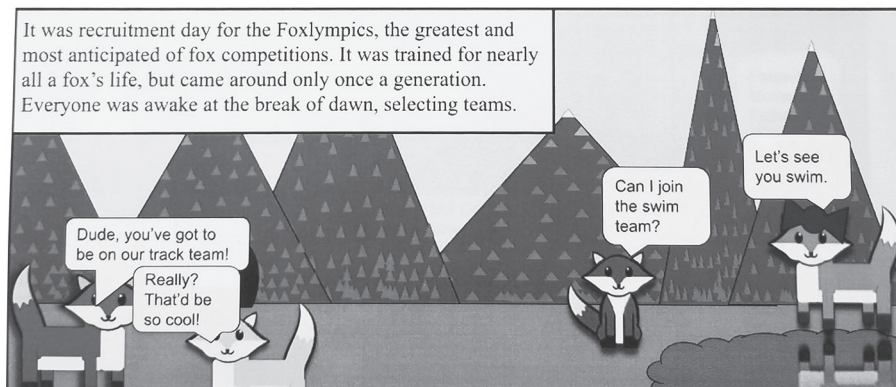




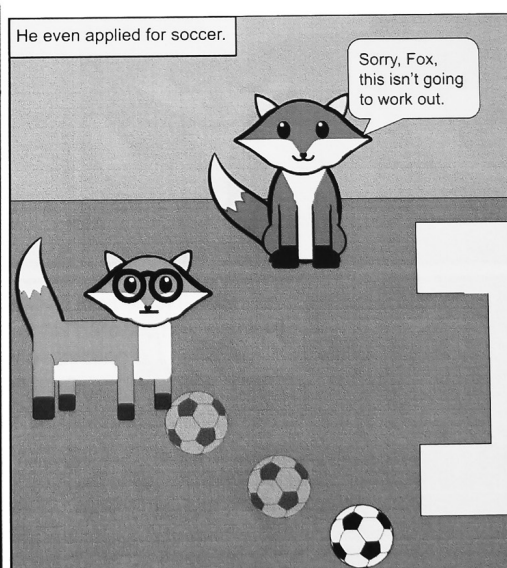
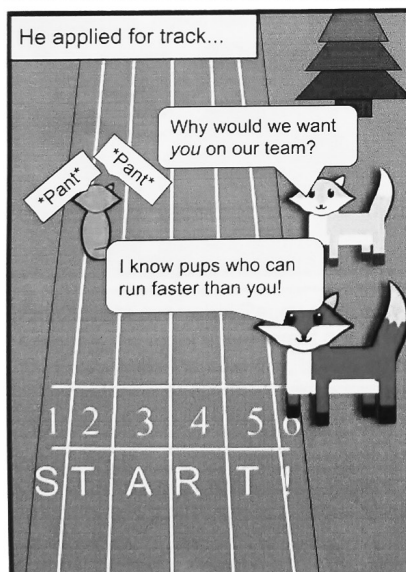
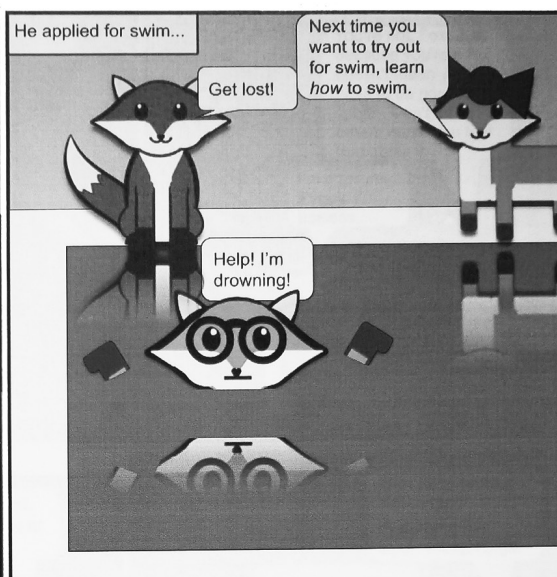
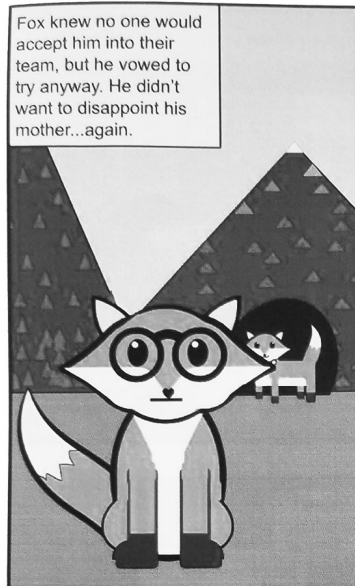
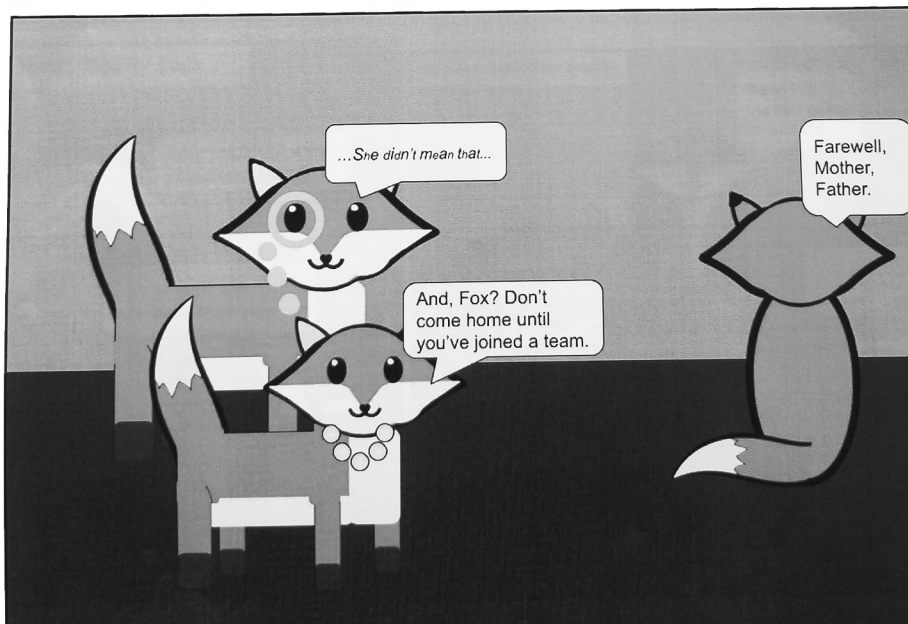
Thursday/Friday

