

# new MOON girls™



Listening to Girls  
since 1992

freedom to be themselves

**We** are the original girl-created media. Girl editors, writers, artists and creators from around the world direct our content. They work with adults using our groundbreaking Share the Power method.

New Moon Girls provides innovative, safe, respectful, and ad-free spaces online and in the magazine where girls develop their full potential through compassion, creativity, and community.

NMG is for every girl who wants her voice heard and her dreams taken seriously in the world.

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**New Moon Girls never sells or  
loans our member list to anyone.**

# contents

10

## Just for Fun ✖

Personality Quizzes

18

## Go Girl ✖

Pepper Persley, sports reporter



26

## DIY Crafts ✖

Pom poms & paper lanterns

36

## Women's Work ✖

Barb Lin, engineer & crossword maker.

✖ by girls

- 2 Meet a Member ✖
- 3 Inside the Moon
- 4 Dear Luna ✖
- 5 Voice Box ✖
- 6 Ask a Girl ✖
- 8 Body & Mind
- 12 Our Earth ✖
- 14 For the Curious ✖
- 16 Global Village ✖
- 20 10 Day Challenge ✖
- 22 GenZHer Change ✖
- 23 Google Doodle Girl ✖
- 24 What You Make ✖
- 28 Draw a Body ✖
- 30 Our Members Cook ✖
- 32 Pandemic Life Now ✖
- 34 Imagination Creations ✖
- 38 Perald the Frog ✖
- 39 Jump, Spin, Twirl ✖
- 40 Halley's New Dress ✖
- 42 Luna's Art Gallery ✖
- 45 Poetry ✖
- 46 How Aggravating ✖
- 47 Howling at the Moon ✖
- 48 Winter Calendar
- The Last Word

### Our Cover

For the theme Create It we invited our readers to send us photos of things that girls have made. Here's a tiny sample of the endless network of girls' creativity globally.

# Tova, 12, ID

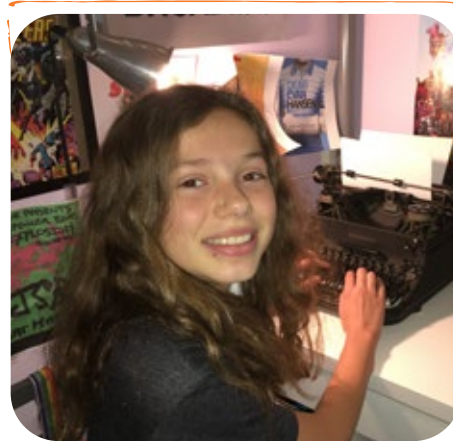
## ABOUT ME

I deeply enjoy marveling at the curvy intersecting lines I type on my 1946 Remington Rand and would like to share them with you, if you have time. My spirit animal is a cross between Moxie Mallahan, an owl, and a dragon. I am always talking about Dragons, Demogorgons, or Some Webcomic With a Strawberry, because fandom has taken over most of my brain.

I like making noise with my feet, so naturally I enjoy strapping metal onto shoes (aka, tap dancing). I also wear tight fitting clothes, put my feet to opposite sides, and move around (aka, ballet). I've played piano since I was five, and started cello last year. I like to freelance write, and am working on a novel.

**WARNING: IF YOU TALK TO ME ABOUT BOOKS, IT WILL BE A LONG CONVERSATION.**

Before you go, answer this simple math question. You know what? Never mind.



## FAVORITES

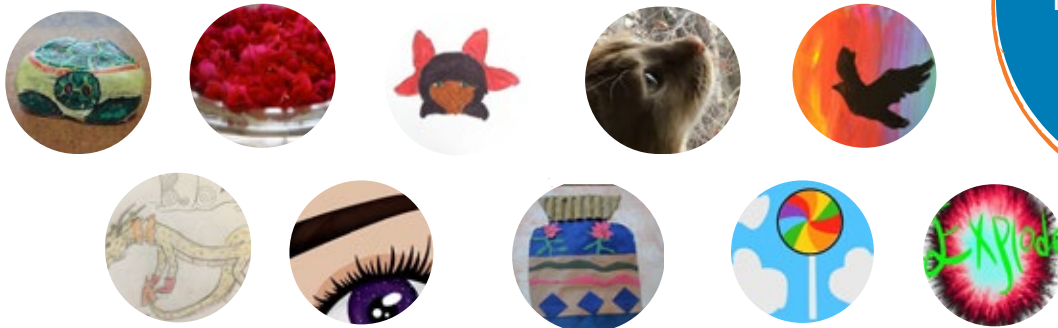
**Dreams:** Be an author who rides a purple dragon. My \*sigh\* realistic ones: go to grad school in London to become a chemist. I'd still work on my novels, story ideas, and drawing. **Sleep dreams?** Often scary and involving waterslides.

**Pets:** A cattle dog-chihuahua mix named Chevelyn Pupito Byers-Cosnefroy. The meaning of those names can be discussed later. Two very small minnows named Phoebe and Chandler. An invisible NightWing that you can not see right now.

**Fave school stuff:** English, Science, Art, and Espionage. I speak fluent Spanish from school so could be an ideal study buddy.

**Other Faves:** Alternative music. Hamilton! Reading like crazy. Imaginary games with my sister. Pancakes and breakfast foods.

Find **10 Luna Tics** hiding in this issue



Upload YOUR  
Luna Tics:  
[NewMoonGirls.com/Girls-Get-Published](http://NewMoonGirls.com/Girls-Get-Published).

This issue's Luna Tics created by: Lily, 11, VA; Mara, 13, WA; Hazel, MI; Tundra Cat; Grace, MN; Tate; MilaKatia, 11, BC; Vienna; Raven; Sophie.

# 2021 at last!

## WHO IS NMG'S FUTURE?

Speaking of this new year, we're looking for the special people and/or organizations who **want to carry NMG's work forward in the world.** Could it be someone you know? We'll work along with new leaders so they can learn all the how-tos of running this small sustainable business. Find out more at: [newmoongirls.com/future](https://newmoongirls.com/future) We're excited to hear your ideas.

## SHINING STARS SPREAD THE WORD Claire, 12, NY

I haven't been able to see people much because of COVID, but I met up with my friend at the park the other day. We started talking about screen time, chat rooms, etc. And I mentioned NMG! She said she actually HAD gotten the magazine before, and really enjoyed it, so I recommended the Girls Online Community to her!!! She sounded very interested, and I think she would really like it.

## WE'RE ALL BEAUTIFUL NOMINATIONS DUE

To nominate yourself or a friend for being a beautiful girl as herself, go to [NewMoonGirls.com/nominate-a-beautiful-girl](https://NewMoonGirls.com/nominate-a-beautiful-girl). You just answer a few questions to tell us about the girl you're nominating. She might be chosen to be in our Summer 2021 magazine.

## OUR NEXT ISSUE

Theme: Feeling the Changes  
Deadline: Jan. 15, 2021

What's changing in your life?  
How are things changing? How does it feel? How is it going? Share your opinions, experiences with us at [newmoongirls.com/girls-get-published!](https://newmoongirls.com/girls-get-published)  
Post it at [NewMoonGirls.com/polls](https://NewMoonGirls.com/polls).  
Your answer could be in the next magazine!

## SEND IT TO US

Open to every girl, no membership needed.

Upload your stuff at [NewMoonGirls.com/Girls-Get-Published](https://NewMoonGirls.com/Girls-Get-Published)

GOC members: post it in the GOC or upload at the link above.

## The Secret to Getting Published!

### MAKE STUFF

- ✨ comics
- ✨ poetry
- ✨ opinions
- ✨ mysteries
- ✨ photography
- ✨ knitting, sewing, any crafts
- ✨ science experiments
- ✨ paintings
- ✨ recipes you make
- ✨ sports
- ✨ songs you play or compose
- ✨ coding projects
- ✨ stories
- ✨ poll questions & answers
- ✨ playwriting
- ✨ true stories of your experiences
- ✨ reviews: music, dance, movie & book
- ✨ q & a's with someone who does interesting stuff
- ✨ puzzles you make up

### SEND IT TO US

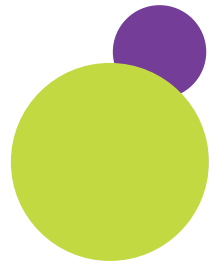
### CHECK YOUR EMAIL

That's how you know when we want to publish your creation. We can't include it if you & your parent don't answer our emails and messages.



I'm Luna, the spirit of New Moon. I love to hear from you! Write to me at

[NewMoonGirls.com/Girls-Get-Published](http://NewMoonGirls.com/Girls-Get-Published)



Dear Luna,

I'm very happy to be recognized and accepted by NMG. Can you do an article about LGBTQ+ and gender identity?

**Violet, 11, NY**

Dear Violet,

We appreciate your kind words and thanks for your suggestion! We like publishing articles about LGBTQ+ and gender identity experiences. Most of our articles come from readers like you. You and others can submit to [newmoongirls.com/girls-get-published](http://newmoongirls.com/girls-get-published).

**Love, Luna**

Dear Luna,

A lot of times on NMG, I see people blowing up at very small things. If a book character thinks or says something sexist, it doesn't mean the author meant it to hurt. It's just the character's opinion, not a fact.

Sexist, girly t-shirt? My advice: Roll your eyes. Shrug it off. Marketing says unreasonable, sexist things. The whole universe is not out to get you.

Cartoon has more male than female characters? Do a quick reality check. Does that girl seem strong and capable? Maybe the creator wasn't sexist after all.

Girl in a movie wears makeup or occasionally needs help? It may just be part of who she is. So long as she's not constantly the damsel in distress, it's okay.

Sexism isn't okay, but before blowing a fuse, take a breath and check with yourself. Just because you notice something sexist doesn't mean anyone meant it to hurt or mean anything in particular.

The fuse-blowing annoys me even more than the sexism itself. Maybe it'll be fun to look at things on a

different scale. You never know what you might find.

**PotatoeTheSpook, 13, CA**

**Rowan, 13, ON responds:**

I do think it's important to look at the facts before blowing up, but it's also totally okay to get mad about stereotypes and sexist things that objectify girls and/or put them down. NMG is a safe space to do that. Many members don't have anywhere else to express their anger, frustration, exasperation, etc. about the constant sexism in everyday life.

Dear PotatoeTheSpook and Rowan, Thank you both for sharing your thoughts! We'd love to hear from other readers about this, too.

**Love, Luna**

Thanks to Claire, 11, NH who sent her awesome ideas to [newmoongirls.com/girls-ideas-please](http://newmoongirls.com/girls-ideas-please)

Theme:  
Sign Language.

Voice Box:  
Wearing/not wearing dresses

Global Village:  
Iceland

It's totally OK to get mad about sexist things.



*To Meat or Not to (Eat) Meat? That is the question. Is eating meat OK? Good for the environment? What's your opinion?*

I'm mostly vegetarian, but sometimes have a little meat. I don't think eating meat is BAD, I just don't like the thought of eating something that was once alive. Everyone is different, and can have different opinions on whether they want to eat meat or not. Being vegetarian is better for the environment because plants regrow, give off oxygen, and decompose into dirt.

**Lily, 10, OR**

I've considered becoming a vegetarian because I feel bad when I think of eating meat, but it would just be too hard for me. So me and my family are vegetarian one week a month. That way we're not always eating meat, and we can help the environment without giving up meat for good!

**Isabella, 13, TX**

I'm pescatarian (I eat fish, but no other meat) because animals are living things too, and I wouldn't want to get eaten. It's hard at first, but it gets easier.

**Leona, 10, IL**

Being vegetarian is better for the environment. Meat takes more energy to produce than grains and vegetables, and animals are not treated humanely in industrial settings.

Being vegan isn't realistic for my family, because of allergies. However, I try to approach meat-eating morally and sustainably. Meat doesn't have to be the center of every meal. Veganism/vegetarianism is a way to be more adventurous with food.

**Pheobe, 15, IN**

Being vegan makes me feel happier and healthier. It also lowers my carbon footprint, which helps the environment. Why do humans get to decide to eat other animals?

