

Lizbeth is nine years old and going into the fourth grade. She has a big brother and a little sister and likes to play outside. She was born in Hillsboro, Oregon, and lives with her family in Cornelius. In her free time, she also likes to play with her baby cousin, make colorful rubber band bracelets, and give them to friends. She started writing stories in the first grade and would make drawings to accompany them. She loved playing teacher, and at the store, instead of asking for toys, she always wanted pens and notebooks. She still loves to write and draw and keeps her drawings in a labeled binder.



This spring she attended her first Write Around Portland workshop along with her younger sister, Michelle, at Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center in Cornelius, Oregon. It was a bilingual workshop in which she wrote and shared stories in both English and Spanish. Lizbeth's writing and an interview about her experience in the workshop follow.

**How did you first hear about Write Around Portland?**

From the lady at Virginia Garcia.

**What inspired you to join? What was your experience like?**

I had free time and I like to write. It was great because I would make up stories. I got better at writing.

**How did you feel about writing and sharing with other people and hearing their stories?**

I was nervous, but it was fun once you shared. I'm not that nervous now because I've shared my stories before and I think people will like them. [Hearing others' stories] was fun because they have creative ideas, too.

**What is your favorite topic to write about?**

I like to write about anything that inspires me. My sister being here inspires me and looking around and making things up.

**What was your favorite part of the workshop?**

Getting to share the stories with friends and having fun writing. It was good. I made new friends, and I had my sister with me. I liked when we pulled five words out of the bag, and we would make stories out of them. I learned new words and could use the words in my stories.

**What would you tell other people if they were interested in a Write Around Portland workshop?**

I would tell them that the workshop could help you practice your writing and that you could write when you have free time. And maybe we can make our own group about writing and we can make up our own stories and tell them to each other. Don't be nervous because it might be difficult to share your new stories, but it will be fine because they may like them and you may be a very special writer.

Featured Writer interview with Lizabeth  
September 2014 Newsletter

**Is there anything you would like to tell people who read your stories?**  
I hope they like them.