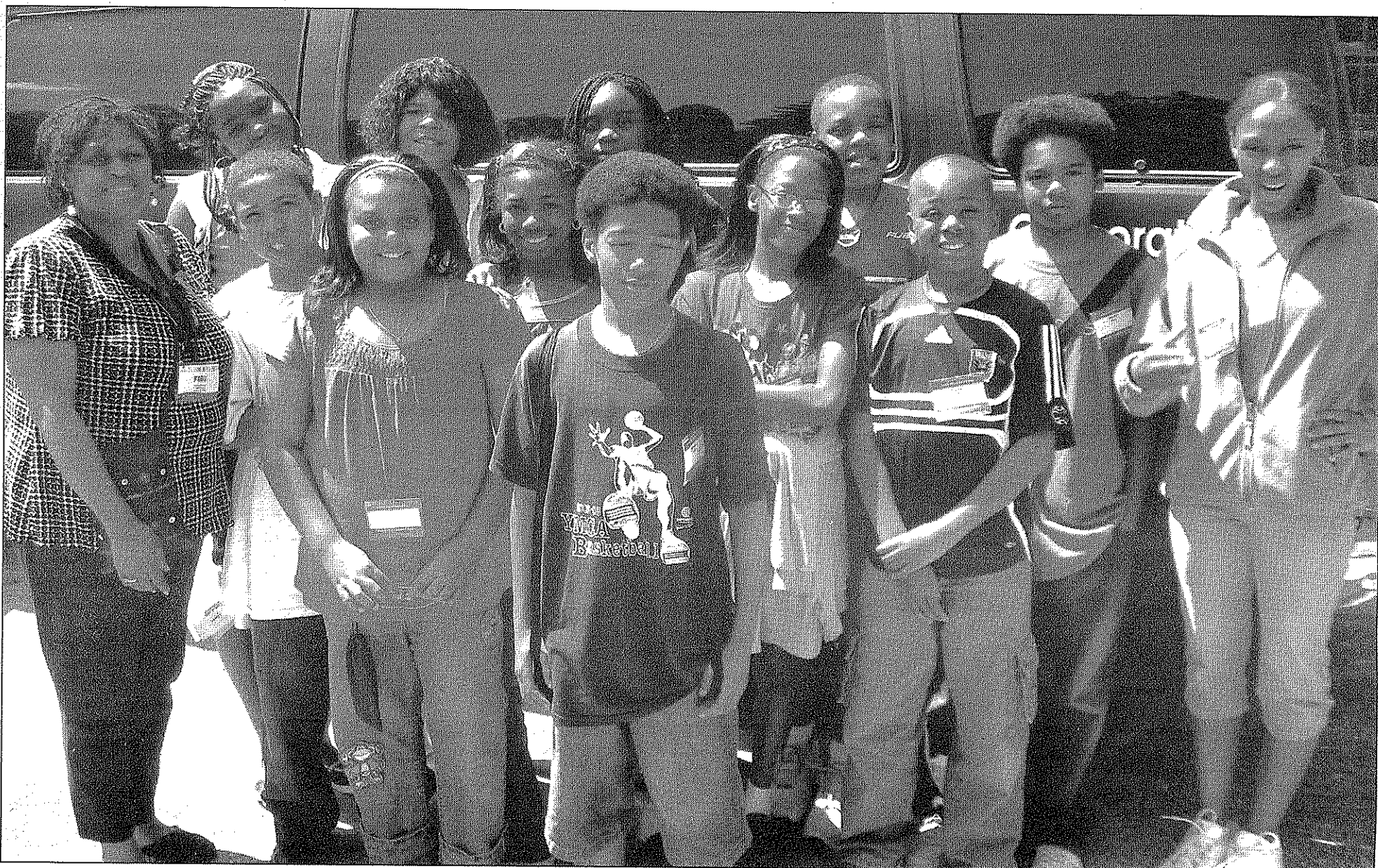


"Wearable Poetry"



Message from Fabu

As your Madison Poet Laureate, I find it a joy teaching poetry courses over the summer. This June 16-20 course was called "Wearable Poetry." It was an art & technology course in partnership

between the Nehemiah Community Development Corp. and the University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension.

