

All the changes

By ROBYN GREENWOOD

Grade 8, Crossett Brook Middle School

The gentle breeze on the coldest day
Warms
The trickle of a stream
Going north
The sweet melody of the summer forest
Silent

The brightest smiles
The widest eyes
Morbid frowns
Swirling hate
The calm breathing
Of your closest friend
A desperate pant and choke
The playful fighting
Spring litters
A starving crowd
Lust for blood hate
These changes bring on emotion so thick
My head swirls with doubt
Of the next
Day
This doubt is
The emptiest thing
Yet it is so full
Life has no room
For gentle touches
Sweet words
Won arguments
Successes
Friendship
Yet the doubt is so empty
There is so
Much more room
For these things
And I fill this doubt
With the one thing
That I know
Will always be at my side
The hope
That one day
This empty doubt
Will be a solid reason
For the one thing that will
Always be at my side
Hope
For a better tomorrow
And faith that
All the changes
Will one day
Change this world
To understand
Change this world
For a better tomorrow

MORE GREAT STUDENT WRITING AT
YOUNGWRITERSPROJECT.ORG



THIS WEEK: Photo #3 & General

Each week, Young Writers Project receives submissions from students all over Vermont. We select the best for publication here and in 12 other newspapers. This week, we publish writing students wrote in response to the prompts for Photo #3 and general writing in any genre. For more, go to youngwritersproject.org, a safe, civil, online community of young writers.

just seven minutes...

Vermont Writes Day

- February 7, 2012 -

Students, teachers, writers!

Can you spare

just seven minutes?

Join writers across Vermont

Set aside just 7 minutes
on February 7 to write!

Respond to the suggested prompts
or write about anything you want.

For more information,
go to youngwritersproject.org

I love school

By ADI SEHIC

Grade 10, Spaulding High School

School is such an amazing experience. It allows people to increase their knowledge on anything they want to learn about, and they also get to meet new people and experience what new cultures are like through talking and imagining what it'd be like to be in their shoes.

School will give you many opportunities in life to succeed and do what you want. School is an amazing place for many people, and I don't see how people can hate it!

Snow-less winter

By QUINCY ALVES

Grade 8, Crossett Brook Middle School

I slowly walk out,
out the door to the bare ground.
A snow-less winter,
A chilly breeze whooshes past,
goosebumps run through my body.

I stand still and wait,
motionless and quietly.
Like a tall statue,
letting the wind take me away.
Carrying me off again.

YWP NEWS

YWP THIRD FRIDAY SLAM HAS MOVED! Join us at the Block Gallery atop the Winooski traffic circle! Open Mic starts at 6 p.m. Slam sign-up at 6:15. Find out more at youngwritersproject.org.

WORKSHOPS on Podcasting and a new content type: Photo Story; and Jazz Poetry from 10-2 p.m. SATURDAY, FEB. 4 at YWP in the Champlain Mill, Winooski.

YWP is supported by the generosity of foundations, businesses and individuals. Special thanks this week to: **BAY AND PAUL FOUNDATIONS**

My house is on fire

By CORMAC STEVENS

Grade 8, Crossett Brook Middle School

"Help! Help! My house is on fire! Help!"

"Really? How terrible. Is it a nice house?"

"Yes, and IT'S ON FIRE!"

"Really, my good man, there's no need to shout. I was just trying to start a conversation on this lovely day."

"Oh. I see. Well then, how do you do? It is very nice weather today, isn't it?"

"Yes, very nice. I was just touring old country houses. Beautiful things, those are. I'd love to live in one, but, you know, money is tight. How is your house?"

"Yes, money is tight, isn't it... What? My house? It's a beautiful Victorian, with many paintings and..."

"What? What's wrong?"

"My house.... MY HOUSE IS ON FIRE!!!!"

NEXT PROMPT

Anywhere. If you could go anywhere, where would it be? Write a story or poem about this place and why it is so special. **Alternate: General.** Send us your best writing in any genre. **Due Feb. 10.**

Photo Prompt #3



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This photo, titled "Congressional hog caller," was taken in Washington, D.C. in 1937. Rep. Robert L. Mouton of Louisiana was practicing for a hog-calling contest with his counterpart from Iowa.

Take two

By ANNA BELONGIA

Grade 8, Crossett Brook Middle School

"All right, people, scene six, take two!" Everyone is preparing. Actors getting in position, and cameramen doing some final adjustments. Lighting people checking that the brightness is just right, and sound people shift their big microphones.

The director yelling orders, "Center stage!"

"No, you fool, from this angle!"

"Dimmer, dimmer!"

"Back off! He can speak, you know!"

When everything is perfect, I know. The director steps back, and my heart beats, anticipating.

All is quiet, but I know in a moment it will not be.

"Lights, camera, action!"

My mouth moves and forms the words it's been trained to. The words I have practiced a hundred times over.

I don't even need to think.

I just act.

I forget everything.

All that matters is the story I am in and the life I am now living.

I lose myself in this different world, but too soon it seems, the scene ends.

I hold my final position, and I am unable to keep in my satisfied smile.

"Cut!" The director yells.

The stage instantly starts buzzing.

People congratulate one another and relax.

For in a couple of minutes, it will all happen, again.