

**STUDENT
VOLUNTEERS
AT
MAIMONIDES
HOSPITAL**

**STUDENT
VOLUNTEERS
AT
MAIMONIDES
HOSPITAL**

**A WATERWAYS PROJECT
PUBLICATION
Barbara Fisher &
Richard Spiegel
co-directors
Thomas Perry
Assistant**

**Paul Rotondo
Site Teacher**

**Loretta White
Assistant Principal, NYC VTC
Alan Werner
Principal, NYC VTC
Stephen E. Phillips
Superintendent
Alternative HS & Programs**

with funding support from
Learn and Serve America
& the New York State Council on the Arts
©1994 Ten Penny Players

contents

Yvette Almena	3
Anonymous	3
Sean Bermudez	4-6
Cory DeMorato	6-7
Carlyle Hall	8
Sheldon Jones	8-11
Andy Lau	11-12
Tomi Marshall	13-14
Edgar Montalbon	15
Debbie Nilsen	15-16
Michael Palo	16
Corinne Rodriguez	17-20
Zenelly Tejada	21-23

Yvette Almena

My Mother

So far my mom has been doing ok, but she's been in pain and can't even walk. She's in bed rest. She's getting better though they give her one week to recover and she'll be home. She'll be back there in December to give birth. I feel that they should leave her there til the day she gives birth so she'll be safe and the baby will be ok. I just hope that it's a girl!

Anonymous

New York people have big mouths. I know. I'm going out with one.

Everywhere I go people are talking about other people and I don't like that. People shouldn't talk about other people.

I'm a very nice person, but people have big mouths.

Sean Bermudez

I think New York should adopt the death penalty for the simple fact that the crime rate will go down. I also feel that anyone who does a violent crime shouldn't be incarcerated because I think it's a big waste of time. They should just end their misery.

People are getting killed everyday in New York City. I feel that most of the time when murder is committed it's uncalled for. Almost everyday I used to hear of someone getting killed over money or drugs around my old neighborhood. And what I'm saying is that neither one is worth getting murdered over. I feel that if everybody was open minded about life so many people would not be getting killed.

Sean Bermudez

Changing the Hospital

Working for patient transport is an interesting job sometimes because of the people I have to deal with 'cause patients can be so nice. There are other times when they have an attitude, but that's something I have to deal with whether I like it or not. Another reason I find the job interesting is because there's always something to do.

The first things I would like to see changed in the hospital are the people in it, because it seems like some of the people have attitudes and to work with people like that makes things extra hard.

Through the time I've been working in the hospital I've met some nasty people. There's one nasty nurse that I wouldn't forget because of the way she treats

volunteers. She must think just because I'm a volunteer she can scream and come out nasty to us.

I'd also like to see the elevators work better cause where I work I constantly have to be on the elevator.

Cory DeMorato

My Relationship

There is a special kind of caring in my relationship. It honestly makes it more than just a relationship. It makes a friendship. This is what makes my girlfriend so special to me.

Cory DeMorato

Letter to the President of the Hospital

I'm writing this letter to inform you about the job your employees in the MRI lab are doing.

I'm a volunteer in the MRI lab. Rich and Harold are the technicians down there. They are very nice people to work with. If a patient can not go in the MRI machine they don't tell them, well you have to do it, and try to force them. They speak very calmly and try to comfort them.

I feel it would be the right thing for you to show some kind of recognition towards them.

Carlyle Hall

Being a volunteer isn't as bad as you'd think. I know I don't get paid, but it's not about money. It's about helping people that can't help themselves.

When I first came here I was kind of confused and nervous, but after a while you get used to things.

Sheldon Jones

What Should Government Do for Me?

I want the government to get us a job whenever we want one and stop taxing everything in the world. It would make America a better place for the people.

Thank you very much.

Sheldon Jones

This is about Jamaica

Back in Jamaica on a hot Saturday morning when the sun starts to rise it looks so beautiful.

It looks like a new born world.

And with my girl in my arms it was so romantic.

I felt like a king.

The Hospital

6 E is the name of my floor.

The first time on my floor was boring, but I met new friends. I met a nice nurse.

A few weeks later things started to change and things started to get busy for me because I started to learn things I needed to know.

Sheldon Jones

I Lost Control of Myself

One Saturday night I went out with my friends and we burned some blunt and I got real high. It was about 11:30 pm.

I told my friends that I had to leave them, and they asked if I felt all right. I said I was fine and I went home and saw this man leaving my house and I went into my house.

Let me make this point. It was not my house; it was a tent, my tent. We were camping for the weekend. I went in and I saw my girl straightening up and I asked, "What are you straightening up for? Are you straightening up for me? I just saw a man leaving the tent."

And I started to hit her.

She started to cry.

In the morning I got up and looked at her face and I saw bruises. I asked, "Who hit you?"

And she said, "You did."

I said, "Me?"

She just looked at me and I said, "Sorry."

Am I sorry? Hey, I was drunk and there was a man there in my tent.

Andy Lau

At first when I came to work in the hospital I had a B Street job. I work in the cafeterias. The first time I worked in the cafeteria I didn't do the job because I didn't know what to do.

Prisoners should get the death penalty when they get three strikes.

Maybe we shouldn't give the death penalty at all and should shoot the prisoner on the street.

Tomi Marshall

Should NY Impose the Death Penalty to Stop Crime?

I think the death penalty will not stop crime because everywhere you go there is crime all over the United States and elsewhere.

My Friends

My friends are so caring they care for everybody.