Swathi Padmanabhan  
Boardman Glenwood Junior high School

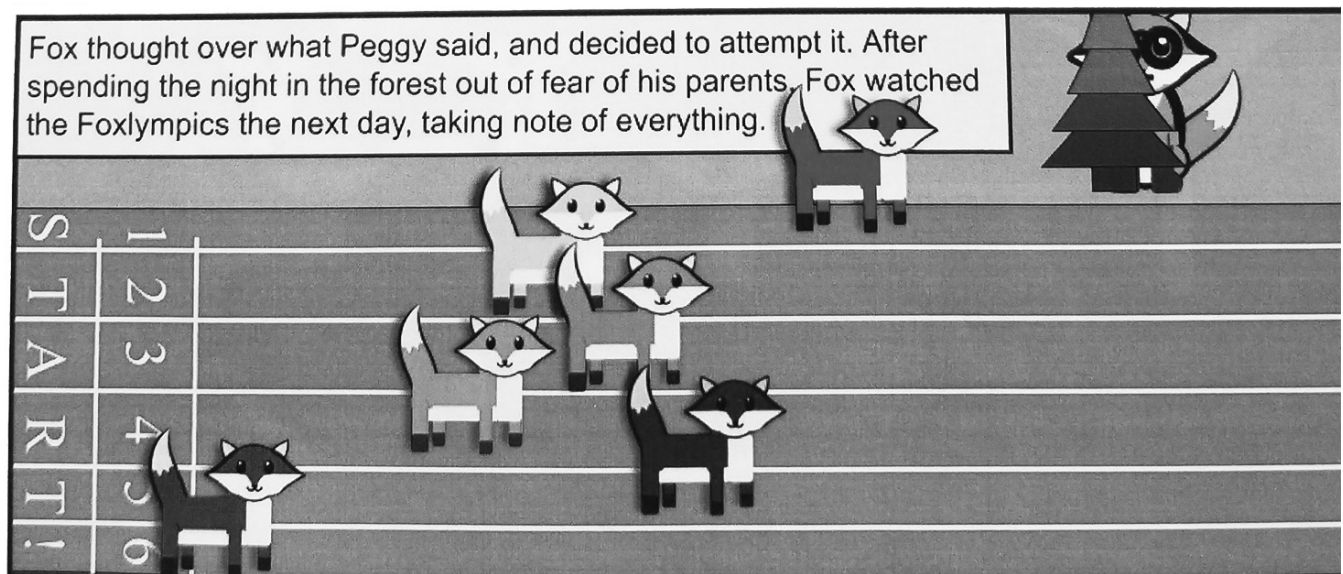
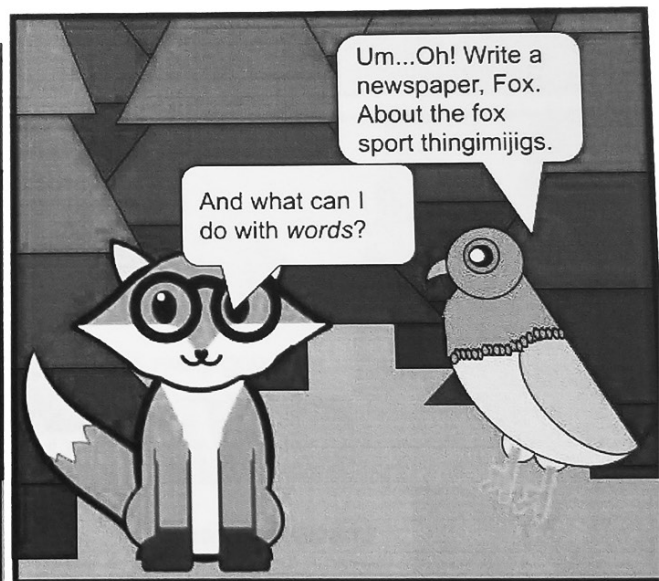
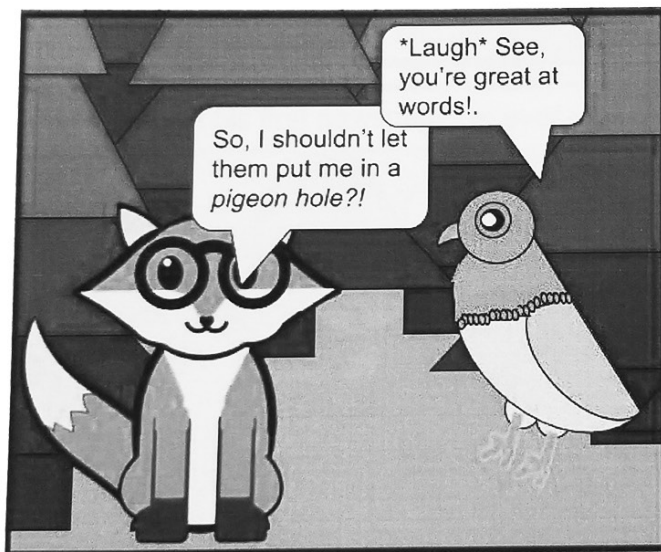
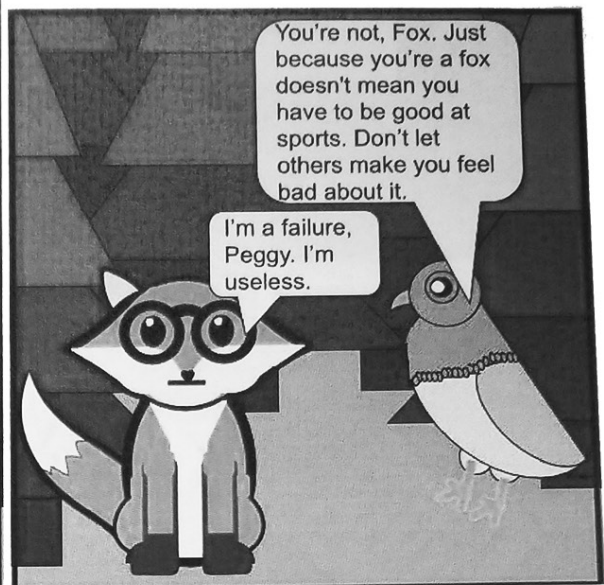
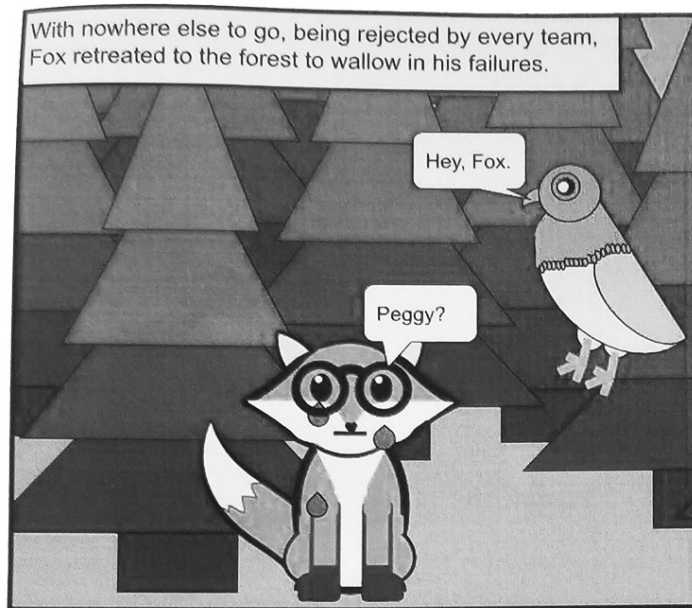
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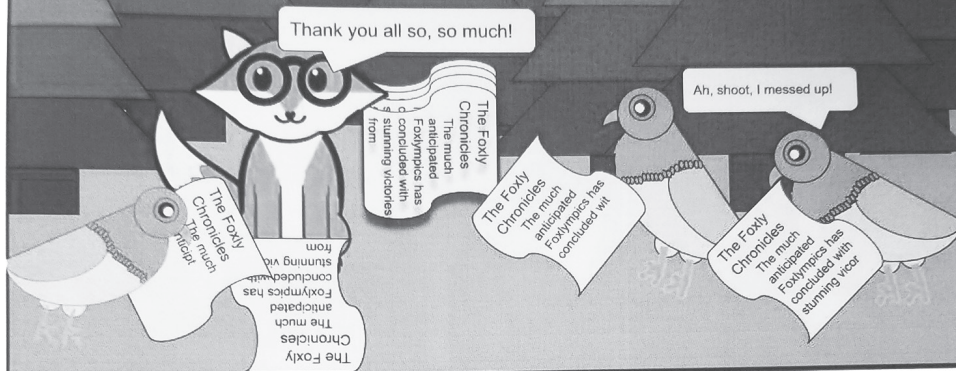




