

meet iO



E. Gross

Students at Mann Elementary School work on their poems.

Mission Statement

By immersing students in the joy and power of poetry and literary self-expression, InsideOut Literary Arts Project inspires them to think broadly, create bravely and share their voices with the wider world. Guided by professional writers and celebrate by publications and performances, youth learn that their stories and ideals matter and that their pens can launch them off the page into extraordinary lives.

History

iO is a nationally recognized hub of creativity for K-12 students, in Detroit who are curious about exploring their worlds through the power of poetry. Since 1995, iO has helped to amplify the voices of thousands of students by dispatching established and emerging poets into classrooms. Writers work side-by-side with students, over 25 weeks, creating poems, stories, artwork and stage-ready performance pieces. Students contribute an original poem to a literary journal for their school, which is published and presented at the end of each year during in-school literary galas.

In 2009, the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities tapped iO as one of the country's top youth arts programs with a National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award. What began as a tiny idea in the heart of one teacher, founder Dr. Terry Blackhawk, continues to blossom and to deliver results.

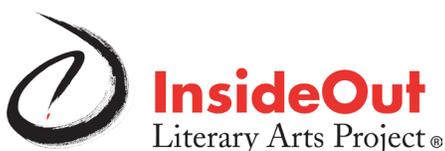
InsideOut students demonstrate:

- Improved reading and writing skills
- Improved attendance and classroom achievement
- Improved performance on standardized tests
- A statistically significant rise in engagement, enjoyment, and initiative as writers
- Greater self-efficacy, understanding of narrative structures, and creative use of language



E. Kirkland

Performance at iO's 2nd Annual Get Versed! event at the Detroit Institute of Arts' Film Theatre.



insideoutdetroit.org

help to grow **iO**

We now reach 5,000 children in 180 classrooms. We are proud of our success, but with 66,000 students in the Detroit Public Schools alone, we could help so many more. Our goal is to reach 10,000 students by 2016, adding 5,000 students in 200 new classrooms. As a first step toward that goal, we aim to increase private support this year by \$200,000.

Help us reach our goals

- **\$50** is the cost to provide one classroom with creative supplies and materials.
- **\$120** is the cost to provide one student with a full year (25 sessions) of InsideOut instruction.
- **\$500** is the cost to publish one school's literary journal.
- **\$1,000** sponsors one CityWide Poet for a full year of workshops, readings, and public performances.
- **\$4,000** is the cost to bring InsideOut to one new classroom of 28 to 32 children.
- **\$12,650** is the cost to bring the entire InsideOut model to a new school for one year, including a writer-in residence, all creative supplies and materials, and literary magazine.
- **\$25,000** sponsors a full year of Citywide Poets. This elite corps of teen poets showcases the talents of Detroit youth and inspires young and old alike through their artistic and community engagement.

How to donate

call: 313-577-4601

email: terry@insideoutdetroit.org

online: www.insideoutdetroit.org/get-involved/donate



iO Writers-in-Residence Marcus Wicker and Chace Morris work with students at Cody High School.



iO Writer-in-Residence Catherine Shubert talks to a student at Clippert Academy about his poem.