My friends are honest. They tell the truth.

I have many friends.

*The Mayor's Office
City Hall
New York NY 10007*

Dear Mayor Giuliani:

I am writing to tell you that I do not approve of everything that you are doing.

You are taking money from the city schools. There is no money for different clubs, sports, etc. There are not many books in the school for the kids to learn. The teachers need money to buy what they need for their students. There were riots at Sarah J. Hale and you were nowhere to be found when the cops were hitting on our students at the school.

Some of our city parks are being taken over by older kids and the cops are nowhere to be found. Some of the city buildings are not kept up right. The city isn't kept up right.

Sincerely,
Tomi Marshall

Edgar Montalbon

I wish I was the sun
Because everybody would admire me
When I went to bed
And they'd admire me when I wake up
And that would make me feel good.

Debbie Nilsen

What Should the Government Do for Me?

They should adopt the death penalty to stop violent crime, and they should use my taxes to get more cops on the streets and more teachers in the schools for me and other kids.

More education helps get jobs for people; helps them get work and to get paid for it.

Debbie Nilsen

I work with this lady. Her name is Iris. I help old people. I walk with them to lunch. We sing songs.

MaryJane helps them to do art, exercises, play games, clean the room, hang the coats, makes them sit and read or listen to music. And she talks about things they need to know.

Michael Palo

I think the government should lower taxes and that we should pay taxes for stuff that we need, but not for stuff that we don't need.

Corinne Rodriguez

What Should Government be Doing for You?

I expect the government should lower taxes, but keep the police and fire stations open.

I think the government should keep Medicare and Medicaid for those who really need it.

Should NY Adopt the Death Penalty to Stop Violent Crimes?

It depends on the crime.

People who rape and murder another human should be sentenced to the death penalty.

Corinne Rodriguez

What I Wish I Could Do

I wish I could do a lot of things to make my life better. I wish I could start all over and start new, make myself a better person and be more positive. I'm not a bad person, but I always help people before I help myself. I wish I could find a job I enjoy, travel around the world, and settle down with that special someone.

I also wish I could be a dancer. When I was younger I used to take dancing. I loved moving to the rhythm of the beat. When I was home alone I'd put the radio on real loud and dance like a nut. Dancing for me relaxes my nerves. When I'm down I dance, and it makes my anger into happiness and it relieves my pain.

I wish I could open up to the people I care about, express my feelings without feeling uncomfortable to do so, tell people how I feel and not hide my feelings inside whether good or bad.

Corinne Rodriguez

Murder

Murder is serious. Taking someone else's life is no joke. A friend of mine who I grew up with went to Puerto Rico with three of his other friends. His parents paid for the trip as a reward that he passed his freshman year in college. They had a week in his parents' condo in San Juan.

August 18th he was driving around with his friends and a white truck pulled up and rolled by and the people inside shot my friend in his chest. He died instantly. My other friend who was with him got shot in his leg. Now he might be paralyzed and he loves to play basketball and dance.

Corinne Rodriguez

How I solve Problems

The way I solve problems is by talking things out if I have a problem with someone. I try to make things work right. If not, we go our separate ways. If it's other problems I just take it day by day. I'll try to handle it and work it out. I'll talk to someone I trust and get their advice. I also try to take their advice, try to get it off my mind or try to forget the problem which wouldn't be easy.

Holding the problems inside is worse, which I do a lot. It's not healthy, but sometimes I just don't want to talk to anyone. I sometimes close my door, blast the radio and try to forget my problems -- at least for a while. Or I'll sit in my room alone and cry if my problem can't be fixed and it's something to cry about.

Zenelly Tejada

What Should Government do for Me?

I think the government should pay for our education after high school.

I think they also have to lower taxes.

I think the government should help us get good jobs.

The Hospital

There is this patient on my floor, the 5th floor. She's 85 years old. She's really nice and sweet. She likes to scream a lot and she doesn't want to be by herself. When I leave her by herself she starts to scream and I have to go back. She's really nice and I like her a lot.

She calls me Lilly - I don't know why.
Her name is Esther!

Zenelly Tejada

A Dream I Keep Having

I had a dream last night. I was in the Dominican Republic with my family and my son, Yashua Junior. We were in my grandmother's house.

My husband, the baby's father, went to my house to see me and the baby. I was happy to see him because I was sad because he wasn't there. It was as if I missed him a lot because I was in love with him, but I couldn't forget what he did to me. We talked and he convinced me to go back with him because he really loved me. So I said, "O.k." I went back with him and we lived together again.

We were happy for ever.

[It's not true. It's only a dream.]

Zenelly Tejada

Mi Hijo Yashua Baez!

Mi hijo tiene un año y 6 meses de nacido. Nació el 22 de Mayo. Él es lo más lindo que yo tengo, él es mi vida, lo único que yo tengo que en verdad es mío. Yo pienso que él me quiere mucho también porque cuando yo no estoy con él él yora mucho.

En la casa él es insoportable rompe todo lo que está a su alrededor y baila, brinca, jode pero yo lo adoro mucho. Cuando él ve juguetes quiere que se lo compren o si no se pone a yorar, a él le gusta jugar con otros niños cuando está de buen humor pero cuando está grapo no le gusta.

Él duerme muchísimo, gracias a Dios casi no se enferma. A él le encanta bañarse, le gusta mucho el agua quiere estar metido el día entero en la esanera, a veces tengo que cerrar el baño porque él se va solo zambando.

No es fácil ser madre pero me siento muy orgullosa de él bebe y lo quiero mucho.