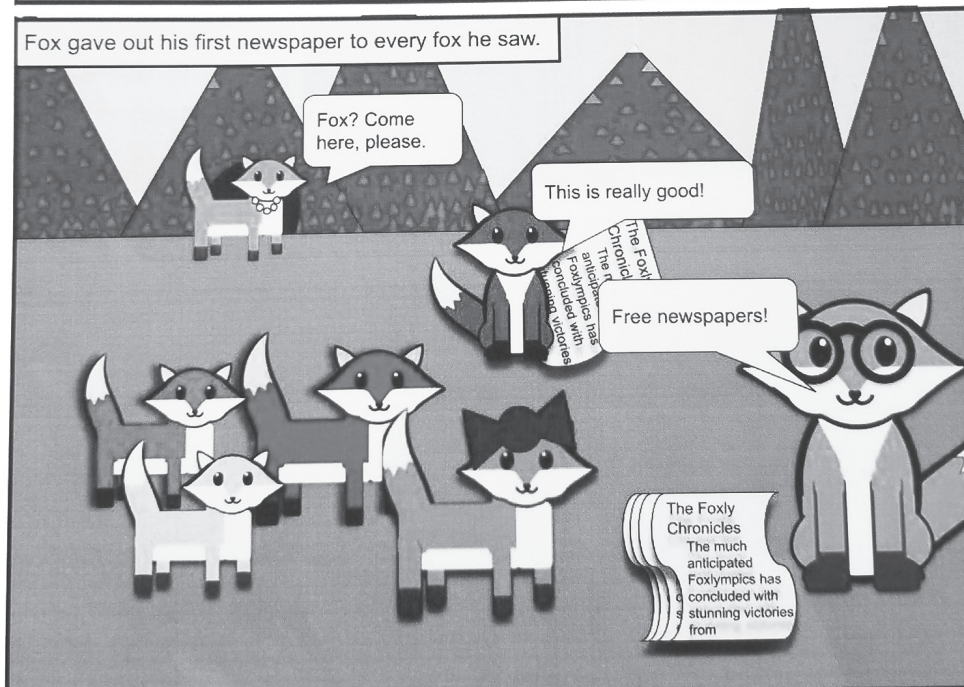




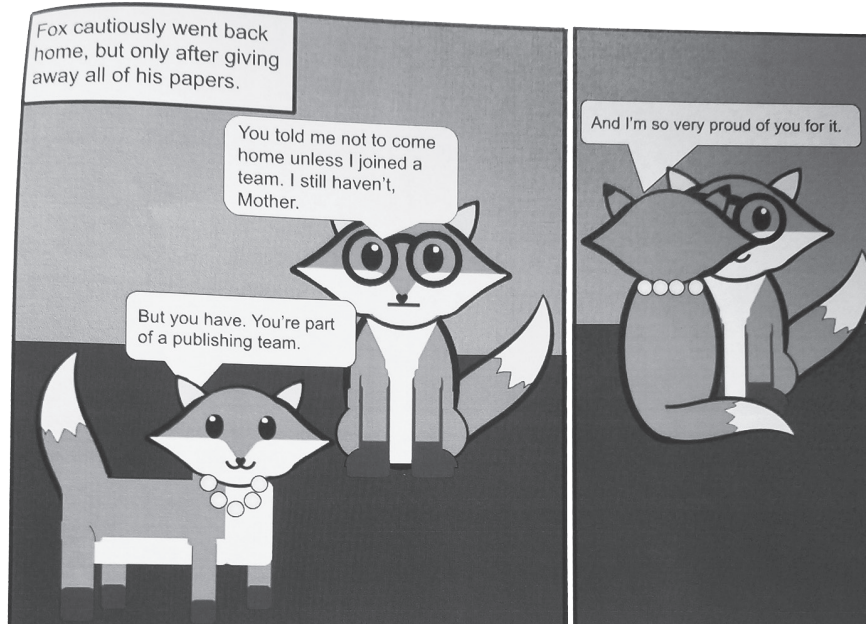
That night, after Fox wrote his final copy, Peggy and her hatchmates helped Fox create enough newspapers to distribute to his entire community.