If you're going vegetarian/vegan, get a family member or friend to do it with you. They can help find recipes, and you'll be able to talk about your experiences.

**Solange, 12, NH**

Humans are animals, and animals eat animals. It's okay to eat some meat. But we need a balance. "Mass producing" animals in poor living conditions and taking more than we need from nature is NOT respecting the other life we share this planet with. We have to change that.

I'm not completely vegetarian, but I don't eat much meat. Eating meat doesn't mean someone doesn't care about our planet.

**Inyo, 12, CA**



## Sound Off!

### Hair There, Everywhere!!

How do you handle yours?

Post your thoughts by  
Jan. 15, 2021 at:

[NewMoonGirls.com/polls](https://www.newmoongirls.com/polls)

Your answer could be in  
the next NMG!

If you've got a tough question about friends, body concerns, or whatever, you'll find supportive advice from kind and caring members at: <https://nmgmembers.com/messageboards/Ask+A+Girl>

Many thanks to ALL our awesome advice askers and givers!



I'm worried about my eating habits. I'm not skinny, and it concerns me that I'm slightly fat-ish. I love sweets and "fattening" foods, and I don't want to give that up. I eat a lot even when I'm not hungry because the food tastes so good. I also can't wear one of my favorite shirts because it's tight-fitting and shows my fat-ish-ness. Can you help?

**Weight Worries 12 NC**

Dear Weight Worries,

As long as your doctor says you're fine, you're fine. I went through a period when I thought I was fat, but I'm not. I didn't realize that weight changes naturally during puberty. I like myself a lot more now. If you're concerned about your eating, talk to your parents. I've found that when I'm worried, opening up ALWAYS helps.

**Mar 11 NJ**

I'm  
Slightly  
Fat-ish

Dear Weight Worries,  
Plenty of people aren't skinny, and that's beautiful! The media tends to equate "skinny" with "beautiful," but all body types are gorgeous. Also, you're still growing, and it's completely normal for your body to be changing shape. The key to a good, healthy diet is balance. It's important to eat plenty of fruits and veggies, but it's okay to have some treats in there too! And wear whatever clothes you want. We've only got one life to live, so live confidently and flaunt it!

**Paige 17 Sister to Sister**

Dear Weight Worries,  
There is a lot of pressure to be thin and of a certain body type, but nobody is perfect in society's eyes. At 11, you have nothing at all to worry about. Find something active that you like to do, like tennis, skating, dancing, or anything else. Practice self-love. Also, don't worry about your shirt. If you like it, you will look fabulous in it.

**Strummer 13 NY**

I was in the hospital for a week or so and had a procedure where they inserted a catheter/IV line in my arm. I didn't know what they were doing and nobody was there with me. I still have the tube in my arm, but every time I look at it I feel scared and worried. My mom gives me medicine through it, and even though I trust her, I feel like I'm having a nightmare of my time in the hospital. Do you have any advice about overcoming fears and anxiety?

**Anxious 12 VA**

Dear Anxious,

That sounds like a very hard experience. It is totally understandable to be scared. First of all, I would try taking a few deep breaths. I know it seems obvious, but it can really help. Then talk to your parents and doctor. Ask them questions about the procedure you had. It may seem less scary if you understand it more. Of course, if you



# sister to sister

think asking questions would make it worse, then don't. You could also try journaling, or "brain dumping" — sit for 5-10 minutes and just write whatever comes to mind.

**Esme 12 MI**

Dear Anxious,  
I have an anxiety disorder, so I understand your feelings. When I'm especially scared, I do a technique called grounding. Focus on things you can see, and list them in your head. Then focus on things you can feel. Then do the same with things you can hear, smell, and taste. I hope this helps!

**Callie 12 ME**

*Sister to Sister mentor Amelia, 16, CT recently answered this Girls Online Community member's question:*

**A member asked: My friends are going back to school for part of the week, doing hybrid learning. I have to do remote, and I am afraid that I will miss out on so much stuff with my friends and school. How do I make sure that I'm not left out when I come back? - Anonymous**

It might seem like you're going to miss out on a lot, but you probably won't. Explain to your friends that you're worried about missing out on stuff. If they're good friends, they'll understand and include you in things they do after school. Make a plan to stay in touch, socially distanced or on video call. As for school itself, your teachers are doing everything they can to make sure everyone gets what they need, whether online or in person. Remember, this pandemic is still new for everyone. You're not the only one worried, and everyone is doing their best. Try not to stress too much.



Want to ask a girl?  
Go to  
[NMGMembers.com](https://www.nmgmembers.com)  
to join our GOC -  
Girls Online  
Community



# the pandemic & you

*The pandemic's disruption, strain and uncertainty is very hard. Since COVID-19 began, many NMG members are sharing feelings of distress, frustration, hopelessness, and sometimes even thoughts of hurting themselves.*

That's not surprising, AND it's important to talk about. From my experience as a psychologist and a long-time Girls Online Community moderator I want you to know that experiencing overwhelming emotions, especially in a traumatic time like this, is normal.

But just because something is normal, doesn't mean it's easy. Far from it! Overwhelming emotions are often confusing and exhausting. They might even feel too intense to get through. Understanding what causes these emotions, and what actions to take, can help us get through the tough times.

You're experiencing severe restrictions on your daily life. And it happened suddenly! In just weeks, the world went from hanging out with friends, and family vacations, to no more birthday parties or visits with Grandma and Grandpa.

In all this COVID chaos, you've lost things, BIG things! Nearly every social aspect of your daily life is disrupted or on hold, from going to school and playing sports to just hanging out. People tell you it's not forever, but no one knows when normal life will return.

To understand your intense emotions, it's important to know your daily activities and friends aren't "just little things." Being cut off from these important parts of your life is a really big deal: one that's likely to have a big impact on your emotions from day to day.

Interacting with people is important to your physical and emotional health, your sense of self, and your total well-being. Plus, your social network has a HUGE impact on how you become you!

Understanding that we have a serious loss is often the first step to process what we're feeling. If you haven't already, try talking with your friends and parents about the



*Sometimes in life, what we think and feel is very hard. Sometimes it might even feel like too much. When these times come, remember, you are not alone.*



painting by Paige, 15, WI

pandemic. Share your feelings with each other. Talk about what you miss. Let each other know that sharing your experiences and feelings matters.

And remember, despite COVID-19 restrictions, you are not alone! The New Moon Girls community is another place where you can talk about what you are experiencing and share this experience with others.

When people are feeling such strong emotions, I find that creativity helps. Transforming your thoughts and feelings into self-expression can help you process what you are going through.

Artwork, poetry, song, dance, storytelling, photography, short films and more all work. Plus, your creative outlets can also help others! Every time you share a creation, someone else can feel connected with you, share in your talents, and benefit from what you created.

Being creative also helps you remember that, no matter what is happening in the world, you are unique, talented, and have something important to give.

We may not be able to connect in person during this difficult time

of change and loss. But the world never had more opportunities to communicate and stay involved through technology and online platforms.

Without IRL clubs or activities, do you have time to explore something new? Are there causes you feel passionate—even just curious—about?

In recent issues of the magazine, and in the online community, members are tackling big issues like LGBTQIA+ rights, Black Lives Matter, climate change, girl's and women's rights, mental health, differently-abled issues, politics, and more.

If you want to get active on an issue, ask an adult in your life for help getting informed and involved. Visit [newmoongirls.com/fall-2020-check-it-out](http://newmoongirls.com/fall-2020-check-it-out).

Finally, please know this: we are always deeply grateful for your voice and for your sharing. You make New Moon Girls the supportive, vital, creative community that it is. Share your feelings, because together we can help each other get through these difficult times.



Liz Vitale, PsyD, is a psychologist in CT. She enjoys the music of Sarah Bareilles, Alicia Keys, and Brandi Carlisle, art, animals, books, ice cream, and theatre. She was on stage as a girl and behind the scenes as an adult. Liz dreams of a world with clean water and air, where all people are treated with dignity and respect.

If you ever feel like hurting yourself, Ask For Help. Don't be afraid to let your friends, family, or teachers know what you need when they ask; they want to help.

You can call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 24/7 at 800-273-8255. Calls are confidential.

On the web:  
[suicidepreventionlifeline.org/help-yourself/youth](http://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/help-yourself/youth)

# what color is your aura?

by Ria, 13, ID



*Put them all together! Are you a blue-aura-husky named Lily?*

## How do friends describe you?

- A. opinionated
- B. calm
- C. funny
- D. observant
- E. loud
- F. supportive

## If you had a superpower, what would it be?

- A. super speed
- B. invisibility
- C. flight
- D. no powers, just technology
- E. super strength
- F. mind-reading/telekinesis

## You can't leave home without:

- A. music and earbuds
- B. water bottle
- C. phone
- D. notebook
- E. chapstick
- F. sketchbook

## How do you want to impact the world?

- A. leaving my mark on it
- B. doing good
- C. creating an empire
- D. bringing justice

- E. doing what makes me happy
- F. inventing something new

## Pick a hobby.

- A. camping
- B. fishing
- C. shopping
- D. photography
- E. writing
- F. painting

## How do you relax?

- A. sleep
- B. spend time outdoors
- C. hang out with friends
- D. spend time with family
- E. exercise
- F. read

## What's your dream place to live?

- A. San Francisco
- B. a small town
- C. Paris
- D. IDK, somewhere in Canada
- E. New York City
- F. the wilderness

## How do you like to exercise?

- A. running
- B. taking walks
- C. biking
- D. swimming
- E. dance/yoga
- F. skiing

## What do you do at a party?

- A. bring the food
- B. play with the dogs
- C. play all the party games

- D. DJ the music
- E. start a conversation
- F. stand back and people-watch

## Your Aura Is.....

**Mostly As:** You have a loud, expressive personality. You voice many strong opinions. You love adventures and trying new things. Your enthusiasm is contagious!

**Mostly Bs:** You love feeling relaxed and comforting someone who is feeling sad. You are usually a peacekeeper. You embrace change and look at the big picture rather than the details.

**Mostly Cs:** Yellow. You're cheerful, optimistic, and a dreamer. You handle pressure and bounce back when you're knocked down. You're distractible, live each day fully, and rarely have regrets.

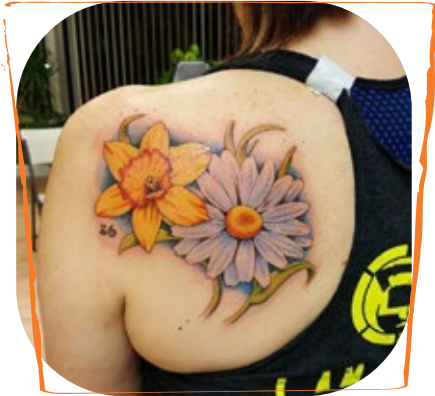
**Mostly Ds:** You're a loyal friend. You're emotional but put up a hard front sometimes. You value truth and honesty over anything else. You want to be liked and accepted for who you are.

**Mostly Es:** You're bold; a natural leader. Your energy is sometimes overwhelming. You're warm, positive, and lose your temper easily. You love having friends.

**Mostly Fs:** You hold yourself to high standards but can feel bad about yourself. You're down to earth, compassionate, and like to be alone. You're sensitive and understand people.

# what flower are you?

by Ariana, 12, MA



## What's your favorite color type?

- a. primary (red, blue, yellow) - 3 points
- b. secondary (orange, purple, green) - 1 point
- c. neutral (black, gray, white) - 2 points
- d. I don't have one - 4 points

## What is your favorite wild animal?

- a. Any wild dog (wolf, coyote, etc.) - 2 points
- b. Any wild cat (tiger, lion, etc) - 3 points
- c. I'm not really an animal person - 1 point
- d. I love all animals - 4 points

## Do you care what others think of you?

- a. Yes, a lot - 1 point
- b. Kind of - 2 points
- c. Not really - 3 points
- d. Nope - 4 points

## Add up your points!

3 to 5: You are a Daisy!  
6 to 10: You are a Lily!  
11 to 12: You are a Lilac!

