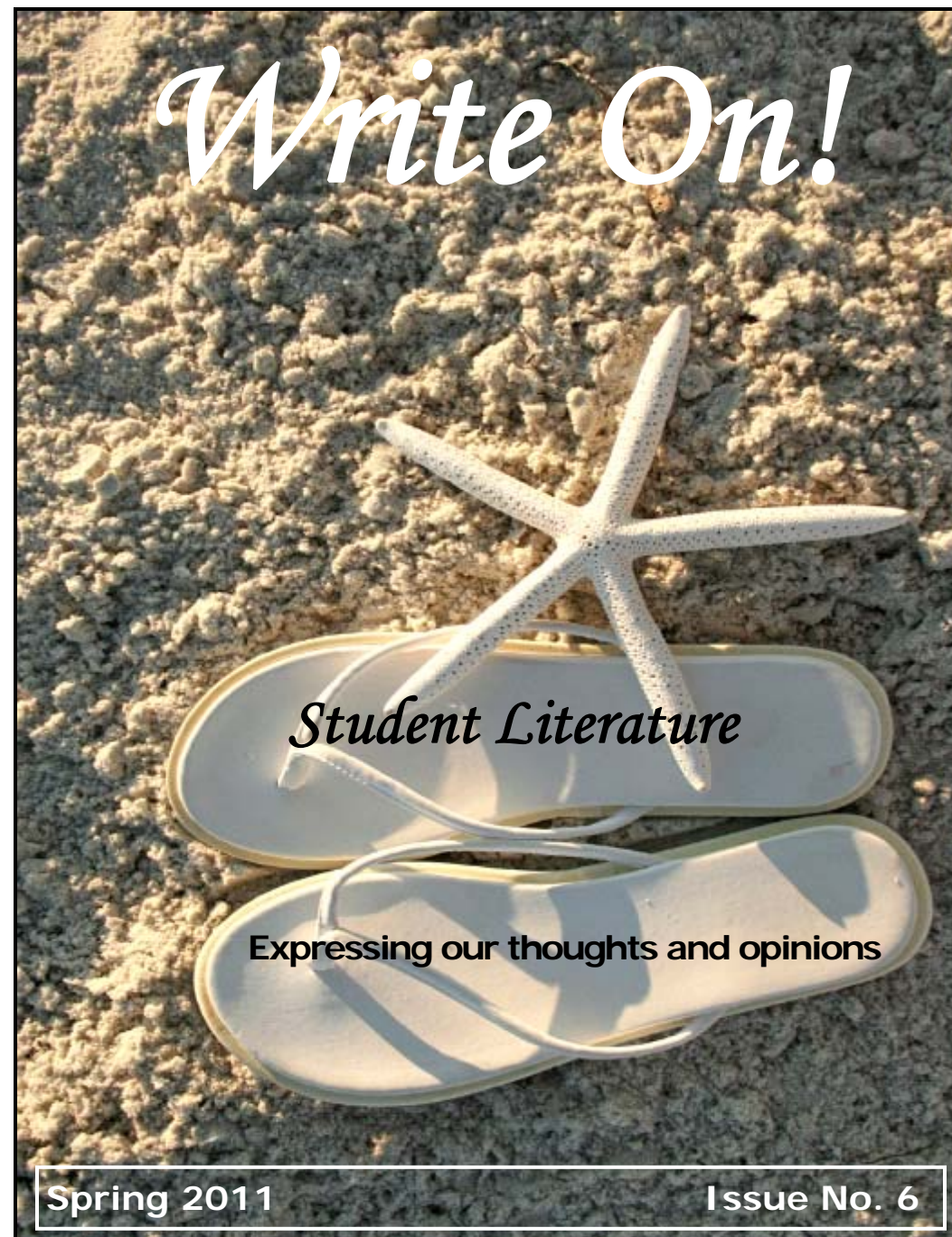


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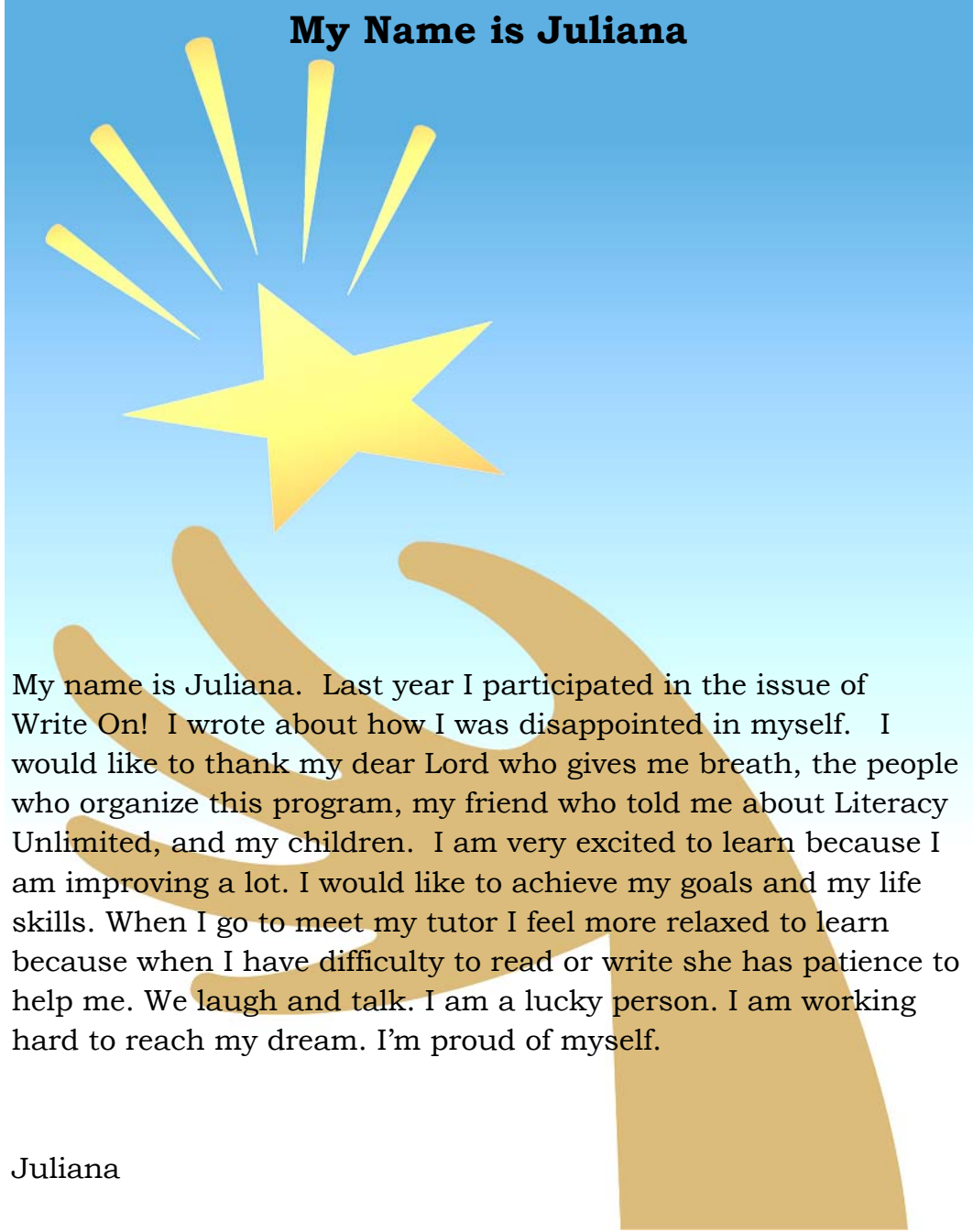
Content: Adult Learners

Design and Layout: Christine Smith

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My Name is Juliana



My name is Juliana. Last year I participated in the issue of Write On! I wrote about how I was disappointed in myself. I would like to thank my dear Lord who gives me breath, the people who organize this program, my friend who told me about Literacy Unlimited, and my children. I am very excited to learn because I am improving a lot. I would like to achieve my goals and my life skills. When I go to meet my tutor I feel more relaxed to learn because when I have difficulty to read or write she has patience to help me. We laugh and talk. I am a lucky person. I am working hard to reach my dream. I'm proud of myself.

Juliana

Page 16

Introduction

Welcome to the 2011 issue of Write On! All the submissions in this booklet were written by *Literacy Unlimited* adult learners.

We are very proud to showcase the achievements of these learners. Their dedication and commitment to improving their literacy skills is truly inspirational.

Thank you to all the learners who submitted their work and to all the tutors who encouraged them to do so.