Fox gave out his first newspaper to every fox he saw.



Fox cautiously went back home, but only after giving away all of his papers.



# STAY AT HOME POETRY CONTEST

## People's Choice Awards (chosen by online readers)

### Senior High School Haiku

(not based on a Festival book)

Veronica McDowell  
Archbishop Hoban High School

So not what I'd choose  
Stuck alone, inside each day  
writing sad haikus.

### Haiku (based on a Festival book)

Cierra Burchett-Norquist  
LaBrae High School

I know how Will feels  
Because life is so fragile  
Here; gone all at once.

### Limerick (based on a Festival book)

Cierra Burchett-Norquist  
LaBrae High School

It seems like a long way down  
As heels of seniors touch ground  
They're missing their big days  
No "Congrats" or "Hoorays"  
The class of 2020 won't be bound.

### Junior High School Haiku

(not based on a Festival book)

Katelyn Rimmel  
Armstrong Jr/Sr High School

The sun peeking out  
We are stuck at home alone  
Books help make it fun.

### Haiku (based on a Festival book)

Robert John  
Armstrong Jr/Sr High School

In and out the door  
With gates like an old graveyard  
New beginnings soon.

### Limerick (not based on a Festival book)

Baylee Hodil  
Armstrong Jr/Sr High School

Although we can't wait till this ends  
You can make many new friends  
Just simply crack open a book  
Flip open the cover and take a look  
To where a whole new world descends.

### Limerick (based on a Festival book)

Annie Atwood  
Armstrong Jr/Sr High School

Jarrett longed for his mother there,  
Oh, how we yearn for the English Fair,  
With no school,  
And home-rules,  
Our lives are much more bare.

# JEREMY SALVNER MEMORIAL MUSIC AWARDS



## SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL FIRST PRIZE

**Madison Easton**

*Grand Valley High School*

*Jumped by Rita Williams-Garcia & Dreamland Burning by Jennifer Latham*

### ***Never the Answer***

My song *Never the Answer* mainly reflects on two of the eight books included in this year's English Festival. Since my composition encourages peace rather than violence, it is based off of the novels *Jumped* and *Dreamland Burning*. I first realized the connection between both of these books after an event of unnecessary violence occurred at my school. The incident inspired me to write and as I began, I recalled these important moments in the novels. In Rita Williams-Garcia's *Jumped*, a main character named Dominique plans to beat up one of her classmates without a valid reason. After the attack, neither Dominique nor her victim was better-off. In contrast, *Dreamland Burning* partially focuses on protagonist Rowan's fight for justice after she witnessed her friend get killed by a racist truck driver. I used both of these experiences in these novels to compose the lyrics for this song. *Never the Answer* encourages the listener to think before he or she acts and to talk problems through instead of fighting them out. The events from the books that I mentioned above prove that using violence to solve conflict doesn't benefit anyone, and if someone works diligently for the greater good, they may succeed. Finally, I hope listeners realize that in a difficult situation they may feel like they're going to lose control, but there are safer ways to resolve their emotions.

#### **VERSE 1:**

How do you feel?  
What went through your mind?  
To get to that conclusion?  
To think that that was right?

#### **PRE-CHORUS:**

I know it can be hard to hold it in  
I know it can be hard to face the truth  
I know it can be difficult to begin  
But it'll feel better if you talk it through

#### **CHORUS:**

Violence is never the answer  
There are other ways to make it better  
Conduct things in a peaceful manner  
Violence is never the answer

#### **VERSE 2:**

Even I find myself  
Reaching for help  
To take control of my emotions  
And to not make irrational decisions

#### **PRE-CHORUS 2:**

But you have to learn to stop and think  
Catch yourself before you blink  
Trust me you don't want to go down that road  
'Cause the luggage you take is a heavy load

#### **CHORUS:**

Violence is never the answer  
There are other ways to make it better  
Conduct things in a peaceful manner  
Violence is never the answer

#### **BRIDGE:**

(No no no no no no no no)  
(No no no no no no)  
Not a solution  
It's pollution  
A never-ending cycle  
It's a bad drug  
Hard to withdraw  
But it's all about survival

#### **END CHORUS:**

Violence is never the answer  
There are other ways to make it better  
Conduct things in a peaceful manner  
Violence is never, never, never the answer



# JEREMY SALVNER MEMORIAL MUSIC AWARDS



## JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

### FIRST PRIZE

**Michael Ge**

*Montessori School of Mahoning Valley*

*Hey, Kiddo by Jarrett J. Krosoczka*

#### **-Win-**

The graphic novel, *Hey, Kiddo* portrays a very sad and doleful story, but in all this anguish and grief comes out a very successful author and artist, Jarrett Krosoczka. I think even in the darkest of times, we must stay grateful and positive for what we still have, and not for the things we don't. We cope and push through the pain until we: -Win-. Hence the name, the song brings the emotions of misery only to come up with a buildup of hope. I chose to produce an electronic instrumental to it because the drop, to me, would give me a sense of powerfulness, along with the violin strings as an inspirational anthem, the two make a very nice pair. The lyrics on the other hand are much more dramatic. They portray feelings of loneliness, but always coming through and winning. The song, -Win-, was made as inspiration from *Hey, Kiddo*, reminding us all to be grateful and thankful for everything we still have. And in the darkest moments, we all need to stay strong until we -Win-.