# what dog are you?

by Jane, 11, MD

## Your dream vacation day?

- a. in the city - 2 points
- b. warm beach - 1 point
- c. in a mountain cabin - 3 points

## Your favorite fruit?

- a. Watermelon - 3 points
- b. Strawberry - 2 points
- c. Other - 1 point

## What you'd rather do?

- a. Play my favorite sport - 1 point
- b. Read my favorite book - 3 points
- c. Watch my favorite movie - 2 points

## Add up your points!

3 through 4: Dachshund!  
5 through 7: Labrador retriever!  
8 through 9: Husky!



# how we can stop fast fashion

by Gemma Jackson

*The fast fashion industry is a major polluter and threat to human rights. What can we do about it?*

Fast fashion is how fashion brands produce cheap clothing very fast to keep up with trends. These brands include Shein, H&M, Zara, Forever21, and many others.

Before fast fashion began in the 1950s, clothing brands made new styles for each season--that was four times per year. But then, companies realized they could make more money by changing fashion trends more often.

Today, most fast fashion brands have at least 52 fashion seasons a year. The industry sells the idea that we can't live without the latest fashions, even if they arrive once a week!

As this cycle increased, quality and prices dropped---but profits grew.

The fashion industry is now worth about \$2.5 trillion dollars worldwide. A lot of that money comes from selling clothes for \$20, \$100, or more.

But companies pay as little as 2 cents each to make those clothes.

How is it so cheap to make? Many fashion companies pay garment workers so little that human rights advocates call it modern-day slavery.

For instance, most clothing factories are in poorer countries—like China, India, and Bangladesh—where the minimum wage is less than half what it actually costs to live.

But the vast majority of garment workers are paid even LESS than the minimum wage! Many children also work in these factories to help



**Girl picking cotton.**

support their families. That's illegal, and keeps workers in severe poverty.

This is not a small problem. There are about 40 million garment workers across the globe. Only two percent of them make a living wage.

The factory working conditions are also monstrous. Hundreds of people work in overcrowded rooms, without

ventilation and safe exits.

The air is filled with toxic substances. Accidents, fires, injuries, and disease are common. For example, in 2013, the Rana Plaza clothing factory in Bangladesh collapsed, killing over 2,500 workers.

Eighty percent of garment workers are women and girls. Many work 14 hours a day for terrible pay. They face physical and/or sexual abuse. Many women say the companies deny their right to maternity leave.

*fast fashion is destroying our earth!*

## POLLUTION

Only the oil industry pollutes more. Fashion companies use chemicals and dyes in clothing production—including lead, mercury, and arsenic—and often dump them into rivers and oceans.

This destroys natural habitats, and harms the health of people living nearby.

The clothing industry also causes about 10 percent of global carbon



**My outfit at a Girls, Inc. ethical fashion show. I only bought two new things: fake flowers for my hair and the clasp for my cloak.**

emissions. That damages the ozone, which protects the Earth from the Sun. This means our climates warm, oceans rise, and glaciers melt.

## WATER

The fashion industry uses about 79 trillion liters of water every year, far more water than can be renewed. Amazingly, it can take 713 gallons of water to produce enough cotton to make a single t-shirt. That's about as much as a person drinks in three years.

## WASTE

Around the world, consumers and companies make around 13 million tons of textile waste every year. More than 80 percent of it goes into landfills. Synthetic fabrics like nylon are made from petroleum and never decompose.



## WHAT CAN WE DO?

### Research!

Learn about the ethics and operations of the brands you buy. Do they pay workers more than enough to love on? Protect the environment? Learn about fair trade practices at Fair Trade USA.

### Boycott!

Instead of buying new "brand-name" clothes, swap, re-use, buy used, remake, and recycle clothes as much as you can.

### Disrupt!

Shop at online and IRL thrift shops. They disrupt fast fashion's cycle of trends, overconsumption, and trashing clothes. And they're a blast!

### Sustain!

Just don't consume so much, even if you buy from sustainable brands. It's best for the environment to consume less, no matter what you're consuming. Visit [storyofstuff.org](http://storyofstuff.org).

### Protest!

Take action through organizations like Re/Make, Sustain Your Style, War on Want, and more. From your household to the world, use your voice to make change!



**Gemma, 13, CA, enjoys singing, history, art, and wellness. She runs a Tumblr blog working to reclaim women's HERstory!**

# hello, cello!

by Amelia King

*Have you wondered how string instruments came to be the way they are today? They have an interesting history and many specialized parts in them. Amelia introduces us to her favorite one.*

I'm a cellist, so let's talk about the cello's history!

What does the cello have in common with the violin, viola, and double bass?

They're all part of the same four-stringed instrument group, the violin family.

Other instrument cousins, like the harp, have strings too. And did you know that a piano also has strings inside?

Now back to the violin family. In this family the oldest member is the smallest.

The violin is the smallest which makes it also the highest-pitched instrument in the family. Its four strings make the notes A, D, G and E. Musical notes are named using letters of the alphabet.

The viola is shaped like a violin, but with slightly different strings. Plus, its bigger body produces a lower sound. Its strings are A, D, G, and C.

Next is the cello. Its strings have the same notes as a viola, but one octave—an eight-note musical scale—lower.

The double bass is the lowest of all, and its strings share the same notes as the violin, although much lower.

The cello was invented after the violin and viola. In the 1500s, a string instrument-maker—or luthier—named Andrea Amati made the first cellos in Italy.

These early cellos were larger than the instruments orchestras use nowadays. And, their strings were made of animal intestines!

Smaller cellos have a major advantage, though. They're easier to play. So in the 1770s, luthiers started making smaller cellos.

It can take 800 hours to build just one string instrument!

Because of the time it takes to handbuild a cello in the 1800s, people started mass-producing cellos.

These newer instruments are less expensive which makes them affordable for many more people.

But their tone—the quality of sound—is not as good as the older, handmade instruments. So today, cellos made hundreds of years ago by



Andrea Amati violincello  
made in 1538.

Italian luthiers are worth millions of dollars.

The cello was originally named violoncello. People just say cello today. But sheet music often still uses violoncello.



Many luthiers still make cellos the traditional way—by hand. A Chicago, IL luthier made my mom's cello.

When we went to his workshop, I saw large pieces of wood ready to cut. Each cello is made of about 70 unique parts, including different types of wood, metal, and other materials.

The body of the cello is wood. Today the strings are made of metal wire instead of gut.



Have you seen a spike sticking out the bottom of a cello?

It's called an endpin. It helps the musician hold the cello gently steady between her legs while playing.

Cellists adjust the endpin up or down to get the right height for their body size.



All violin family members come in many different sizes. This is so kids can start playing on smaller sizes and gradually switch to bigger sizes as their bodies grow. I'm 14 and have a 3/4 size.



Amelia, 14, OH, is a cello player whose other interests include reading and dance.

# vikinger sisters

by Arja & Mina Jensen Miller

Hei! We are sisters from northern Norway, above the Arctic Circle.

Norwegians are nicknamed “vikinger” because of our Viking history and cold, harsh weather.

Where we live, winter lasts from October until May. We’ve experienced temperatures 30 degrees below zero Celsius. That’s -22 Fahrenheit.

We live with our younger sister, Lilja, and vår mor og fa—our mother and father—in a big house on a farm, near a small mountain village.

At 303 meters above sea level, we get lots of snow. Other parts of Norway usually get rain instead. In April, 2020—when we wrote this article—the snow was almost 2 meters high!!

In a “normal” year, we get up between 7 and 8 o’clock to get ready for school and the half hour bus ride. We have about four lessons a day, with a break for lunch—usually sliced bread with cheese or salami.

We learn maths, English, Norwegian, gymnastics, social studies, and religion. Vår mor makes dinner for when we come home from school, a little before 3:00.

Since the Coronavirus spread to Norway, we’ve been having homeschool. Arja thinks it is great because: “I concentrate better than in the classroom!”

**Mina:** I’m 11 and love my school and our two cats, especially my own cat,



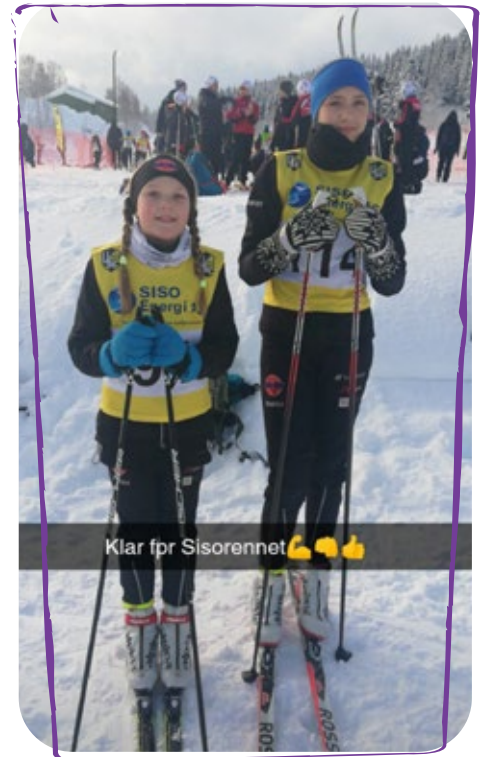
Pusimusi. We’re all excited that both cats are pregnant; the kittens will be born by the time you read this! Lilja will get a kitten because she does not have a cat of her own.

I like the snow, especially riding a snowmobile with my father and skiing, which is great exercise. When I grow up I want to help children at risk or in social need, maybe as a teacher or psychologist. My favorite food? Hamburger!

**Arja:** I’m 13 and love living in Norway because our welfare system is very good. We attend free school, have free hospital care and nice winters. I like being social and doing makeup with my friends.

I like to sleep a lot, eat and bake good food—especially pizza—and go shopping. My next project is to renovate parts of my room; I plan to paint it a darker color, maybe green. When I get older, I plan to study to become a hairdresser or a chef.

On weekends we usually sleep until vår far wakes us. He makes English breakfast for the whole family. When the weather is nice we sometimes go skiing in the woods, make an



Arja & Mina ready for a ski race..

## Say it in Norsk!

Hello: Hei

Please: Vær så snill

Thank you: Takk

You’re welcome: Vær så god

How are you?: Hvordan går det?

What’s your name?: Hva heter du?



Arja plays fotboll.



outdoor fire, and grill sausages and marshmallows. When it's too cold to stay outside for long, we play games indoors. Saturday evenings we watch movies together, streamed from Viaplay or Netflix.

In the summer we drive to a farm near the sea where besteforeldrene våre (our grandparents) live. It's the only time each year that we meet with our cousins and nephew.

Of course, with us all there, the house is loud! We play inside and outside the whole day. We love running down to the river to dive and swim.

Fishing from a boat is exciting and great fun. We spend part of every day out on the grass, running around like crazy, and spiller fotball, playing what you probably call "soccer."



## Our Food

When Norway was very poor, people preserved meat and fish in salt and ate them with potatoes and simple sauces. Today, those foods are special traditions.

Vår far hunts moose every other autumn, so we eat a lot of moose meat. We like it with low bush cranberry and chanterelle, picked from our own woods.

We also like cod and pollock from our grandparents' farm.

We like cooking steak in the oven with potatoes. Or we boil it in salted water with potatoes and vegetables.

We have a special brown cheese called brunost. It is made of cows' milk, but tastes a bit like caramel. We love to eat brunost på brød on bread.



Arja & Mina preparing firewood for winter.



Arja, Mina & Lilja on a boat trip.

# pepper persley

by Rowan Crocker

Pepper Persley is a nine-year-old sports reporter who hosts two podcasts: “Dish With Pepper” and “She Got Next.” She interviews players in the Women’s National Basketball Association (WNBA) and other interesting people about basketball and social justice.

“My first interview was with the NY Liberty’s Sugar Rodgers when I was six,” Pepper remembers. “I wanted to be fancy for the interview, but then I thought, what if Sugar asks me to play? So I was rocking this dress with basketball sneakers and my notepad with all my questions. It was awesome, and it started the flame of my passion for journalism. And we did play!”

