Christmas List

Jade, Grade 1
First on the list is an iPhone 4. I use it to play games and more. Next on the list is a bag of candy. I love candy so it comes in handy. Last on the list is peace and love. Everybody is peaceful and gives hugs.

Qur’an’s favorite holiday

Qur’an, Grade 4
Christmas is my favorite holiday because you get gifts and play with family.

Elijah’s favorite parts of the holidays:

Elijah, Grade 5
- shirts that keep you warm
- desserts
- presents
- Mom makes turkey and ham.
- You get to have a Christmas tree. It’s white and it has lights on it. The Star goes on the top of the tree, but sometimes it’s and angel! I like the star better.
- You can go sledding on the ice.
- playing outside
- going to the park and having snowball fights!
- watching Christmas movies!

... and Elijah’s Birthday Story

I went to the movies with my mom and my sister and my cousin. I saw Dr. Strange.

Happy Holidays from Lawyers Lend-A-Hand to youth
Fate or Coincidence?

*Kathryn McCabe, Executive Director*

I have always been fascinated with the South Side of Chicago. Maybe it’s because my father was born and raised there. Or maybe it’s because my parents met while working together at Michael Reese Hospital in Bronzeville.

I would look at maps of Chicago and focus on South Side neighborhoods with interesting names like Back of the Yards, Canaryville, and Pill Hill. After I got involved in tutoring, I would look at maps that showed where all the tutoring and mentoring programs in the city were located, and there weren’t very many down south.

When Lawyers Lend-A-Hand to Youth decided that it wanted to start its own tutoring program, I knew immediately that I wanted to work with students from the South Side. But where would I find these students?

Luckily for us, Karen Gatsis Anderson—a lawyer, long time Lend-A-Hand supporter, and a member of the Montessori School of Englewood’s (MSE) board of directors—heard we were looking to start a tutoring program and introduced me to MSE Executive Director Rita Nolan. The rest, as they say, is history.

I was talking to my father at Thanksgiving about our new tutoring program and told him our students were from Englewood. He mentioned that he used to hang around Englewood when he was growing up so I told him MSE was located near 69th and Paulina.

“I used to go to school at 69th and Paulina,” he said. “Hermann Raster Elementary School. It was actually at 69th between Wood and Hermitage.”

It turns out MSE is located in the old Hermann Raster Elementary School building. My father used to live near 71st and Honore, which is near where many of our Lend-A-Hand students live.

I don’t know if this is fate or coincidence, but I like thinking about how my father climbed the same steps, ran down the same hallways, and sat in the same classrooms our Lend-A-Hand students use today.

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We like food at Lend-A-Hand Tutoring...

Candy is so sweet I wish I can eat every piece. It tastes like cotton candy clouds. I wish the cotton candy clouds had fallen down. I wish I can eat it every day, eat it scream and say yay. I wish I can eat it every minute of the day wave my hands and sing hurray.

_Takayla, Grade 5_

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Dear Ms. Kathryn!
The snacks were great. I liked the crackers and raisins. Thank you.

_Makayla, Grade K_

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Qur’an’s favorite place to eat
Subway because it is good. They have everything I want like peppers, lettuce, mayo, mustard, ham, tomatoes, and bread.

...and what Qur’an has in his backpack
Inside my backpack is a notebook, folder, and pencils.

_Qur’an, Grade 4_

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Lend-A-Hand tutoring at the CBA celebrates its first year of tutoring students at the Montessori School of Englewood on Chicago’s South Side.
Once upon a time, there was a mutant owl. The owl got big. Because he drinks green power. And he flies outer space without a helmet!

X’Avier, Grade 3

Our students’ favorite animals

The Chicken

Isaiah, Grade 2

The chicken stands on the couch. His name is Jason. Jason is happy. He likes his picture.

If I could be any animal I would be... a puppy
Because they are so cute.

Kaniyah, Grade 4

About Lend-A-Hand Tutoring

Lend-A- Hand Tutoring at the CBA provides free one-to-one tutoring and mentoring to students from the Montessori School of Englewood, a public charter elementary school. Tutoring takes place on Tuesday evenings from 5:30-7:00pm from October to mid-May at the Chicago Bar Association (321 S. Plymouth Court, Chicago) and has a focus on reading. Students are transported by bus to and from tutoring.

Lend-A- Hand Tutoring is a program of Lawyers Lend-A- Hand to Youth, a 501(c)3 organization established in 1994 to channel the resources of the city’s legal community to support one-to-one tutoring and mentoring to at-risk youth in the Chicagoland area. For more information, please contact Executive Director Kathryn McCabe at (312) 554-2041 or kmccabe@lawyerslendahand.org.

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