#### **-Win-**

##### **Lyrics**

**Michael Ge (DJ M 1 C)**

Always do it on my own so I gotta get through it  
And the only thing I know is to love what I'm doing  
Never give up, never slow till I finally prove it  
Never listen to the no's, I just wanna keep moving  
Keep my head up when I act  
Head up, that's a fact  
Never looking back, I'ma keep myself on track  
Keep my head up, staying strong  
Always moving on  
Feel I don't belong, tell my thoughts to move along  
Push myself to be the best  
Die with no regrets  
Live with every breath, see my message start to spread

And I had so many dreams  
Then you hit your teens life  
Ain't really what it seems, try to find out what it means Always do it on my own so I gotta get through it  
And the only thing I know is to love what I'm doing  
Never give up, never slow till I finally prove it  
Never listen to the no's, I just wanna keep moving  
Yeah, I put out all this art, it's my only medicine, yeah Everything I do, I'm just being genuine, yeah  
I'm sick of being screwed, feel my own adrenaline, yeah  
I do just what I do and I hope you let me in, let me in, yeah I'm grateful, oh, yeah  
Able, oh, yeah  
I'm stable, oh, yeah  
No label, oh, yeah  
You know me, I have  
Only a path  
I'm lonely, but gosh  
I'm going to win, yeah  
I don't want no fake love, I want the real stuff  
Everybody listen up 'cause I'll only say it once  
I'm gon show you all the path if you want it bad  
I'm gon show you where it's at, yeah, how you can get it back Yeah 'cause I ain't never done, I'll be number one  
Working hell a hard until I get just what I want, yeah  
Rise just like the sun, yeah, fatal like a gun  
Shooters gonna shoot and I'm gon shoot until I've won, yeah Always do it on my own so I gotta get through it  
And the only thing I know is to love what I'm doing  
Never give up, never slow till I finally prove it  
Never listen to the no's, I just wanna keep moving  
Yeah, I put out all this art, it's my only medicine, yeah Everything I do, I'm just being genuine, yeah  
I'm sick of being screwed, feel my own adrenaline, yeah  
I do just what I do and I hope you let me in, let me in, yeah I'm grateful, oh, yeah  
Able, oh, yeah  
I'm stable, ( oh, yeah)  
No label, ( oh, yeah)  
You know me, (I have)  
Only a path  
I'm lonely, (but gosh)  
I'm going to win, (yeah)  
LaLaLaLaLa  
LaLaLaLaLa  
LaLaLaLaLaLaLaLaLaLa  
LaLaLaLaLa,  
LaLaLaLaLa  
LaLaLaLaLa  
LaLaLaLaLaLaLaLaLaLa  
LaLaLaLaLa



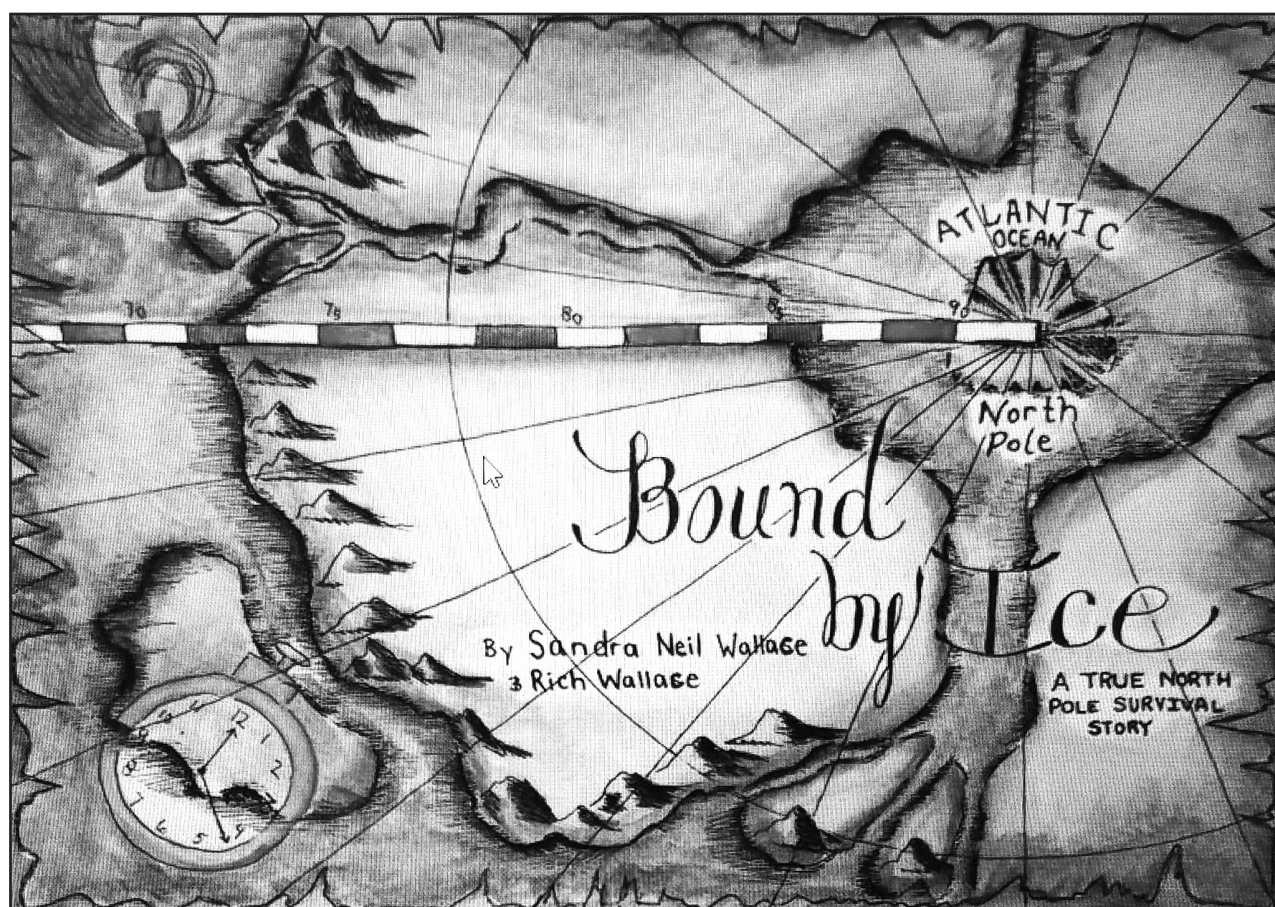
**Herschel helped "narrate" Dr. Stacy Graber's *Bound by Ice* presentation about huskies by introducing his dog park friend, Nico.**