She works hard on her journalism. “I usually wake up, have breakfast, and check my email to see if there are any press conferences or press releases I need to read or check out. Then I’ll work on questions, if I have an interview.” During the season, Pepper watches WNBA games every day.

A few media people don’t always take Pepper seriously because of her age, not to mention her gender and race. “Especially as a Black girl there’s always going to be that negativity, that ‘Oh, you’re here?’ kind of thing,”

she says. “I really try to focus on the positives, though. If I believe in something you can’t tell me to not believe in that. You can’t tell me to not write about that.”

Pepper is also passionate about how injustice hurts children. At a 2020 WNBA press conference, she asked players: “The news of no arrests of the cops who killed Breonna Taylor is really hard for little Black girls like me. What message would you give to kids like me who are confused and sad and angry?”

A’ja Wilson—the league MVP—answered: “Oh Pepper, you have me tearing up. My message is to keep fighting. I hate that you even have to think about going through it. People in my generation are going to fight alongside you.”



Pepper with Monique Billings of the Atlanta Dream.

The Women’s Sports Foundation chose Pepper to present WNBA



Pepper courtside for a WNBA game broadcast.

players with the 2020 Wilma Rudolph Courage award. They won for dedicating themselves and their season to racial equality, Say Her Name, Black Lives Matter, voting rights, LGBTQ+ advocacy, gun violence, and other social issues.

“The unity the WNBA portrays while doing all this work is the most inspiring and best part about it,” Pepper said during the ceremony. “What the league is doing will inspire and affect young people like me to find their voices.”

Pepper and her parents pay attention to her just being a kid, too. She loves reading, playing the violin, doing taekwondo, playing soccer, and listening to music while she does her hair in the morning. And, she really loves playing basketball.

Pepper interviews inspiring women and along the way she has become an inspiring person herself. “I feel for kids who are told that they’re not supposed to be playing sports, or that they need to wear dresses and look like princesses. There’s no such thing as a perfect girl. You just be who you are, so you’re the perfect you.”



Pepper works with the professionalism of an experienced journalist. “I try to base my questions off of the research I’ve done.”

Hear her work at [podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/dish-with-pepper/id1519265807](https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/dish-with-pepper/id1519265807)

and

[thenext.substack.com/people/10426592-the-next](https://thenext.substack.com/people/10426592-the-next).



At the 2018 College Final Four with players Kelsey Mitchell, A’ja Wilson, Sabrina Ionescu, and Kalani Brown.



**OUR BIG THANKS** to Liz Lapp, Karen Uyenco and Kyndall Freer for letting us quote from their interview with Pepper. To watch the interview go here: <https://bit.ly/37BnKmU>. Pepper starts about six minutes in.



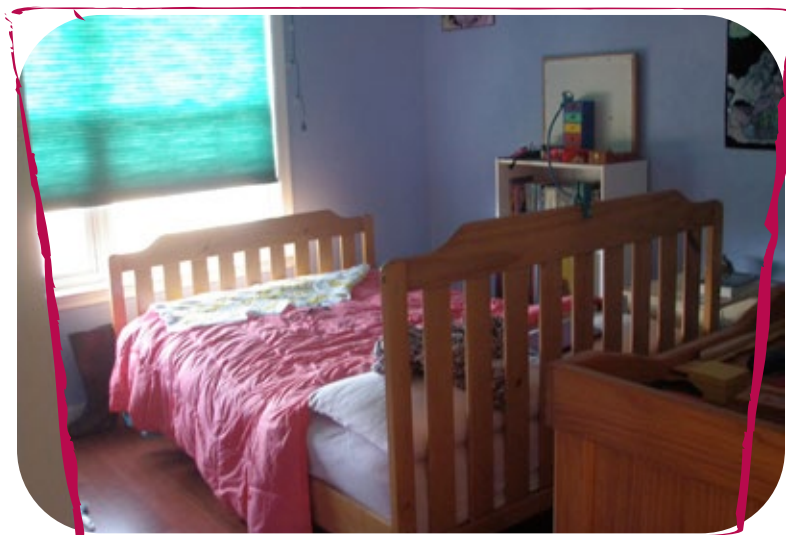
Rowan, 13, ON, has a poodle named Seeger. She likes reading, writing, ukulele, swimming, dancing, Girl Guides, playing board games, Language class, and hanging out with friends and family.

# 10 Day Challenge

by Cloud Davis

*“Don’t just get through this. Make the most of it!”*

*Some people say we should push through these weird times. I think, “Don’t just get through this. Make the most of it!”*



My clean room by Maia, 12, MD

I made this challenge to help everyone—including me—feel better even though things are tough.

I’ve set out a task for each day, but feel free to customize. Stick to it by putting each task on a calendar.

## Day 1: Clean your space

Make a home base for this challenge. Choose a place with privacy: your room, your desk, or whatever area you can make yours. Now tidy it. A clean space is a clean mind.

## Day 2: Unplug

Here are easy tips for unplugging. Make a schedule for screen time. Stick to it! Go outside if you safely can. Do non-digital, IRL things like reading and drawing. At first, you may feel bored or annoyed. Remember, binge-watching shows or looking at memes all the time won’t make you feel better. You’re doing this to feel better in the long run.

## Day 3: Care for your body

Treat yourself! Take a warm bath for relaxation. Get physical—run, dance, play—for energy. And GET SOME SLEEP. A solid eight to ten hours is ideal. Nature sounds help me sleep. Do what works for you. Turn off your devices an hour before bed.

## Day 4: Let it out

Today we journal! Get paper. Start with the date, time, and where you are. “Free write” whatever thoughts come to mind, or use prompts for inspiration. Need one to get started? Write a playlist of five songs that match your mood. If that mood was a doodle, what would it look like? Doodle that vibe.

## Day 5: Love what you see

Make the space you’re in a place you LOVE. On Day 1, you cleaned it. Now add or remove things to help you

de-stress, work, sleep—whatever you want. I like to hang photographs, bumper stickers, and other fun things. Make it represent you.

## Day 6: Look inside

Today is for self-reflection. Try meditating. You can look up meditation tutorials. Or sit silently for five to 20 minutes. Don’t do anything—just be. If possible, go into nature. Observe what’s around you. Take everything in.

## Day 7: Eat mindfully

Eating is more than just getting nutrients. It’s enjoyable. Season your food. Warm it up. Change it up with new foods and flavors. It’s always fun to cook with others, so try cooking with someone in your home.

## Day 8: Routines

Routines are great! Having specific routines can help you keep a healthy

mindset. Formatting routines as a to-do list or schedule can help you stick to it.

### Day 9: Affirmations

Affirm yourself today. Think about what you want to achieve and who you want to be. Consider if there are parts of you that you've been forgetting. If you are learning a new skill, tell yourself you can do it! We all feel doubts about some things. Tell yourself you are good at these things. Recite your affirmations in a mirror.

### Day 10: Goals

You tried new things and grew with this challenge. Now reflect and set some goals. Write down both short-term goals—one to three weeks—and long-term goals—one to three months. Hang them where you can see them. If you use to-do lists, create daily tasks to help you reach a goal. Check your progress regularly.

Congrats! You accomplished the challenge! I hope you enjoyed it, and I hope you're inspired to care for yourself each day.



Phoebe, NC, unplugging at a public piano.

Find more detailed descriptions of each day's task on the Girls Online Community: [nmgmembers.com/messageboards/10-days-of-loving-yourself](https://nmgmembers.com/messageboards/10-days-of-loving-yourself)

*I'm a fan of TheBlissBean.com by Beatrice Naujalyte. Beatrice wants to stop "suffocating under the weight of my own perfectionism." She shares practices like mindfulness and setting boundaries. She started Bliss Bean as a teenager. It helps us make time for our passions—an important part of wellbeing.*



Cloud, 12, NY, is an artist, animal activist, writer, procrastinator, synesthete, and aspiring forest dweller. She enjoys going on hikes, listening to podcasts, snuggling with her pets, and designing tiny houses.

# Creating Change with GenZ

Interview by Strummer Dunn

With girls in Turkey, India, Canada and the US, Zikora Akanegbu, 15, made a global online media platform for and by young women in Generation Z.

Gen-Z is a name for people born between the mid-1990s and the early 2010s.



Zikora says, "the best advice I ever got is below."

"Don't ever stop learning and growing as a person!"

**Strummer:** Why and how did you create GenZHER?

**Zikora:** I started GenZHER during the COVID quarantine when I was bored out of my mind.

I didn't believe something like this could exist until I made it! I created GenZHER by myself. It took a few months to design the website. Then, I started building a team of girls from around the world. I also worked with other organizations for kids.

I didn't see many young, diverse people represented in politics and media. But our lives are impacted by public policies on issues like climate change or education. We need our leaders to hear and value our perspectives. GenZHER helps share our voices.



See the website at [genzher.org](https://genzher.org)

**Strummer:** What problems do Gen-Z girls face today?

**Zikora:** Many girls worldwide are still held back by gender roles and inequalities. Businesspeople and political leaders make huge decisions for our future that we don't have any say in. We're overlooked because of our gender, age, and generation.

**Strummer:** How can we solve these problems?

**Zikora:** We need girls of our generation to lead movements. Your voice is powerful and profound. Use it! GenZHER fosters activism. So far, we've reached more than 35 countries, because inspiring young women everywhere is just as important as spreading the word where we live.



Strummer, 13, NY is a writer, doodler, and fangirl who loves to read and write about any and everything. She hopes to have a Wikipedia article about her someday, for whatever reason.



# Together As One Doodle

*“I show kindness by sticking together with my friends in tough times. I drew people coming together and not thinking about the outside but being together because of their personality. And being open to friendship.”*



Sharon Kaur Sara

That’s how fifth-grader Sharon Kaur Sara describes her artwork which won the 2020 Google Doodle contest. Sharon lives outside Dallas, Texas.

Her art won her a \$30,000 college scholarship and \$50,000 in technology equipment for her school.

Her winning creation was inspired by hurtful personal experiences.

“People have not wanted to be my friend because of how I look,” Sharon says. “So I decided to draw what I do! No matter what people look like, you look on the inside and then decide if you want to be their friend.”

What is a Google Doodle? Most days, the Google search page has a drawing across the top. That’s a Doodle. They celebrate holidays, famous people’s birthdays, and important historical dates.

In 2008 Google search started a Doodle creation contest for kids. Each year’s contest has a theme, and every entry is based on that theme. The first year, the theme was “What if...” In 2020, it was “I show kindness by...”

Sharon drew a group of girls with different hair styles, body types, skin colors, and clothing styles holding hands as friends.

Doodles always include the word “Google” in the art,

because the pictures are advertising for the search engine. Sharon drew one letter on each girl’s shirt. Plus, for fun, she included letters in their hair!

Want to enter the next Doodle contest? It’s open to people from kindergarten through 12th grade. For details, visit [doodles.google.com/d4g/how-it-works](https://doodles.google.com/d4g/how-it-works).