We explored poetry and wrote three poems. The first poems, about self-identity, were printed on

t-shirts and the second poems, about friendship, were printed on wrist bands and decorated. The last poems were on subjects that the student poets chose, and they are shared here.

These are 12 talented middle

school and high school poets (pictured above). Their names are:

1. Cashay Harris
2. Malaika Robinson
3. Shakitta Bishop
4. Tierra Michelle Smith
5. Yohance Greer

6. David Smith III
7. Catherine Alexis Gee
8. Julia Russell
9. Shantel
10. Isaiah Oby
11. Immanuel Oby
12. Rodney Tapp

Daddy Take Care of Me

by Cashay Harris

I wake in the morning and ask God

"Why does my Dad have to be neglectful?"

All my friends have a Dad. At home I go to my room Tell my brother to get out Slam the door behind him and cry my eyes out I ask God

"Make my Dad take care of me."

Anna's Closet

by Malaika Robinson

Have you ever traveled to the perils of the world or even a great abyss?

Well I'm here to tell you boys and girls there's a peril that you have missed.

It's a closet owned by a girl named Anna B where stalactites and stalagmites creep

Bats and other entities you'll see who are never pleasant but are very mean

And how do you know the truth is what I say?

It's because I'm lost in here to this very day.

the skin I'm in

by Shakitta Bishop

the skin I'm in is my skin.

the skin I'm in helps me do what i wanna do. the skin I'm in helps me sing, dance, and clap my hands just to praise my God. the skin I'm in lets me hug my pastor and go to my church. the skin I'm in helps me write my poems. the skin I'm in is my skin.

Basketball

by Tierra Michelle Smith

My favorite sport is basketball. Whether I'm watching or playing it I still feel I belong.

It keeps me grounded and it's the go-to thing.

When I have some stress to relieve.

I love the adrenaline that goes through my blood,

At the start of a game not knowing what's gonna go on.

I step on the court and know what I have to do.

I have to be ready and there are no excuses.

The whistle blows. First warning! Get ready to play.

Then the second whistle blows and I'm ready to start the game.

This Is God's World

by Yohance Greer

This is God's world. I love his world. But why can't we be helpful to his world, instead of doing wrong in the world? Why can't we change it to help?

If America...

by David Smith III

If America was like a swish It would be perfect and clean Make the people who made it proud

but make the other people envious.

If America was like a picnic table

It would be supportive to families

giving them what they need giving them a foundation.

Animals

by Catherine Alexis Gee

I love animals. A tiger, with its rumbling roar, I'm not afraid. No way. Uh-uh.

A slithery snake, I'm not afraid. No way. Uh-uh.

I just gaze at God's creation and beauty.

A turtle, I think, "Cool!" not "Ew, that's gross, get me away from here!"

because it came from God too.

I love all of God's creations, because God created me too.

Animals

by Julia Russell

I have passion for animals. When I hear that an animal has been abused,

It feels like my heart is gone.

When I hear that a animal has

been saved

It feels like a whole new world is made.

10 Hints of True Love

by Shantel

1. something no words can express

2. something that hurts me less

3. something that cures like medicine

4. something that stands for a blessing

5. something that's better than hugs and kisses

6. no i swear this is healthier than drugs

7. something that warms me up on cold nights

8. something that protects me from all my frights

9. something i can for sure believe

10. something that makes me proud to be me

this is something described by all of the above

yes these are the 10 hints of true love.

Music Moves

by Isaiah Oby

Music, There are all kinds of it The kind that makes you stand up and sing or get comfortable and relax

Music can move, shape, or break people like the uses of a tree

in the rain forest

See music has all kinds of attitudes

If you are listening to the wrong, it messes you up for a long time

Music, the good kinds of it can make you happier inside

In my opinion, music is life.

Family

by Immanuel Oby

Five Members, Joe, Krystal, Isaiah, Immanuel, and Israel

All love each other

My relatives get along

I like to hang with cousins

Loving everyone

You can share anything with them

My Family

by Rodney Tapp

My family are the most important people in my life.

My family are funny, caring, and brave folks.

My family plays board games, videogames, and we go for walks.

We are great!