# THE ENGLISH FESTIVAL ART WINNERS

## Senior High School, First Place

LaurieAnn Jewell  
Niles McKinley High School

### *Bound by Ice: A True North Pole Survival Story*



When I decided to create the book cover for *Bound by Ice*, I was intrigued by the symbolism that was apparent in the novel. While the crew never made it to the North Pole, the aged map represents the intended course of the crew. The watch in the corner symbolizes the time spent trying to stay alive in the freezing, tundra climate. It fades into the map because time seemed to stop for the crew, and I reckoned that their

journey must have felt like an eternity. The lock of hair in the other corner represents the life of the captain before he set sail for the North Pole. The lock of hair belonged to his wife, and it reminds him that he is still her husband despite his circumstances. As time moves on, he only has his wife's lock of hair to remember her. His wife is the mother of his daughter, so he may remember his daughter

through her as well and the little doll he purchased for her at one of their first stops. The colors I used in the book cover are bright because I wanted to capture the perseverance the crew had on their journey. In essence, the bright colors represent the crew members' bright, optimistic perspective.



## Senior High School Second Place

Ashleigh Ramage  
Franklin High School

### *Shadow and Bone*

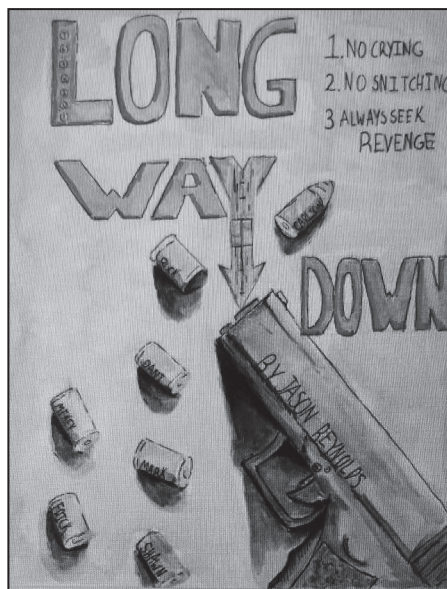


My artwork is for the book *Shadow and Bone* and features the main character Alina. The bright yellow to the left and up her neck represents her power to create light, and the darkness around her represents the Unsea and the Darkling luring Alina in. If you look closely, you can see Volera in the darkness. I did this to add an extra element of fear to the black mass beside her. This painting is based on the moment Alina finds out the Darkling wants to use her.

## Senior High School Third Place (Tie)

Kellen Davis Hall  
Niles McKinley High School

### *Long Way Down*



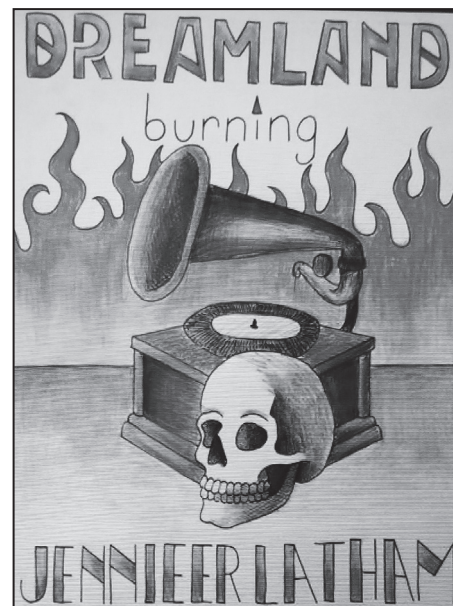
In *Long Way Down*, the main character Will is about to avenge his brother's death. Will's brother Shawn was shot and died. Will remembers a list of rules his brother always told him to abide by: 1. No crying, 2. No snitching, and 3. Always seek revenge. Will is focusing on the last rule specifically as he is on his way down his apartment's elevator. His plan is to kill the man Carlson Riggs, he suspects of killing Shawn. As he goes down the elevator, he meets six ghosts, including his brother and his father. They each tell him a story of their death, in which they were all killed by gun violence.

In my design, I drew seven bullets. Six of the used bullets have the names of the six people killed by gun violence, whose ghost Will encounters on the elevator. The one unused bullet, with the name of Carlson on it, symbolizes the man Will is planning to kill. The drawing of the gun is used to emphasize each death was caused by gun violence.

In the title of the design, I incorporated the elevator shaft in the letter Y in *Way*. In the letter L in *Long*, I put the elevator numbers for each floor. The elevator was significant because that is the setting of the story. Then I put the list of rules to incorporate Will's motive, always seeking revenge.

Marissa Sullivan  
Niles McKinley High School

### *Dreamland Burning*



My cover illustration for Jennifer Latham's novel *Dreamland Burning* contains many symbolic elements, all of which help create a meaningful and relevant piece. For instance, the Victrola record player references Joseph's determination and work ethic in his attempts to buy a Victrola record player, which subsequently causes William to begin seeing African-Americans as equals. Another important symbol in the illustration is the skull, which represents the idea that in death, everyone is equal; unless you examine the DNA of the skull, there is no way to tell what race the person was. It also symbolizes Rowan learning of the prejudices of the past and how they still affect her life today. Lastly the font itself is a reference to the time period in which William's story takes place; it uses similar elements of the Art Deco Movement of the 1920's and 1930's. In short, my design for *Dreamland Burning* contains many relevant and symbolic elements, which allow the piece to express many important themes in a subtle way.