Sharon’s winning Goodle Doodle

# What You Make

by Our Members

*Here are just some of the many things members and readers use their creativity to—well—create!*

*Share your own works and creations with us at [newmoongirls.com/girls-get-published](http://newmoongirls.com/girls-get-published).*

I knit! I like to make cat blankets and little things for my sisters. I also like crocheting and weaving, although I can only finger-crochet. Grace, 13, MN

I make songs. They're usually about something I'm proud of, or something that's bothering me, etc. I open a google doc or a notebook and write down what I'm thinking about. Then, I take a few of the words about the thing I'm thinking of, and find rhymes for them. It's really simple! I like to make the chorus about the thing that's bothering me most, or the thing I'm proudest of. Ilana, 10, Israel

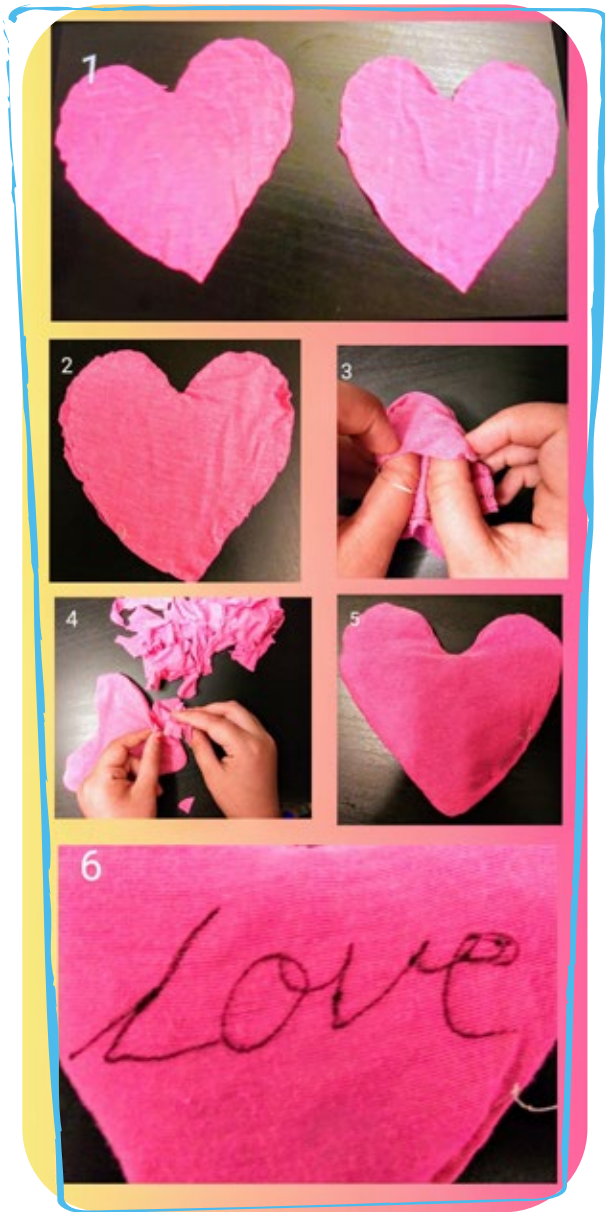
I make drawings, paintings, collages, photos, poetry, baked goods, decorations, knitted things, flower gardens, breakfast, friendship bracelets, and gifts. My favorite part of making things is watching my creations when they're in progress. This is a collage I made, using paper and cut-out photos from magazines and calendars. Kiara, 12, CA



I'm a crocheter! Here's a sweater I made for my dog Finn. Evy, 12, OR

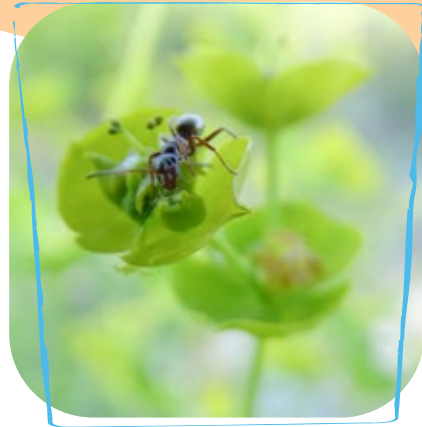


This was originally a photo of my kitten. I traced and colored on top of it to make it look more like a comic book style. I'm starting to learn by tracing over pictures, but eventually I'll begin doing this without tracing. Margherita, 11, IL



Shubhi, 11, MA made a cute pillow:

1. Cut out two pieces of fabric in any shape.
2. Sew the pieces together at the edges, leaving a small gap.
3. Using the gap, turn your masterpiece inside out.
4. Now fill it up with soft stuffing.
5. Sew the gap closed.
6. Decorate with beads, a hook to hang it, cute messages, or anything else!



I take my camera everywhere. I like creating interesting angles and points of focus in my pictures. My very favourite subjects are plants and animals. One of the pictures that I'm proudest of is an ant, one of the most ordinary bugs on the planet. That's what I do: Take ordinary overlooked subjects and make them shine.  
Solene, 15, Alberta



I make lots of things, from cookies and yummy dishes to potholders and art. For an Ancient Rome toga party with some fellow homeschoolers, I made sandals out of leather scraps from the local shoemaker. We drew the outline of our feet on big scraps of leather and cut them out. Then make holes in certain places with a special tool and put leather straps through the holes. I definitely want to make more stuff with leather—it's really fun!  
Inyo, 12 CA

# DIY Crafts

by Annika Schmitz

## PAPER LANTERNS

*This project is fun, simple, and cool.*

*You will need*

- A small, rectangular piece of paper (any color)
- Scissors
- Glue or tape
- Wool/wire/twine

## STEPS

1. Fold your paper in half and cut small strips on the folded side. Leave UNCUT space on the uncut edge.



2. Open the folded piece of paper and wrap it in a cylindrical shape.



3. Use glue or tape to hold the cylinder ends together.

4. To hang, make two small holes on one end, and thread the wool/wire/twine through.



## TA-DA! YOU'RE FINISHED



## POM POMS

*My school friend and I love doing crafts. We send each other small videos of ideas and how to do them. Here's our super cool, super easy pom poms method.*

*You will need*

- Scissors
- Wool

## STEPS



1. Wrap a strand of wool over and over around 2, 3, or 4 fingers. The more wool you wrap, the bigger your pom pom. Then measure a tail of at least 6 inches or 15 cm and snip it off the yarn on your fingers.

2. Pull the wool off your fingers in one lot. Thread the tail through the hole. It'll look like a donut with a hole in the middle. Tie the tail as **TIGHT AS POSSIBLE**.



3. Cut the wool-donut in half on the side opposite where you tied it up. It will look like a sad starfish.

4. Trim the wool ends shorter to make the pom-pom more stable and firm. **DON'T PULL THE WOOL** or it will fall apart.



Have fun! If you made paper lanterns or pom poms upload a photo at [newmoongirls.com/girls-get-published](http://newmoongirls.com/girls-get-published).

The photo at the top of this page is me as Annika Weasely, Ginny's twin. I was left out of the books just because I don't have red hair ;-)

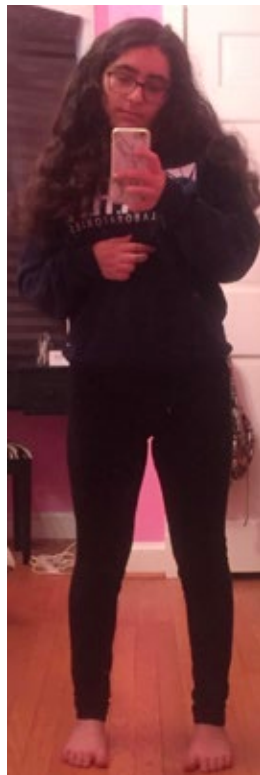
**Annika, 12, Germany, is not your typical rebel. Born in Australia, she likes to play ice hockey and the flute, read, craft, and do anything outside.**

# Draw the Body

by Julia Brunetti

*Art is one of my greatest passions. I'm going to share my process for drawing a character in full body. Your method and style might be different. These are just a few tips and tricks that help me. I mainly use digital art methods, but these steps can work for hand-drawn art, too. Let's go!*

**1.** I find or make a pose reference. It's a photo of someone holding a certain position or pose that you want to have in your piece of art. You can take a photo of yourself in the pose you want. Looking at the reference while I work helps me keep the art from being too lifeless.



a



**2.** Rough Sketch of the Body

Using a pencil, I draw the outlines of the character's body, looking often at the pose. The drawing is taking form!



**3.** Clothes, Hair, and Other Features

This step speaks for itself! I start adding extra details.



**4.** Inking/Lining

Here, I outline the sketch more smoothly. In a digital drawing app, I use layers for this step. I usually set my sketch layer opacity (how see-through it is) at 50 percent. Then I ink over the sketch on a separate layer. I like using textured brushes to make it interesting! If you're drawing by hand, you can ink over your sketch, and then erase the pencil.



## 5. Basic Coloring

I color inside the lines. For digital art, I draw each color on a different layer.



Sign your name, and you're done!

## 6. Details, Light, and Shadow

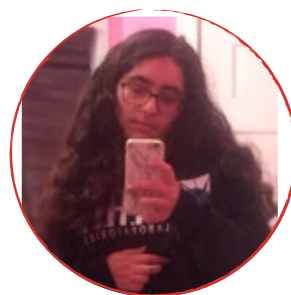
In digital art, I use the mask and airbrush tools to add detail and depth. I usually draw shadows in a slightly darker color. For hair, I draw some strands in a lighter or darker color to make them stand out. You can find your own style for this in your work.



**Digital Layers** - In digital art programs, think of layers as many sheets of see-through paper. Imagine drawing some part of your art on a layer. Then draw nine other parts of your art on nine different layers. Then, you can merge the layers--like laying 10 sheets see-through paper sheets on top of each other--and all of your layers create one image.

## 7. Background (optional)

Backgrounds can be simple or complex. I usually do simple ones, like a single texture and color with overlaid features like graph lines, or glitter. I also use an effect called bokeh that makes the background blur in digital art or photography.



Julia, 14, MD, is a reader, artist, musician, actress, drummer, bass guitarist, and deputy sheriff of this here town. She has a dog named Princess Lisa Trixie Up-My-Sleeve Sadie McFloppy-Ears the First. Don't ask.

# Our Members Cook

Try these NMG member recipes. Be sure to ask an adult for help.

YUM!

A crostata is an Italian tart that is open at the top. Mar, 11, NJ, says: "My version tastes like berry pie, but it's easier to make!"

## Ingredients:

Pie crust

About 3 cups fresh or frozen berries

3 tbsp cornstarch

1/3 cup sugar

1/2 tsp ground cinnamon

1/4 tsp salt

A few pats of butter

1 egg, whisked in a bowl with a splash of milk. The egg wash makes your crust smooth and shiny.

Use a pre-made crust, or make your own. If frozen, let pie crust thaw first. Preheat the oven to 375° F. Mix the berries, cornstarch, sugar, cinnamon, and salt in a large bowl. Set the bowl aside.

Lightly dust a clean countertop with flour. Cut the pie crust into 2 to 4 equal pieces based on how many you want. Roll each dough piece into a flat circle, about 1/4 inch thick. Transfer your dough circles to a lightly greased or parchment-paper-lined baking sheet.

Evenly spoon the filling onto the crusts. Leave a 1-inch outer rim with no filling. Add a few pats of butter to the top of the filling. Now fold up the 1-inch edges. Stick overlapping dough to itself by rubbing a wet finger.

Spread the egg wash lightly on crust with a pastry brush. Sprinkle the tarts with a bit of sugar. Now, pop them in the oven! Bake 35–45 minutes until crust is golden brown.



A creamy, coconutty tapioca pudding comes from Kiara, 12, NC. Serves six.

## Ingredients:

3 cups coconut milk - if you want it less coconutty replace some of the coconut milk with cow's milk

1/4 cup small pearl tapioca granules

1/8 tsp salt - optional

1–2 tbsp sugar

1 tsp vanilla

about 10 chocolate chips - optional

In a saucepan, bring milk to a boil. Then, turn down to simmer on low heat. While stirring the milk to prevent clumping, pour in tapioca granules and salt, if using.

Cook on low heat for 13–18 minutes while stirring frequently, until tapioca is thick and creamy. Turn off heat and stir in sugar and vanilla. Pour into 6 small bowls.

Put it in the refrigerator and leave for at least an hour, or until the pudding is set. If you add the chocolate chips do it before putting in the fridge and let them melt for a minute before stirring in.







Microwave chocolate mug cake from  
Mare, 11, MN. Serves one or two.

### Ingredients:

- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/4 white sugar
- 2 tbsp unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1/8 tsp baking soda
- 1/8 tsp salt
- 3 tbsp milk
- 2 tbsp canola oil
- 1 tbsp water
- 1/4 tsp vanilla extract

Mix flour, sugar, cocoa powder, baking soda, and salt in a large microwave-safe mug. Stir in milk, canola oil, water, and vanilla extract. Cook on high in the microwave for about 1 minute 45 seconds, or until the cake is done. The exact amount of time depends on the microwave.



