

YOUTH INSTITUTE

POETRY: "I FEEL...I HURT...I CRY...I EDUCATE..."

"I RECOGNIZE..."

(Oakland, Calif.) - Writing poetry should be an integral part of a child's education. While the three R's—reading, 'riting, and 'rithmetic—allow for limited creativity on the child's part, poetry is a welcome opportunity for the child to use his imagination and to express some of his innermost thoughts.

At Oakland's model progressive school, the Intercommunal Youth Institute, poetry writing is an important aspect of the Language Arts curriculum. Below are poems written by Groups 5 through 7, ages seven through 11, which show the many moods and varied thoughts of the young writers.

THE WORLD IS A JUNKYARD

The world is a junkyard—
And the Presidents won't do
nothin' about it.
We need more houses for
people.
The stores need to put the
prices down.

People are poor and have no
bread,



"Until We're Free"

A powerful, yet tender and important new album by Elaine Brown. The songs on the album weave a beautiful tapestry of protest against the quality of life for Black Americans. Listeners will find themselves engulfed in a flow of emotion as Elaine's melodic voice works its magic. Once you have heard "Until We're Free", you will understand why Huey P. Newton says: "A consuming talent, a total dedication and a proven commitment are combined in Elaine Brown, making her the first, genuine People's Artist America has produced."

To purchase this album, send \$4.00 cash or money order to: Central Distribution, 8501 E. 14th Street, Oakland, California 94621. Also available at major record stores near you.

SONS WRITTEN AND PERFORMED BY ELAINE BROWN
Album artwork and distributed by MOTOWN RECORDS CORP.



AMAR CASEY, Group 6 Language Arts instructor at the Institute, conducting a class. At left is a display of the children's poetry.

And we need to stop being so prejudiced.
The police should stop arresting people...
People should unite to change
People should unite to change the big problem.

Groups 6 and 7 collectively

YOU HAD SOME FLOWERS

You had some flowers
And now they pass
And you love them
As they die in the past.

You had some flowers
And now they pass
And you love them
As they die in the past.
If you ask about my flowers
I will tell you.
They passed in hours.

Valerie Wilson
Group 6

WE THE PEOPLE

We the people are not free.
We are the people who have
the children of the future.
That is why we must be correct
In showing examples for our
youth.
We have to assure the future
for our youth to come.
We must be brave and strong.
We must teach our youth.

Debra Williams
Group 6

I FEEL

I feel
I feel love for the people

I feel for Bobby Seale
I feel very good
I feel the table
I feel the city changing
I feel all right about the city,
Except the police (I don't
like them)
I feel the air blowing on
my face

I hurt
I hurt my back
I hurt when there is a comrade
hurt
I hurt when the pigs beat
the people
I hurt when my mother hurts
I hurt when the people hurt
I hurt when you hurt

I cry
I cry when I fall down
I cry sometimes when I'm
happy
I cry only a little while.

I educate
I educate the comrades
I educate myself
I educate my mother
I educate the people
I educate the staff members

I recognize
I recognize the people
I recognize my comrades
I recognize my family
I recognize the things in
the real world.

Ricky Wallace
Group 5

THE FLOWER

Flowers are lovely like people.
One day I saw a black and purple
flower.
Boy, that was outa sight!

Kim Kennon
Group 6

**THIS WEEK IN
BLACK HISTORY**

JUNE 10, 1946

Jack Johnson, the great legendary Black heavyweight boxing champion, died in Raleigh, N.C., on June 10, 1946. Although constantly hounded by government authorities because of his outspoken views and his race, Johnson held the heavyweight crown from 1908-1915, defeating a long line of "great White hope" challengers in the process.

JUNE 11, 1963

An ongoing campaign to desegregate public facilities led to open hostilities in Cambridge, Maryland, on June 11, 1963, when bands of Whites attacked that city's Black community and the community resisted. According to observers, there was "shooting all over the city—almost on the scale of warfare" and the National Guard had to be called in to enforce martial law. So raw were the tensions in Cambridge that U.S. Attorney General Robert Kennedy called Ms. Gloria Richardson, a Black community leader, and Mayor Calvin Mowbray to the Justice Department where they actually signed a truce agreement.

JUNE 11, 1963

Despite the opposition of racist Gov. George Wallace, two Black students accompanied by federalized National Guard troops and federal officials enrolled at the University of Alabama on June 11, 1963. Wallace's opposition fulfilled his inaugural pledge made that year: "...segregation now, segregation tomorrow, segregation forever."

JUNE 12, 1963

Brother Medgar W. Evers, 37, field secretary for the NAACP in Mississippi, was assassinated by die-hard segregationists as he stepped from his car in front of his home in Jackson on June 12, 1963.

JUNE 10, 1964

On June 10, 1964, the U.S. Senate, by a vote of 71 to 29, imposed cloture for the first time on civil rights legislation, ending a Southern filibuster and guaranteeing passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.