Enjoy!



Page 1

Spring

Spring is here.

I am happy because there are many things to do.

I like to plant beautiful flowers.

The birds are singing in the woods and diving in the sky.

It is wonderful to see.

The trees start to bloom and the tulips come up.

I start to barbecue outside again on the patio.

Everybody is happy.

Egyptienne

Cinquain

The cinquain poem has five lines and often doesn't rhyme:

Line one is one word.

Line two is two words.

Line three is three words.

Line four is one word.

**Hibiscus
Black gnomes
Plant green beans
Dirt in my hands
Garden**



Hurt

I saw only hurt and sadness because I couldn't read a book or write notes. I thought I had no brain. I was ashamed of myself until I saw the light. I pulled myself together and fought back.

Now, I can read books like a bookworm. When I see a book on shelf in a book store I wish it was written by me because I desire to tell my story. I want to show that Literacy Unlimited works.

I want to thank the LU team for doing good things for me and my daughter Kayla. I can never pay you back for what you have done for me. I want to help others discover Literacy Unlimited. LU rocks my world, through it I hit the mother lode.

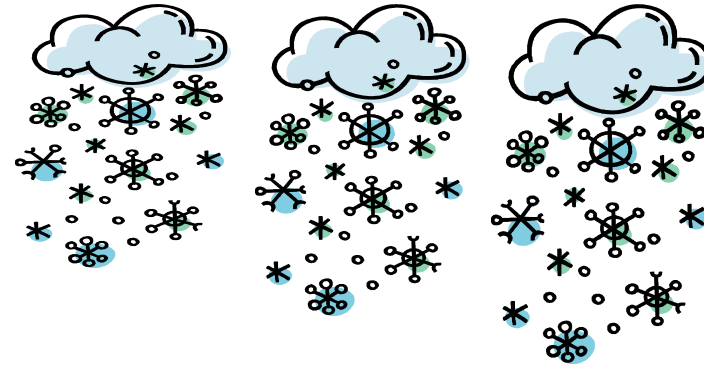
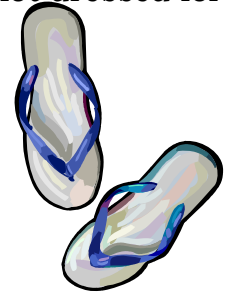
Love
James and Kayla



My First Winter

It was November when I first arrived in Canada. I was shivering. I came from the Caribbean on the airplane. I was not dressed for the weather.

I had never seen snow before. I still have the first shoes my Mom bought for me. They were warm, so warm. I always wore flip-flops or sneakers back home, all year long!



I went to the supermarket with my Mom. The wind was blowing so strong that I ran straight into the bus shelter. My Mom laughed at me.

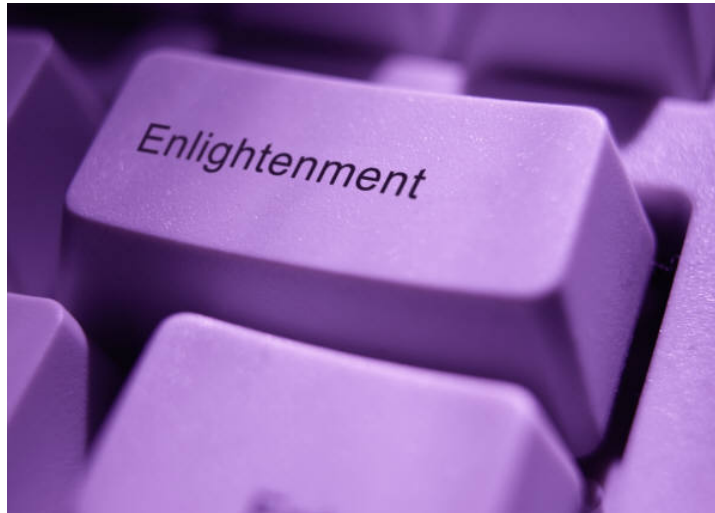


I did not like that first winter and I still do not like winter in Canada.

Anonymous

My Name is Maria

Hi my name is Maria. I am married and I have a wonderful husband and two wonderful boys. I came to Canada a long time ago. I had to work and take care of my family. Before I married I had a chance to go to school for 2 years, that wasn't enough time to learn a new language. I was embarrassed to talk to people and especially when I had to write. I always admired people and some friends that could speak English and write well. I also admired people that could use the computer.