Brazilian Cheese Bread from Cloud, 12,  
NY who says, "Let it cool for a minute to  
help it come cleanly out of the pan. Or  
just stuff in your mouth immediately,  
like I do!"

### Ingredients:

- 1 egg
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 2/3 cup milk
- 1.5 cups tapioca flour or 3/4 cup of cornstarch
- 1/2 cup parmesan cheese
- 1/2 tsp salt

Preheat oven to 400 degrees Fahrenheit. Mix all ingredients in a blender. Once everything is a consistent texture, pour into a sprayed or greased muffin pan. Fill each muffin cup a little over half full. Cook about 20 minutes. It may take longer if you use cornstarch.

*Send in your fave recipes and a pic or  
two of you making it.  
Maybe we'll make a cookbook!*

[newmoongirls.com/Girls-Get-Published](http://newmoongirls.com/Girls-Get-Published)

# Pandemic Life Now

by Our Members

*This season both winter holiday and school changes are on the minds of our members.*

*Here's what a few of you shared about your feelings and thoughts.*

## Holidays in Isolation

During the winter months, my family celebrates Advent, Christmas, and New Year's.

We make an Advent wreath, light a candle every week, and say prayers. For Christmas, we make gifts for each other, play games, listen to Christmas music, sing, and lots more! My favorite part of Advent is Christmas Eve. We play Christmas bingo together and sing. And for New Year's, we watch the ball drop, eat snacks, and write down resolutions.

We're planning little parties for our family. I'm looking forward to Christmas; not getting gifts, but giving them!! I'm just excited to **hang out with my family**. Usually, we don't get to hang out as much as we will this year. I'm most disappointed about not getting to go to church

for Christmas Eve. My sister and I sing in the choir, and I have a lot of happy memories of that.

**Margie, 11, NJ**



I'm Jewish, so my family celebrates Chanukah. We light the menorah, one candle for each of the eight nights. Each night, we get a gift. We also celebrate Thanksgiving. This year, instead of gathering indoors, we're using Zoom calls to spend quality time with family and interact safely. I'm disappointed, but even though it'll be different, safety is important!

**Ariana, 12, MA**

COVID changed a lot of things I used to take for granted, including Jewish holidays.

We did Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services at home this Fall. My older brother and his girlfriend came and camped outside, keeping a distance. We ate meals across the yard from each other, went on a distanced walk, and my brother read to me.

Then came Simchat Torah. Usually, we dance at our shul and it's a long, crazy, fun thing. Instead, our family danced together at home! We didn't have a Torah to dance around, but I had so much fun. For Chanukah, I want to do a family party. Like everything else in COVID, it won't be normal.

**Tova, 11, MI**



## School Struggles

My school is doing a hybrid program where you choose between being fully remote or going to school two days a week. I didn't know what to do with my extra time, so I started drawing, sewing, and sculpting. If I need a break, I lock myself in my room and read or draw. When it's allowed I wear a mask and walk with friends at a park at a safe distance. We've also started playing more family games and watching movies together.

**Tana, 14, CO**

I moved to Israel during COVID, so it's been really crazy. We quarantined for two weeks. I almost went insane. My online classes here are a big challenge. Everything is in Hebrew, and I don't have a friend helping me translate in person.

**Talia, 12, Israel**

My school is on a hybrid schedule. We alternate between in-person and remote learning. My biggest challenge is focusing on remote learning. I and my brother still get in fights. But we also hang out together more than before COVID. I video chat with my friends. I've been exercising more and baking with my mom. Sitting and drawing or reading by myself for a while also helps me.

**Leona, 10, IL**

My dad used to go out to work all day and come back late. Now he's working from home. That was annoying and strange at first. Our homeschooling schedules were thrown all over the place, but we eventually adjusted. I can't see many of my friends, except for special occasions. Music helps me feel better. I've been playing instruments and listening to musicals. I've also taken up calligraphy and spent hours trying to perfect my techniques.

**Francesca, 13, FL**



# Imagination Creations

by Our Members

*Go anywhere, be anyone, or do anything—all right from your imagination!*

## My Happy Place

by Kaia Wooton

If you tell me: “Think of a happy place,” I’ll slowly shut my eyes and nod. What you wouldn’t see is the place that I teleport myself to.

The room morphs into a wonderful, warm meadow. In the middle of the field, there is a beautiful Guanacaste tree.

Little lights flicker in the branches, like whimsical, tiny fairies buzzing around their town. The lines and bumps of the tree are rough, yet vaguely familiar.

Whenever I am here it is night, with a soft, salty breeze, as if the meadow is near the ocean. Once I lie down in the tall green grass, I feel so comforted, just like lying under my coziest cotton blanket.

Little candles decorate the field. Although they only cast a dim light, the moon strengthens the glow. The many dandelions scattered throughout the grass promise that each of your wishes can come true in an instant.

Stars sparkle up above in the navy blue sky as purplish-white shooting stars zip by. Nightingales sing a sweet song that could make somebody in the deepest sorrow float up to the calmest happiness that they ever experienced.



A Guanacaste tree

This place is so amazing that even our favorite song would just interrupt and distract us from its natural beauty. A flashlight would ruin the mood. Nothing would make this world any better.

The taste of the air reminds me of the sea and pineapples. The smell of the breeze mingles with a scent of new books. My meadow is better than the best book, more gorgeous than the most colorful sunset.

*I make up original characters and imagine them doing stuff.*

*Sophia, 13, CA*



**Kaia, 11, CA likes writing, surfing, riding roller coasters, going to the beach, watching scary movies, playing piano, and hanging out with friends.**

## I'm A Goddess

by Sophie Lisney

As I drape the blanket of dusk over the resting world, a tingle of pride sweeps me up into the night.

I am on a moonlit mountain, blizzards whipping round my head, exposing me to the burning cold. Far away in the valley below, an owl hoots, letting me know I am not alone.

If you're wondering what I'm doing at such a great height, I am watching the moon rise, with the same anticipation and stillness of a sheepdog watching its flock.

All is quiet except the whoosh of the wind. It is midwinter, the height of the year for me.

My name is Selena, goddess of dark. I am an apparition, a lone consciousness high up in the sky. I have sought refuge in the crevasses of the moon.

I have a sister, Luna. She raises the moon.

I take the form of a human with glossy, swirling blue hair and pale skin. My eyes are deep mauve and glittering and I wear a cloak of woven moonlight, with stars and galaxies sewn on to the hem.

If I let myself float up, up, higher than the stars themselves, I get to a motionless void, and I don't feel like me anymore.

You cannot reach such heights yourself, because you fear our kind. As we fear you. In some ways you are greater than gods and goddesses, because you have harnessed fire.

As I return my attention to the hill, I am no more than a breath of wind, watching yet another midnight.



Art by Marcy, 12, NJ

*I play pretend to make tasks more fun. My friend and I love staying after school just to role play. I wish more people understood that pretending is not just for little kids!*

*Adēcats, 11, MN*



Sophie, 9, UK, enjoys chatting to friends, cooking, reading and, of course, writing. She uses her imagination to get her ideas and inspire her writing.

# Barbara Lin

## Engineer or Crossword Builder?

by Lily Hundhausen

*Thousands of careers rely on STEM: science, technology, engineering, and math. In these careers, people solve problems, which helps our world. But women have fewer opportunities to learn or work in these fields.*

I sat down with computer engineer Barbara Lin to talk about the challenges women and girls face when they're interested in STEM. We also talked about her own work and her newest passion: building crossword puzzles.

"Engineers are evidence-based people," Barb says. "I found that when people see that I can do the job, they accept that. I've been lucky in my career. I know some women are not as lucky as I am."

Women are only 12 percent of engineers right now. Barb wants to change that. "It's important to me

to show that women can be good engineers and to encourage women and girls to get interested in science and engineering."

Barb shared a few ways that you, I, and other people can help make STEM-related jobs include more women.

First, even if we're not interested in STEM, all of us can encourage and support girls and women to give it a try. And we can try it, too!

As more girls and women choose STEM careers and make amazing discoveries, these fields will change for the better.

We can also spread the word about the STEM gender gap. And we can challenge the sexist stereotypes that we aren't good at STEM.

Barb's parents did that at home, too. They saw that she loved figuring out complex things.

*"When I was six, my dad hung up the multiplication table in my room to show me how cool solving problems is."*

Men and boys can open their minds to girls and women succeeding in STEM. They can choose to hire and

work with women and stop sexism and unfair judgements.

She joined the chess club in high school. In college her computer class created a processor for a simple computer. "I thought it was the coolest thing ever.

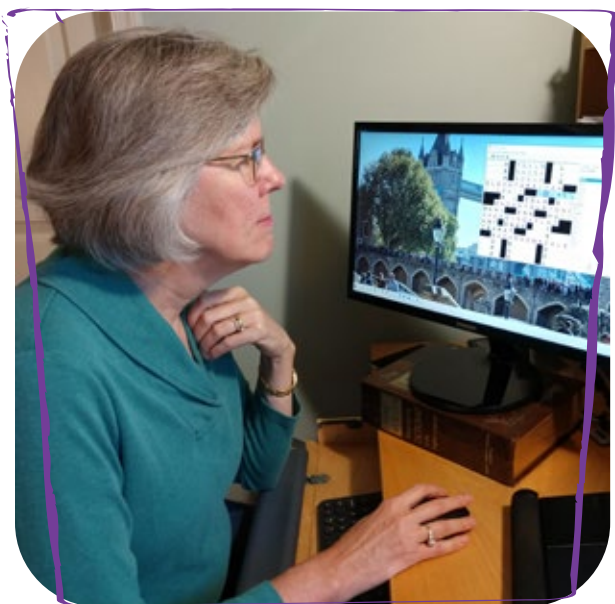


"I said, 'This is what I want to do for the rest of my life!'"

Barb started her career as a computer processor designer. "For many years, I designed the logic that goes inside computer chips," she says.

After that, she decided to try managing people: "Specifically, that means getting a bunch of engineers to work well together on projects."

She loves being a manager. "I get to mentor people and help them become better engineers."



### Crossword Builder

Recently, Barb started making problems for the rest of us to solve: crossword puzzles. Many popular newspapers have published her crosswords.

She even had a Sunday crossword published in the New York Times in 2020. That's like winning an Olympic gold medal for puzzle makers.

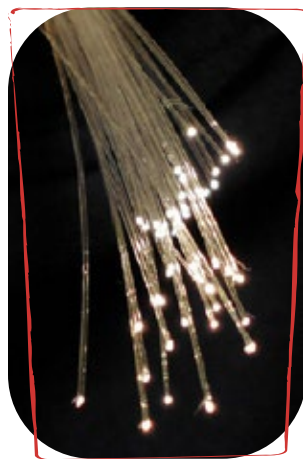
But even crosswords have a gender gap. "Something like 70 to 80 percent of crosswords are built by men," Barb says. "Lately, there is a real effort within the crosswords world to get more women involved in constructing crosswords."

Barb includes the names of women and people of color as answers in her puzzles. That's still unusual, but she says that constructors now pay more attention to diversity, which helps "expand the list of what is acceptable in a crossword."



### Engineer

Today, Barb leads a team that designs fiber optics, a technology she calls "really cool and amazing."



Bundle of optical fibers

As part of her computer engineer career, Barb loves meeting and inspiring girls interested in STEM. She offers a few words of encouragement: "Just keep looking for opportunities, and don't let anyone tell you you can't, because you can."

Our world is going to become more equal, whether everyone likes it or not!

