



# ..... ABOUT THE BUZZ



The Virginia Avenue Project is an after-school program that uses the performing arts in conjunction with one-on-one mentoring, to help kids realize their full potential. Our community partner is the Santa Monica Police Activities League, where we offer free classes and workshops, and rehearse plays for production.

The stories, poems, art, and other writings in this magazine are contributed by kids and adults in SMART PARTNERS, a year-long creative tutoring program that emphasizes imaginative learning and one-on-one mentoring. Using targeted homework assistance and creative activities, SP kids are given the tools to improve their study habits, focus their concentration, and increase their academic performance. The Project believes in giving kids an environment where they can explore and express their creativity, so in addition to academic tutoring, SP kids and adults collaborate on this magazine.

The results of this collaboration offer humor, insight, reflection, whimsy, and some very novel ideas.

This year's issue is titled, "No Longer Fearing Me."

Runners-up for best title included "Real Life?," "Truth or Dare," "Conjecture 61," and "The Beautiful Dreams of Perception."

It was a pretty close race, and at one point we did contemplate combining all the titles:

"In real life can you conjecture 61 beautiful dreams of perception? Truth or dare? Truth, because I'm no longer fearing me."

But, truth be told - it was a tad long, and "No Longer Fearing Me" was the official winner by one vote.

So relax, get comfy, and read THE BUZZ. And maybe you'll be inspired to speak up, act out, conquer your fears, and write things down. The philosopher and writer Anatole once said:

"To accomplish great things we must dream as well as act."

THE BUZZ is a collection of some of these dreams, which we hope will one day take flight into action.



virginia avenue project



much ado about kids

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