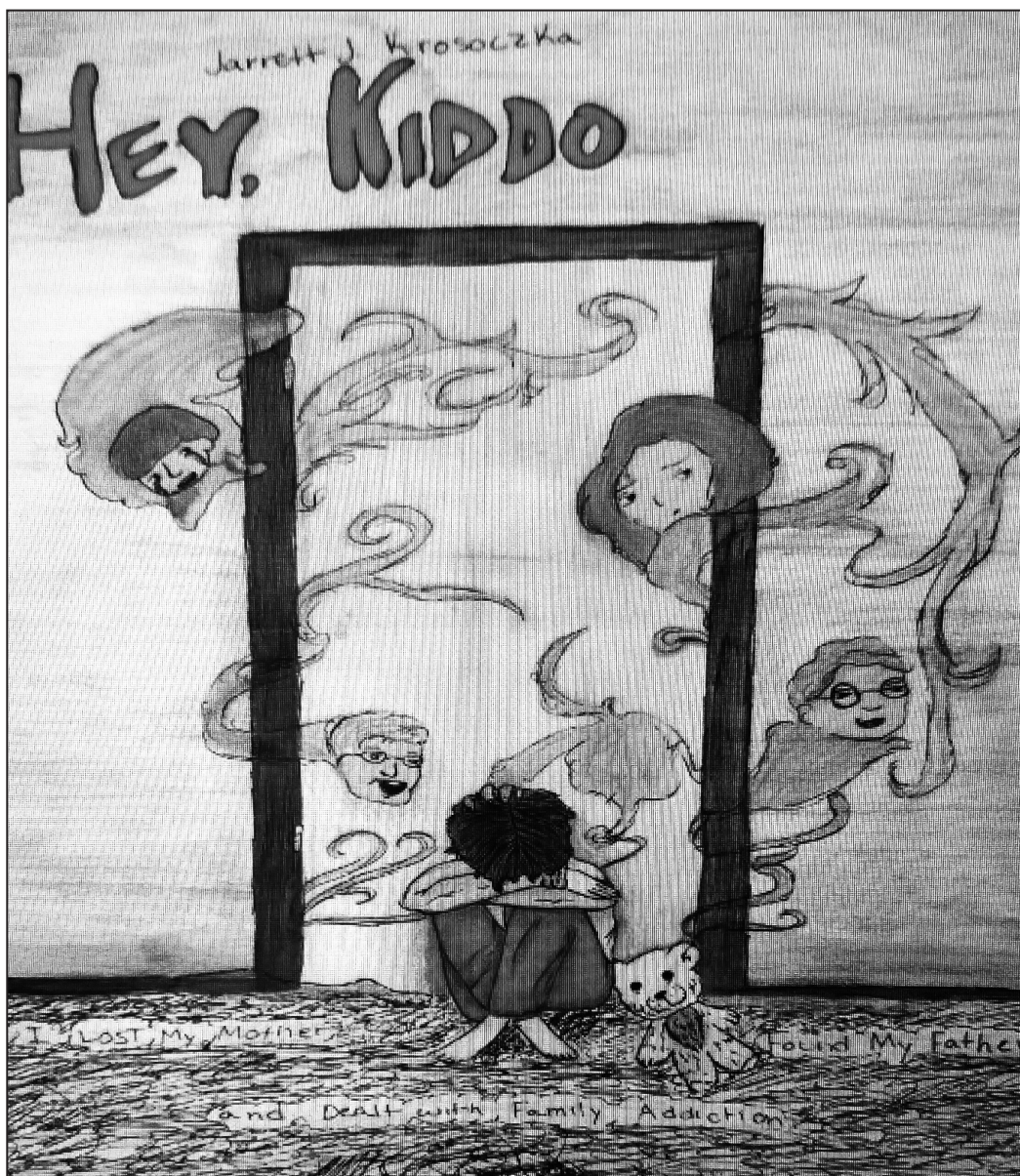


# THE ENGLISH FESTIVAL ART WINNERS

## Junior High School, First Place

Willow Kendziorski  
Grove City Middle School

### *Hey Kiddo*



As Jarrett grew, so did his anger towards his mother and grandparents. My entry depicts young Jarrett up against his door as his mother and grandmother fight upstairs. As he cries, the ghosts of his past

creep in from the door frame to haunt him – with only the stuffed bear his mother gave him to protect him from the untimely memories. I used alcohol markers as a base color to represent the bland appearance of

his childhood and completed the shading with colored pencils to represent the hidden aspects of his family.



## Junior High School Second Place

Ava Bee  
Sharpsville Middle School  
*One Crazy Summer*



**M**y picture is a depiction of the three sisters from *One Crazy Summer*, with the girls' personalities characterized by flowers. At the top is Delphine surrounded by tranquil lavender, which, like her, has a medicinal quality. In the middle, Vonetta is enveloped in lively sunflowers. As the sunflower grows toward the sun, so Vonetta loves to be in the spotlight, drawing the attention of her friends and everyone else. Finally, Vern is enclosed in the small and classic daisy. The daisy symbolizes innocence and purity, and Fern is so little that she has a childlike innocence.

## Junior High School Third Place

Tehya Pavolko  
Northwestern Middle School  
*Hey, Kiddo*



**T**he focal point of this drawing is the main character of *Hey, Kiddo*, Jarrett. The demons in the background are based off of the demons in Jarrett's nightmare. Personally, these demons were symbolic of his own trauma and problems. Multiple times through the book Jarrett mentions that drawing basically saved his life and allowed him to survive. Therefore, I made Jarrett drawing. The demons are in a gradient and are lighter the closer they get to him. This is supposed to be symbolic of him processing his trauma and problems as he draws. On page 216, it states, "But now that I am in my teens, I fill sketchbooks just to deal with life. To survive." Then while he is drawing out some of the trauma, his Grandpa says, "You spend time dealing with the ghosts of the past, they'll continue to haunt you." Jarrett tells us, "The problem is, the ghosts wouldn't leave me alone, so I needed to face them." These statements basically explain my whole drawing. I also tried to make him stand out from the demons, to show he can face them. Finally, I tried to make burnt orange the color pop because of the reason stated on page 306, paragraph one ("A Note on Art").