One day I picked up the paper and I saw an ad for Literacy Unlimited. Today I have two wonderful tutors who teach me spelling and writing and how to use the computer. After a few months my spelling is better and I can e-mail my friends.

I am very grateful that I found LU. I enjoy every minute coming to school.

Maria

Mercy's Story - Part Three **"Coming to Canada and Learning More and More"**

My first trip outside Ghana, was to travel to Canada. Me and my husband were so happy the day that I arrived in Canada.

I came wearing a sweater but my husband gave me a new jacket to put on top of my sweater, because I felt the cold air. It was October 18, 1993.

After six months I found a job. It was not easy because my English was not good. My husband took me to a school on Papineau Street. I found it difficult in school and in my job.

One day my friend called to give me information for a school. Its name was 'Literacy Unlimited'. I started school. My teacher is Miss Stephanie. She is a very good teacher.

I am so happy in my life and in school. Me and my husband are so happy that I am learning more and more all the time. I did not give up in my life because I could not read and write and speak. Canada is the best country.

Thank you to my teacher who helped me a lot.

Thank you to 'Literacy Unlimited School' for helping me to get to where I am today.

Thank you all, for everything!

God bless everybody at Literacy Unlimited!

Mercy

The Rosa Parks Story

In ESP class we watched a movie about Rosa Parks the "Mother of the Civil Rights Movement." We wrote our feelings down as we watched and then we wrote this poem together.



TOLERANCE

our **T**EARs moved us as we watched
OLDER and young people together
with **L**OVE nourished by the spirit
ENDURING hardship for 381 days
people **R**EALIZING their power
they **A**CTED with non-violence
NEVER giving up on their dream
the **C**OURAGE of the people is an
EXAMPLE of how to respond today

ESP Group (Monique, James, Grant)

This I Know For Sure

Love is kind, pure, and unconditional. This I know for sure: that my mother will always be in my heart because of the love and understanding she has shown me. I know that you have to respect your parents so that your days will be fulfilled in your lifetime.

I'm very happy to tell you that when I started to come to Literacy Unlimited I did not know that words are building blocks for sentences. Now I know how important words are.

This I know for sure: that music can be a good therapy for your mind because it removes stress and adds comfort.

Drugs can be good for your health but they can destroy your life if misused. This I know for sure.

I know that in the present war many people have lost their life fighting for our freedom.

This I know: we all need some help from each other, no one can succeed alone.

I know for sure that what I want in this life I can achieve by hard work.

I want you all to know that Literacy Unlimited has made a big difference in my life. I didn't know how to read or write. I give thanks to the Lord and to all of my tutors who made it possible for me to accomplish what I want to be in the future, which is a nurse. This I know for sure.

Monique

Canada

When I came to Canada I had nothing. Today I have bought a new house. I worked hard to save money to buy my house, and I'm very happy with my family. I'm very happy to have come to Canada.

Ali



Back to School

What made me decide to go back to school? Well I wrote some long term goals when I started at LU, and going back to school was one of them. Last year I attended a Sec. five English course. The course was two nights a week for about three hours. I had a very good teacher that really pushed her students. I was very nervous when she was giving us the outline of the course. In my head I was saying, "What have I done?!"



The course was divided into two parts. The first part for me was a challenge because there was a lot of reading and writing. To make a long story short, I failed the first part due to lack of time. Now for some very good news ... I passed the second part of the course. I researched, wrote, and presented a two thousand word paper on illiteracy. The listening and reading exams were a challenge, and I almost gave up. The teacher encouraged me to finish and despite my nervousness, I passed.

I'm happy I did not give up, and in the future I plan to redo the first part.

Trelton



Laptops Rule at LU!

Using the laptops in Extra Skills Practice class is not only helpful, but lots of fun. We started using them to learn more about Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King Jr. during Black History month. Later we learned about Terry Fox and right now we are doing the Elections Canada interactive activities on the Canadian Literacy site that LU shared with us.

We have learned to send e-mails and some of us have a Facebook account. We are happy to be able to write to family far away and to share pictures. We are practicing our spelling on our laptops, too.

We check the news on line and discuss our opinions at the end of class. As parents, we like to check out events on line that are happening in Montreal and that are free so we can go with our children. We like the sites that let us listen to the text as we read.



