

✧ Good News from Inspired Youth, Dec. 2019 ✧

"Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord."



Students love to write.



Children learn English quickly!



Students concentrate on reading.



Doing homework on the computer.

This fall 77 students are in one or more of the four sections of the Tutoring Program. They work with 46 adult tutors and 57 8th –12th graders from the suburbs. The tutoring students work hard, and the tutors are excellent.

Four students from four families in the Tutoring Program came to the United States within the past year. The students are very intelligent and work hard. We assign them simple books and books with two languages on a page. They are all progressing rapidly!

The children are creative writers. This fall 54 children in the Tutoring Program wrote short stories from prompts of person, place and situation. Most students wrote half a page. Yulisa A., 6th gr., kept writing and writing. Her story was so long she divided it into chapters. Her short story turned into a novelette. Maria M., 7th gr., is also a natural writer. She wrote a long "short" story.

Yasmine H., 10th gr., works hard at her math homework and writes well. Neo C., 9th gr., recently came to this country, and already the book we suggested for him is too easy. Leonela C., 9th gr., studies hard and does well.

Shannon C., 7th gr., does well in school and benefits from the Tutoring Program. His sister Karah P., now in college, was in the Tutoring Program for several years, starting at age 6. She is studying to be a doctor.

Monish A., 6th gr., is good at writing stories and likes to be challenged with difficult math.

Ashley S., 2nd gr., is gaining tremendously in math, reading, writing, and concentration. And she can still play her recital piece from last August by memory.

Marisol P., was in the Tutoring Program in elementary and high school, and it gave her a huge academic boost. After college she got the opportunity to explore the legal field with some of our state's top attorneys and law firms. Marisol then pursued a new career in Pharmacy. She just got a job at Rush University's Medical Center's inpatient pharmacy department where she does various jobs from filling the medications, to delivering them, and even makes some of the IV medication for patients. She loves her job. Congratulations!

Marisol enrolled her daughter Emily P., (now 2nd gr.) in the Tutoring Program last year when Emily was in 1st gr. Emily turned out to be a straight A student! Keep up the good work!

"Hey Beth this is Shanese Watts. I just wanted to say thank you for never giving up on us back when we attended the church. I think about the piano lessons I took for granted and tutoring and I just wanna say thanks. I now attend a church in my hometown and my two kids are very much involved. I want to bring them to visit."

Joy to all, from Inspired Youth

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Student playing in Summer Piano Recital



Doing difficult math.



Caprice King, tutoring grad, wrote a book, Delivered from Genocide.

In the recitals at the end of Inspired Youth's Summer Piano Program, 58 children played piano solos or duets with an adult. The students, pre-K through high school, were from countries all over the world: Mexico, Puerto Rico, Bolivia, India, Burma, Mongolia, Ethiopia, and the United States. The 18 volunteer piano tutors who helped the children learn to play were wonderful.

Inspired Youth will be featured on the CBS radio program, "Different Drummers." Inspired Youth was selected for the broadcast because it was one of the seven organizations which received a grant from the United Methodist Foundation in October 2019.

The recording of "Different Drummers" will be done in the CBS studio in Chicago's Loop on Sunday, Dec. 15. The people going to the CBS studio to record the show will be a student (David C., 4th gr.), his tutor (Dan Hutchins), and another tutor (Meghan Ford). Dan Hutchins and Meghan Ford are both members of Inspired Youth's Board of Directors. The recording of the radio show will be on December 15, 2019, and it will be aired at a future date.

Tutoring grad, Caprice King, has written a book, *Delivered from Genocide*, and it's just been published! Caprice was a student in the Tutoring Program in the mid-1980's, when he was in early elementary school. This Fall he was a guest at the Monday evening Family Night, and he told about his experience of being a gang member and then renouncing the gang life. People were stunned as they realized what he was saying. It was a meaningful evening. Many people bought copies of Caprice's book. If you would like to buy the book, Delivered from Genocide, by Caprice King, go to www.ZionUncensoredPublishing.com.

Inspired Youth, Inc. received a special grant from the United Methodist Foundation of the Northern Illinois Conference of the United Methodist Church. The grant is for Inspired Youth to continue working with low-income children and youth to further their education. The award was given in celebration of the United Methodist Foundation's 70th anniversary. Visit umfnic.org to learn about the UMF.

Ken Roman, a tutoring grad, and now a professor of microbiology at Northwestern University, spoke on behalf of Inspired Youth at the United Methodist Foundation's 70th anniversary, in gratitude for the award given to Inspired Youth.

This is the 35th year of the Tutoring Program. Thank you to everyone who has been part of this exciting endeavor. Inspired Youth, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) corporation with the IRS, so donations are tax-deductible. Gifts to Inspired Youth, Inc. may be made through PayPal on www.inspiredyouthchicago.org or sent to Inspired Youth, 5715 N. Ridge, Chicago, IL 60660.



Ken Roman, tutoring grad, spoke at The United Methodist Foundation's 70th Anniversary banquet.

Joy to all, from Inspired Youth