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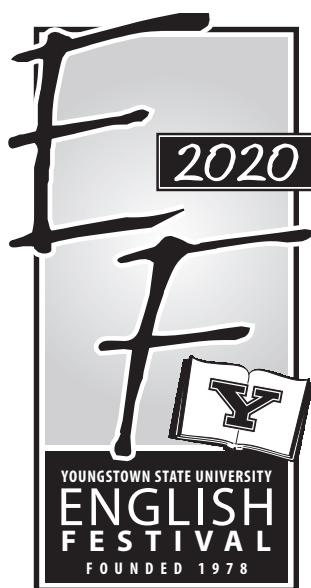
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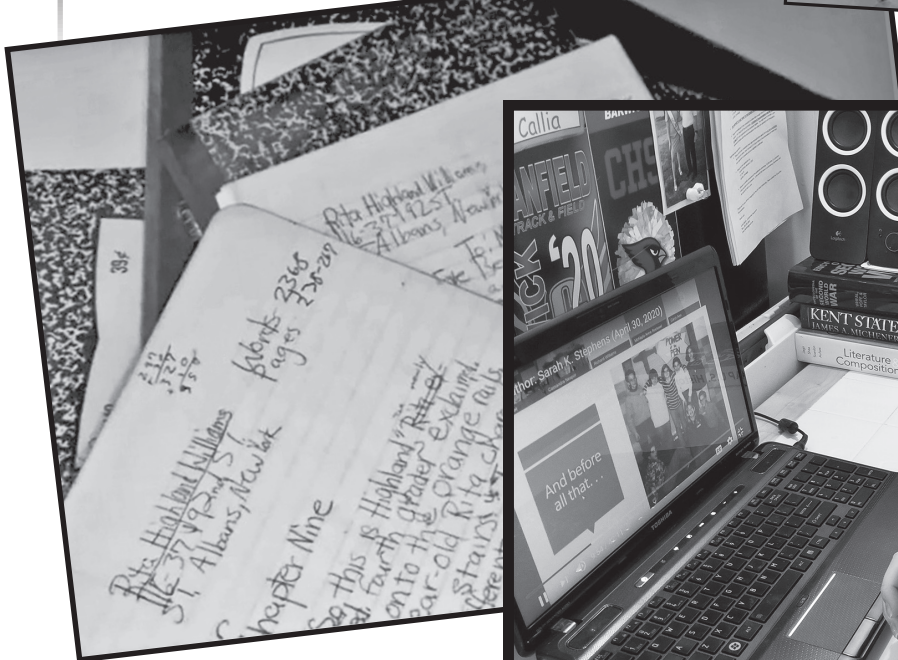
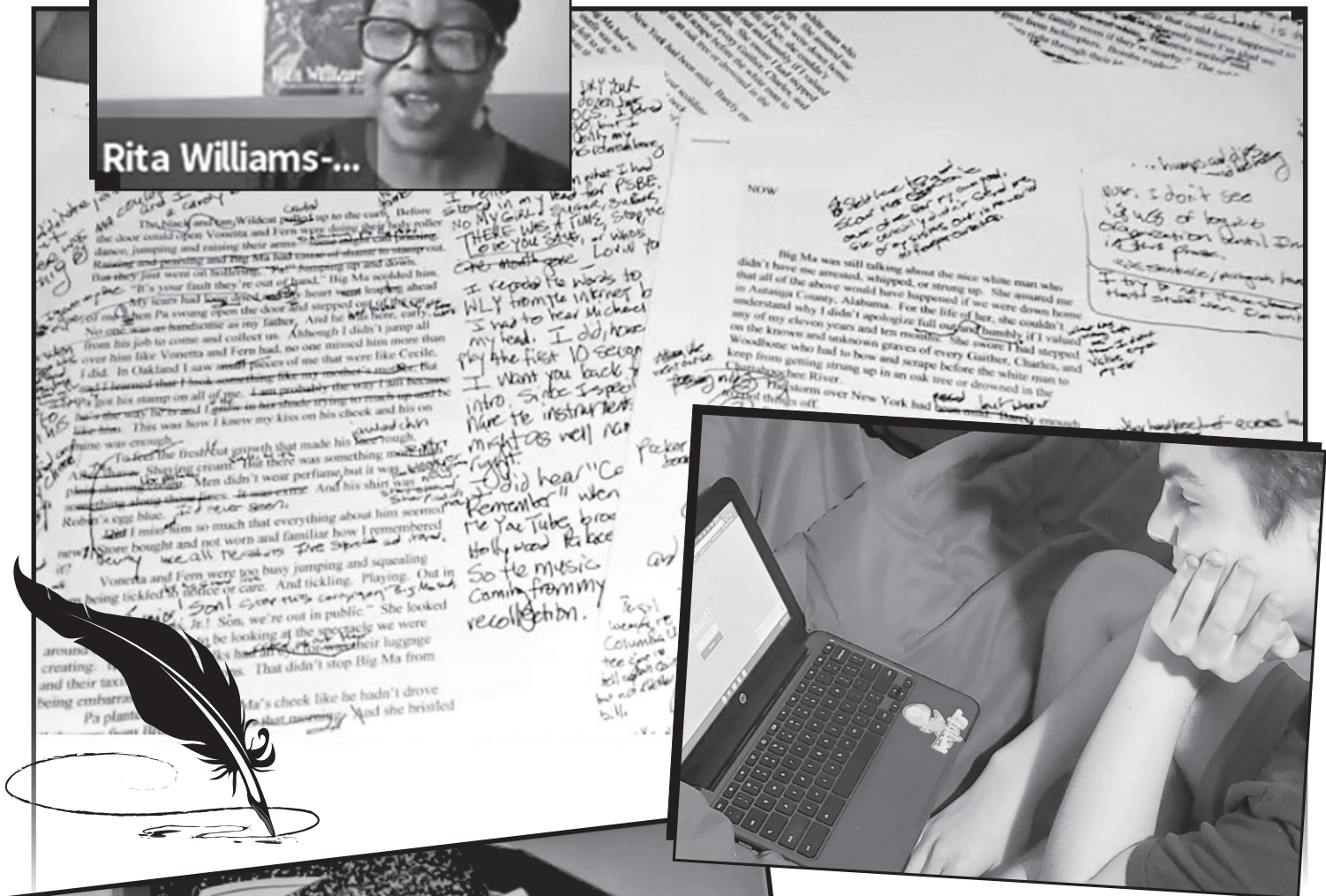
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## Writing and revising ...





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Gary Salvner, Melanie Loew, and Web and Creative  
Services. If you have questions, call Melanie  
Loew at YSU: 330.941.1646 or email her at [info@](mailto:info@ysuenglishfestival.org)  
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