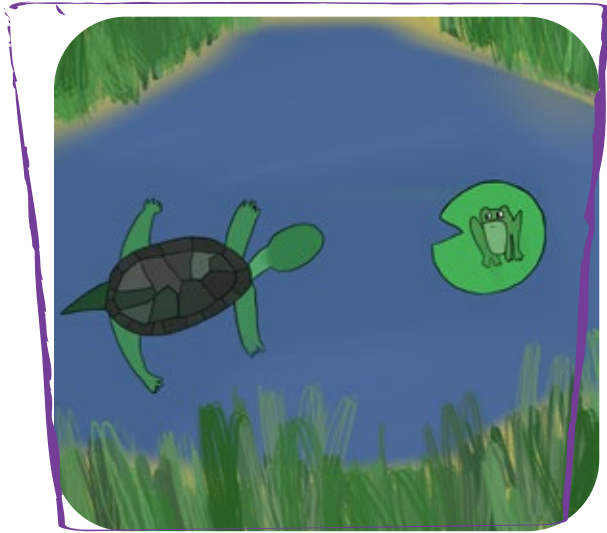
*"I can't imagine doing anything other than engineering. You get to be creative and figure out something that nobody else figured out before. It is really cool."*



Lily, 12, ID is known as Geeky on NMGmembers.com. She enjoys reading, drawing, coding, skiing, fangirling, and writing in third person.

# perald the frog

By Aislinn Chronic  
Illustration by Victoria Garces



Once upon a time, a frog named Perald lived in Green Meadows with her friends Sally the Salamander and Cranky the Cricket. One day, Perald told them that she wanted to see the world.

The next day, Perald set off. After a few days, Perald came across a pond. Being a frog, Perald loved ponds, so she hopped right in. But she was immediately chased back out by Terry the Turtle.

“How dare you enter my pond!” Terry yelled. Perald was very frightened.

Timidly, Perald said: “I am sorry, Ms. Turtle. I did not know this was your pond.” Terry immediately felt bad about yelling at Perald.

So Terry said: “I am sorry for yelling at you. You can join me in my pond if you would like.”

Perald forgave Terry, and while hanging out in the pond, the two became close friends. A few days later Perald hopped out of the pond and continued on her way.

Around noon, Perald came upon a mountain of tiny rocks. Perald began to climb the mountain, but halfway up, the tiny rocks began to move! Perald slid all the way to the bottom. She was disappointed. So, Perald sat down to

think. Then she came up with an idea. Instead of going up over the mountain, she would go around it!

When Perald finished hopping around the mountain, she sighed in relief and she was tired! But Perald began to hop along again. Then she saw a child. The child ran forward and picked Perald up. Then the child carried Perald all the way back to Green Meadows and set her down.

At first, Perald was unhappy to be right back where she started. But then she realized that she loved her home. And Perald never left Green Meadows again.



Aislinn, 12, FL, loves to write, read, sing, dance, and advocate for equality. She has nine chickens and two each of brothers, dogs, and cats. “I am very excited for my life ahead of me!”



Victoria, 13, WI is an artist and writer who loves all things outside. She also enjoys running, music, soccer, and wants to make big changes in the world.



# jump, spin, twirl

By Rosie Silverberg

Illustration by Esme Joy-Ulland

I entered the skating arena. It was a round shiny dome. A machine was smoothing the ice and making a loud hum.

My friend Sarah convinced me to take a skating class with her. But I felt frozen in my pink sparkly skating leotard. I'm no good at skating. But Sarah wouldn't listen.

I stepped on the ice and fell over. The ice was as cold as the arctic! Sarah was already doing flips. She didn't see me.

Classes came and went and I still was horrible at skating! My teacher, Ms. Williams said, "Our performance is in three weeks!"

Then Sarah skated over to me and said, "I haven't been watching you skate. Why don't you show me a couple of moves?"

"Uh-uh-well," I stuttered. "Oh sorry. I forgot that I'm busy today and have to leave."

Next, my hands were clammy sitting in the car waiting for the final practice before the performance. Ms. Williams said, "OK class, last chance to practice!"

Then, three days until performance. I had to do something about the routine! I had to ask Sarah for help. She might laugh at me, but it's worth it. I slowly knocked on her door and exclaimed, "I need help!"

"With what?" Sarah answered.

I closed my eyes and slowly whispered, "With the skating routine." I slowly opened one eye.

"Ok." Sarah said calmly.

"What, you're not going to laugh or anything?" I yelled. Now my eyes were wide open!

"Let's get to practicing," Sarah said as we skipped off.

Now, we're backstage getting ready to perform. Sly



as a fox, I peek around the curtain covered in fake snowflakes and sparkles. The audience is full. My heart is racing and my teeth are chattering.

Sarah says, "You ready?"

We go out together under the bright blue lights. I do what I practiced. Then I realize that I feel like a swan. And then jump, flip, twirl.



Rosie, 11, lives in CA where it's mostly too hot to ice skate. But she does love to roller skate.



Esme, 12, MI loves drawing, painting, and crafting. She wants to be an artist and activist when she grows up and wants to make a positive impact on the world.

# halley gets a new dress

By Amari King & Mary Fisher  
Illustration by Emily Chebli

*You can make a story with other people!  
Amari and her grandmother love sitting around a  
fire pit making up stories. They created this one.*

Today, I tried out for the lead part in my school play. My heart is pounding with excitement as I rush home. As I open the door, I hear my mom on the phone, telling someone we barely have enough money to pay for groceries this month.

“Mom, you will never guess what happened at school today,” I say as I dance around the kitchen. “I am in my school play and I need this dress for it.” I hand my mom a picture of the dress.

“What’s the play about?” she asks, holding her chin in her hand as she looks at the picture.

“Cinderella, and I get to be... Cinderella.”

I start jabbering on about the new dress. I finally notice Mom is not getting excited about this like she usually does.

“What’s going on Mom? Aren’t you happy for me?”

“Sure I am dear,” she sighs. “I just don’t think we can afford a new dress at this time.”

I point to the picture as I step back from her. “I have to have that dress for the play, Mom.”

“Well,” my mom says, “We just can’t afford it.”

“We have always been able to get me a dress for my plays,” I yell, my excitement quickly turning to anger.

My mom looks at me with tears in her eyes. Her mouth is trembling. She starts to talk to me but I run to my room, tears coming to my own eyes.

I throw myself on my bed, and cry out my anger and frustration. I fall asleep and wake up to the sound of my mom calling me to dinner.

I am quiet at the dinner table. This is not usual. I usually talk more than I eat.

“What’s up with you?” my grandma asks.

“Nothing.” I am still too upset to talk.



“Oh, come on, it can’t be that bad,” she says.

“Nothing!” I shout at her as I run from the table.

I hear my mom yelling at me as I reach my room, but I do not go back. I start crying again. As my grandma comes into my room, I wail, “My life is ruined.”

She says nothing as she rubs my back. My mom enters and sits down.

“That was rude of you to yell at your grandma. She was only trying to help,” Mom says.

“I don’t care,” I sob.

“Well, you can stay in your room until you can be nice to us.”

As I lay on my bed, listening to my family finish dinner and clean up, an idea pops into my head.

I leave my room and go sit by my grandma. “I’m sorry I yelled at you, Grandma.”

I tell my grandma about my idea. “I will sell crocheted scarves to make money for the dress!” We both decide it would take a long time, and not make enough money.

The next day, my grandma and I go to the craft store. I still haven’t thought of a way to make money for my dress. We drive by a clothing store that is going out of business and I ask my grandma to stop. She does, and we go inside.

I immediately notice a bunch of filmy scarves that are selling at a really low price.

“Grandma, I think I have solved my problem.”

“Oh, how is that, dear?”

I quickly show her the scarves, and tell her my great idea. Her eyes twinkle at me as she gives me a hug.

“That is a good idea. Let’s go tell your mom, shall we?”

We get my mom and then all go back to the store and buy some of the scarves. Then we go to the craft store for some spray-on glitter.

My mom and I spray one of my old dance leotards with glitter. Then, we sew the scarves all around the waist area to make a filmy ball dress.



“It’s perfect, Mom! This looks like the dress in the picture.” I excitedly dance around the room in my new dress.

“Halley, I’m so proud of you,” my mom laughs, as we link hands and dance around the room together.



Amari, 8, Washington, likes reading and making up stories. Mary, 59, is a Registered Nurse who always has a book in her hands.

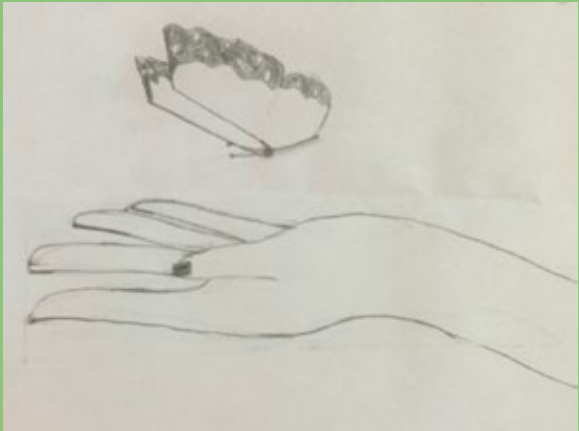


Emily, 18, Florida, has been a member of New Moon Girls since she was 10, and is now happy to be an intern! She’s passionate about the environment, art, and literature. See more of her work on Instagram at [emilygc.art](https://www.instagram.com/emilygc.art)

### Zentangle Koi

I did this this with a calligraphy pen, black ink and watercolor.

Alahna, 14, KS



### Butterfly

So this took me a REALLY long time. I watched a YouTube video on how to do it and got it wrong like 3 times but this is my best one yet. I'm still working on the pointer finger cause it turned out a little off but it's still good!

Matilda, 11, MN



### Sunset Painting

I painted this with my friend and I think it turned out pretty good!

Zoey, 11, CA



### Garden Photo

My photo of a really pretty flower that my mom grew. It's a dahlia.

Marie, 12, MA



### My Clairo Cover

I love Clairo sooo much! Her music... amazing! Anyway, I like to print out album covers then color them with paint, markers, etc. It's really fun!

Macy Claire, 13, CO



### My Luna

I used pencil and crayons

Juanita, 9, MI

Long  
 grasses ripple in the wind  
 It looks like a silver streak  
 Is flowing along the grass  
 As it shines in the sun  
 To the right  
 The ocean roars closeby out of sight  
 Wildflowers bloom on the side of the hill  
 Vermillion coast indian paintbrush  
 Rises out of the brown—green grass  
 A rare beauty; it sits quietly, its soft  
 petals facing up  
 Sticky orange monkey flower smiles  
 up at you  
 Growing in small bushes scattered  
 about the hillside  
 Small yellow vetch decorate the  
 undergrowth  
 Blue—eyed grass spreads out violet  
 petals  
 To the left  
 The big hill rises up  
 Against the summer blue sky  
 Brown deer scamper about the  
 meadows  
 The ache of tired leg muscles  
 As you climb the hill  
 Finally, finally  
 You reach the top of the hill  
 Feeling like you're a bird  
 Flying high in the sky  
 Hair flowing out behind you  
 A sweeping view below you  
 Of the ocean, the fields, the people  
 hiking  
 Snow white daisies near your feet  
 Just relaxing for hours  
 On the top of the hill

Kiara, 12, CA



## A New Day

As one day passes another one grows,  
 As another day comes the tears let go,  
 The bad memories become silenced,  
 And they leave you be,  
 For tomorrow is a new day,  
 Where the pages of memories are  
 blank,  
 Ready to be filled by thee.

Ishani, 11, MN

## Online School

How will I survive this?  
 I don't know.  
 I'll just wait till there's purple on my big  
 toe.  
 I might have Covid, and I don't even  
 know!

Google Classroom, Seesaw, and  
 Schoology:  
 How many online schools can there be?  
 Maybe I'll just run away,  
 I won't be online everyday!

But where will I go? Where will I be?  
 Maybe I'll just climb a tree.  
 I'll be so high, so far up there  
 Nobody could find me anywhere!

It would be nice if Covid went away,  
 I'd be outside,  
 And with my friends, I'd play!

Sevie, 8, MI

# Want to Write a Poem?

by Tabitha Danielson

Poetry is an excellent, unique way to express yourself. But how to start?

First, brainstorm! Getting your thoughts on paper is easier when you have a strong connection or deep feelings for a specific topic or idea. What's something you love? Something that makes you furious? Thrilled? Terrified?

Next, experiment with types of poetry.

Rules (or not): Try poems with strict rules. Haiku has three lines. Five syllables in the first and last lines, seven in the second.