We are grateful to be able to use the technology that our children already know well. It gives us hope and joy. It is a journey that is making us better.

ESP Group (Grant, James, Monique)

I am on my way

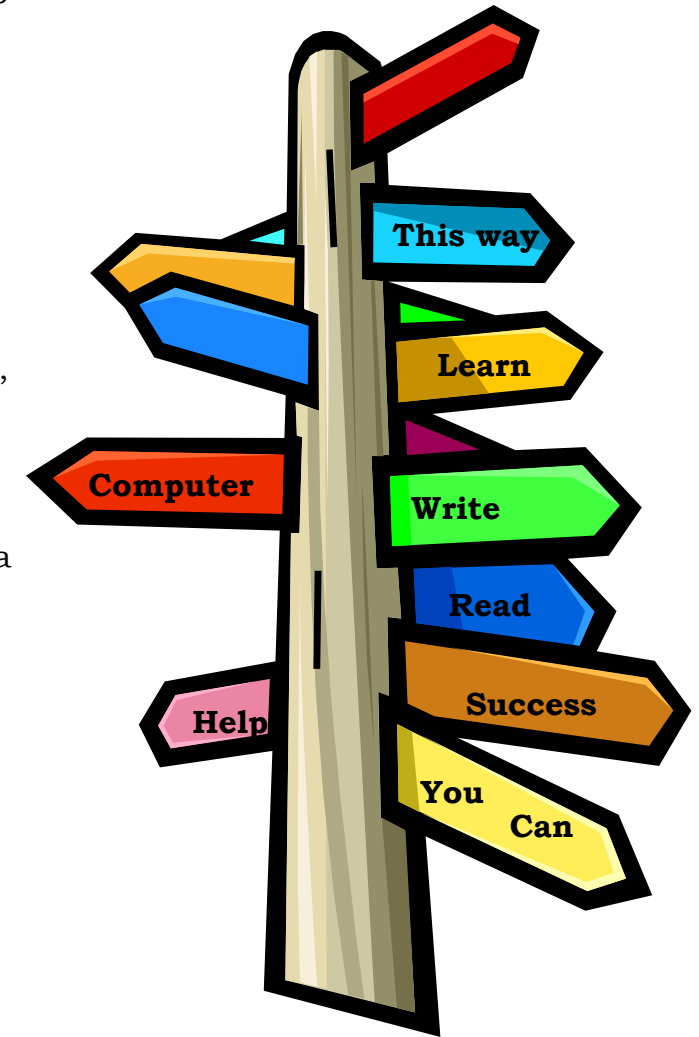
Literacy Unlimited took me out of darkness and put me into the light. When I came to Canada I couldn't write my name. When I started going to literacy classes I saw what I was missing, so every chance I get I would go to school. It wasn't easy taking care of three children, and work, but I did it.

I am so happy coming to Literacy Unlimited.

My teacher is doing a wonderful job with me, she is very patient. Now I can read the street signs, fill out forms, apply for jobs, so I am on my way to a better life.

Thanks to all at Literacy Unlimited.

Ver K.



My Story

My name is Grant. This is my story. I was born in Jamaica. I came to Canada when I was fourteen and I went to French school. I did not learn anything because I spoke English and I was not allowed to go to English school because of Bill 101.

I left school and I went to work. I did not like my work. One day I was listening to the radio and I heard about Literacy Unlimited. I took their phone number and I called and spoke to Karen and I made an appointment. I spoke with Karen and she found me a tutor to help me with my reading and writing.



After my first class I felt good. I keep going to my classes. Susan at the Literacy office found me a tutor who helps me with my computer lessons. It helps me a lot. I enjoy it.

Now I look at the world a new way. I read books. I read the newspaper. I have books in every room in my house. I am learning so much that I did not know before. Now I understand more about what I read.



I would like to say thanks to all the tutors at Literacy Unlimited. They are doing a wonderful job to help people who do not know how to read and write. From the bottom of my heart I would like to say thank you for what you are doing.

Thanks to Literacy Unlimited I had a wonderful experience over the Christmas holiday. I was with my kids. One is seven and one is four. They were going to bed. My son says to me, "Daddy, could you read to us before we go to sleep?" I was so surprised because they would never have asked me this before. It is because of Literacy Unlimited I was able to read to my boys.

Grant