

SIDE NOTES

- The Ink Spot welcomed students back on Jan 9th!
- Remember! If CHUH schools are closed due to winter weather, LEI is closed too!
- There will be two Saturday playwrighting workshops (Feb 11 and Feb 25). Register online.
- As always, we welcome donations of snacks and supplies!



Lake Erie Ink

A writing space for youth

WWW.LAKEERIEINK.ORG

216-320-4757

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Winter Quarter Announcements

A Hip Hop Project On January 17, DJ Doc began teaching the students about finding rhythm. The students will also be learning how to write lyrics and record their own CDs! Each Tuesday, he will be working with the students to scratch and find beats on a record. Look for more information about the CD release party which will be at the end of February!

Words That Change the World On Wednesday evenings, students will learn about writers whose work has impacted the world. Also, they will be encouraged to write and share issues important to them.

January Workshop: Writing the College Essay

Thinking about applying to college? Worried about the required essay? Struggling for ideas? Applying to a college or university isn't so scary once you've decided what to write about for the essay portion. Please join us



DJ Doc talks to the students about rhythm and how to find a beat on a record.

Teen Café and Open Mic (Jan 27, Feb 24, Mar 16)

Teens are invited to share original work from 6:30 to 9:00 pm.



My pencil
ohh please
help me i
did not
study for
the test
dont leave
me be my
Pencil my
Pencil do
my test my
Pencil my
Pencil im
trying my
Best.



Deja Shelton

Interested in getting involved? Contact us!

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Volunteer of the Month: Annie

Annie Milano has been a volunteer at Lake Erie Ink for almost a year now. She heard of the creative writing project from a family friend, who introduced her to Amy. Annie was always inspired by creative writing and feels that being involved at LEI gives her so much energy and creativity. She finds the kids' writing to be exciting and eclectic.

Annie grew up in Cleveland Heights, graduating from Laurel High School and attending college in Portland, Oregon. She enjoys horseback riding, having recently returned to the sport after a long hiatus. She rides a big red horse named Rudy.

Right now, Annie enjoys writing poetry and plays. She has always used writing as a way to deal with

her emotions, enjoying creating characters to work through her feelings. Her favorite novel is George Eliot's *Middlemarch*, which weaves together a complicated romance and the socioeconomic elements of 19th century England.



LEI's first Volunteer of the Month!

My Ears Hear:

Teachers talking

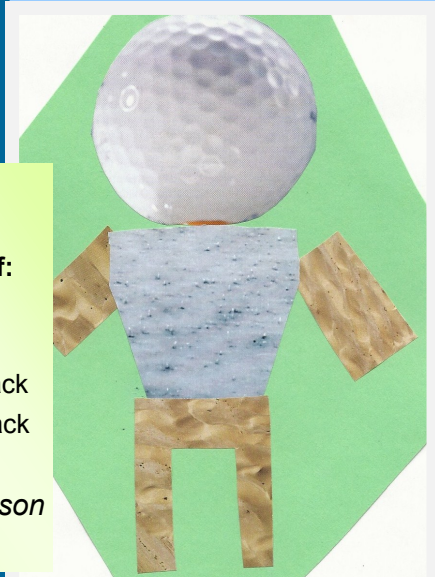
My Head is Full of:

Memorized facts

My Heart Carries:

Nothing, but my back carries my back-pack

Danny Lawson



Writer's Corner!

Quick tips for writers, young and old!

Free Writing

This prewriting activity is very helpful to overcome writer's block! To free write, you should sit down with a blank sheet of paper. Then, for a designated period of time, write continuously—include anything that comes to your mind, no matter

what it is. Don't worry about proper grammar or punctuation; *just write*. Free writing is a great way to collect initial ideas to start a story or a paper for school. It is a great way to get started, especially if you're not sure what you want to write about and you have a lot of ideas!

Book of the Month: *The Hobbit*

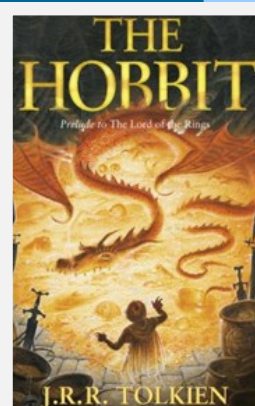
Chosen by Emma Hubbard for its interesting plot and amazing details, *The Hobbit* is a fantasy novel with tons of action and adventure. Emma enjoys that the novel doesn't have to

stick to the rules of actual civilization because "fantasy can be wherever and it can be whatever."

Almost done with the novel, Emma shared that a group of dwarfs and hobbits are travelling into a mountain to win back an-

cient jewels which were stolen by Smaug, a dragon. She believes the group will succeed and will find out by Smaug stole the jewels in the first place!

Emma would recommend this book to people who love adventure.



J.R.R. Tolkien's prelude to *The Lord of the Rings* Trilogy