*Cold and snowy days  
Make me wish the clouds away  
But my house is warm*

Personification: Write about inanimate objects or emotions as if they were alive. For example:

*My bike has wings  
To soar above the horizon  
With me as its regal guest  
I pedal my legs  
And we take off  
We gaze at the stars  
We talk to birds  
We dodge airplanes  
And come back down  
To do it again*

Odes: Write love letters to inanimate objects (or people). Make something ordinary seem like the best thing in the world. Don't worry if you feel silly! Odes don't have to be serious.

*Playground,  
I've loved you from the minute I saw you  
With the sun glistening on your metal slide,  
I knew this was home*



Art by Poppy Penguin, 10, MA

Way poems: Use multiple perspectives, all talking about the same thing. Here's one about the moon:

*I am the moon  
Shining down  
From my home  
Up in the sky  
Come on, let's go  
We'll bring the pack  
To howl at the moon  
From our forest  
When the sun goes down  
And it's too dark to see  
The moon will light our way*

There are many other types of poetry: sonnets, ballads, and limericks, and more. You can even mix and match! For instance, write a way poem and make each perspective a haiku.

Most important, have fun, and don't be too hard on yourself. Just keep trying!



Tabitha, 13, MN, enjoys reading, writing, and racing her dad down the sidewalk. She lives with two adorable pet rats and a rotating cast of foster dogs.



What's unfair to girls and women—in your life or around the world? Members, post at the “How Aggravating” message board at [NMGMembers.com](http://NMGMembers.com). Every girl can send thoughts at [NewMoonGirls.com/Girls-Get-Published](http://NewMoonGirls.com/Girls-Get-Published).

The first day I showed up for an accelerated math class for sixth graders at my school, I was pretty excited. I was a little ticked off that there were 25 boys in the class and only 5 girls, but it was fine. Fast forward three months: Half the boys are barely passing, and multiple girls are complaining that they should have been let into the program instead. Ugh.

**Beth, 12, VA**

At my school, one grade does a project where they hang up inspirational quotes in the girls’ bathroom. I love the spirit, and I’m glad they support girls, but they don’t do this for the boys. Can’t both gender bathrooms be equal? Also, the quotes seem to imply that girls think of themselves as weak. I still love reading the quotes, but I feel like they play into gender stereotypes.

**Addie, 11, MI**

*It's about an entire society that normalizes sexism.*

A guy from my school reposted several sexist videos on Snapchat.

One said that “women always copy men’s ideas.” Another said “it’s okay to body shame women for their weight.” I keep telling him that posting this stuff is not okay, but he just keeps reposting it.

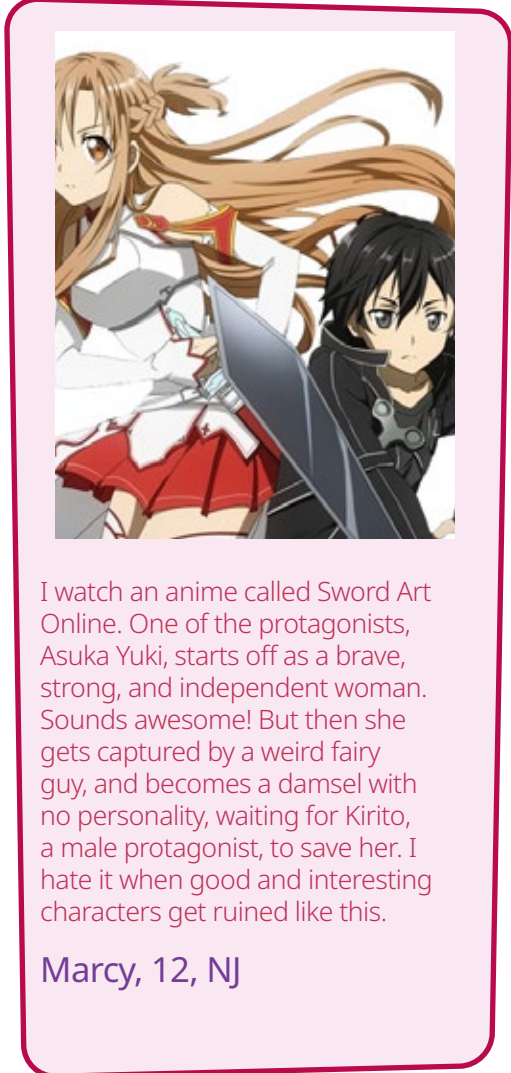
I posted a response saying nobody should be body shamed, especially women. A kid from my school texted me to shut up. My friend, a girl, also posted about how women shouldn’t be body shamed. Then a bunch of people removed her as a friend on Snapchat.

This isn’t just about one or two people, it’s about an entire society that normalizes sexism.

LIKE WHAT IS THIS?!

**Azula of the Fire Nation, 12, MN**

This is **GIRL-CAUGHT!**  
It disrespects girls & women.  
**STOP IT!**  
[NewMoonGirls.com](http://NewMoonGirls.com)



I watch an anime called Sword Art Online. One of the protagonists, Asuka Yuki, starts off as a brave, strong, and independent woman. Sounds awesome! But then she gets captured by a weird fairy guy, and becomes a damsel with no personality, waiting for Kirito, a male protagonist, to save her. I hate it when good and interesting characters get ruined like this.

**Marcy, 12, NJ**

Artwork by Liza Ferneyhough



Howl about the inspiring things you do and see that make life better for girls! Members, visit the "Howl at the Moon" message board at [NMGMembers.com](http://NMGMembers.com). Every girl can share at [NewMoonGirls.com/Girls-Get-Published](http://NewMoonGirls.com/Girls-Get-Published).



Howl for these four amazing books! "Women in Art: 50 Fearless Creatives Who Inspired the World" by Rachel Ignotofsky; "Rejected Princesses" by Jason Porath, "The Little Book of Feminist Saints" by Julia Pierpont; and "A Woman's Place: The Inventors, Rumrunners, Lawbreakers, Scientists, and Single Moms Who Changed the World with Food" by Deepi Ahluwalia. I recommend them to all NMG fans and readers.

**Nechama, 14, IL**

The TV show Doctor Who has a lot of strong female characters: Sarah Jane Smith, Rose Tyler, Jackie Tyler, Amy Pond, Donna Noble, Martha Jones, River Song, a bunch of one-off characters, and now the Doctor herself!

**Black Cat, 13, AB**

I'm getting more and more aware that we have to do something about climate change. I'm going to demonstrations, trying not to buy plastic, and thinking about what things I actually need and what I don't. I also found a search engine called Ecosia. It's

basically like Google, except Ecosia donates the money they earn to organizations that plant trees. So if you search something on Ecosia, you can support trees getting planted!

**Nika, 14, Germany**

The Umbrella Academy is an amazing show! Apart from being really well-written and intriguing, it has many strong female characters, such as Allison, Sissy, and Vanya. It also features many LGBTQ+ characters, which is awesome and, sadly, fairly rare.

**Strummer of the Shadows, 13, NY**

*We have to do something about climate change!*

This is GIRL-CAUGHT!  
It RESPECTS girls & women.  
THANK YOU!  
[NewMoonGirls.com](http://NewMoonGirls.com)































An art store in my town has one worker, the owner. She's really cool. It's the most amazing store I've ever been in. Besides art supplies, it has so much feminist and equality-for-all stuff, like this awesome sticker. HOWL FOR THIS STORE AND OWNER!!

**Len, 12, ME**

Artwork by Liza Ferneyhough

Our calendar covers one astronomical season. This one is for Winter. It starts on the winter solstice and ends the day before spring equinox.

<p>dec 21</p> <p>Winter Solstice</p> 	<p>dec 25</p> <p>Christmas Day</p> 	<p>dec 26</p> <p>Kwanzaa begins</p> 
 <p>dec 29</p> <p>Full moon - Cold Moon</p>	 <p>dec 31</p> <p>World Peace Meditation Day</p>	 <p>jan 1</p> <p>Happy New Year!</p>
<p>jan 4</p> <p>National Spaghetti Day</p> 	<p>jan 9</p> <p>Joan Baez born 1941 - singer, songwriter, &amp; activist</p> 	<p>jan 13</p> <p>New Moon</p> 
 <p>jan 14</p> <p>National Dress Up Your Pet Day</p>	 <p>jan 18</p> <p>MLK Day</p>	 <p>jan 23</p> <p>Gertrude Elion born 1919 - Nobel-winning biochemist &amp; pharmacologist</p>
<p>jan 28</p> <p>Full Moon - Wolf Moon</p> 	<p>feb 2</p> <p>National Girls and Woman Sports Day</p> 	<p>feb 4</p> <p>Homemade Soup Day</p> 
 <p>feb 11</p> <p>New Moon</p>	 <p>feb 12</p> <p>Chinese New Year: Year of the Ox</p>	 <p>feb 17</p> <p>Lent begins</p>
<p>feb 20</p> <p>World Day of Social Justice</p> 	<p>feb 26</p> <p>Purim</p> 	<p>feb 27</p> <p>Full Moon Snow Moon</p> 
 <p>mar 8</p> <p>International Women's Day</p>	 <p>mar 13</p> <p>New Moon</p>	 <p>mar 17</p> <p>St. Patrick's Day</p>
<p>mar 19</p> <p>Jackie "Moms" Mabley born 1894 - actor &amp; comedian</p> 		 



*“The unread story is not a story; it is little black marks on wood pulp. The reader, reading it, makes it live: a live thing, a story.”*

—Ursula Kroeber Le Guin, California-born novelist, poet, scholar, and feminist.

Ursula Kroeber Le Guin (1929–2018) was a popular American feminist author known for her fantasy and science fiction storytelling.

As a child, she gave up reading science fiction because it “seemed to be all about hardware and soldiers: White men go forth and conquer the universe.”



Her 1969 novel, *The Left Hand of Darkness*, won the international Hugo award—science fiction writing’s biggest honor. Even more amazing, the book also won the Nebula award, from fantasy and sci-fi writers in the U.S.

Ursula was the first woman to win both awards for the same novel. Fifty years later, high schools and universities still teach *The Left Hand of Darkness*.

But, like her imagination, her hundreds of works knew no boundaries. Ursula wrote poetry, children’s stories, young adult novels, and even a translation of the Chinese *Tao Te Ching*.

In 2014, she said, “Imagination is based on experience. Everything in the world is made out of the elements combined in endless ways.”

So a child’s imagination deepens with living, with wider experience of reality. And so does a writer’s. But the imagination needs training in how to combine, how to invent, how to understand, just as much as the thinking mind does. We get that training mostly by reading and writing fiction and poetry.“

What I say to younger writers is: Hang in there! Remember, you’re the ones who get the last word.”

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Total sum: Average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 4458. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 3836. I. Percent paid: Average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 99.6%. Actual number of copies of single issue published nearest to filing date: 99.6%. 16. Electronic Copy Circulation: A. Paid electronic copies: Average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 20. Actual number of copies single issue published nearest to filing date: 29. B. Total paid print copies + paid electronic copies: Average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 4236. Actual number of copies single issue published nearest to filing date: 3551. C. Total print distribution + paid electronic copies: Average number of copies each issue during preceding 12 months: 4255. Actual number of copies single issue published nearest to filing date: 3570. D. 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*I have been reading New Moon Girls for over a year and it is my favorite magazine!*

*Matilda, 11, MN*

**For Parents: Free Resources & Wisdom from Other Parents!**

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- [NewMoonGirls.com/blog](https://www.NewMoonGirls.com/blog)
- [NewMoonGirls on Instagram](#)

## Winter To-Dos

*Jan. 5 - Bird Day - How many birds can you spot today?*

*Jan. 21 - Hug Day - Can you share 3 hugs today with people, stuffed animals, or trees?*

*Feb. 1 - Black Herstory Month - Choose an action to take for racial justice, and do it!*

*Feb. 11 - International Day of Women & Girls in Science. See p. 36 for inspiration!*

*Feb. 16 - Paczki Day - Eat jelly donuts-- in Polish--the day before Lent starts.*

*Mar. 8 - Intl. Women's Day - Wear Red socks, plus Purple for justice & dignity and Green for hope.*