Smart Partners is the after-school mentoring program of The 52nd Street Project. *Fivey* is the program’s annual magazine.

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**PHOTOGRAPHY*, DESIGN, & LAYOUT**

George Babiak

*Except where otherwise credited*
FROM THE EDITORS' DESKS

The 52nd Street Project thrives on the mentorships built between kids and adults within its many arts programs. Within the Smart Partners program, the kids and adults step beyond the stage to forge relationships that last longer than a production, and Fivey magazine has always been the place where they record their adventures. This latest issue celebrates the dynamic duos and the bonds that propel their creative escapades. Welcome to the TRUE BLUE, TWO-BY-TWO ISSUE of Fivey magazine.

Read about Rosneyri and Ashley's creation of matching tie-dyed tees, Ethan and Frankie's dual secret identities as food critics, Sabastian and George's twin cycling attack on New Jersey, Coleman and Max's pizza and candy-fueled foray into experimental fiction, and Britney and Flor De Liz's perambulation into podcasting. Don't miss these or any other of the many bonding moments of the year that are highlighted in this issue.

And a special thanks to the second half of my own dynamic duo in all things Fivey, George Babiak. He held things down and kept things moving to bring you this 18th outing of our unique periodical while I was on maternity leave, sharing some adventures with my own new and rather tiny partner, Enza. You can see her in my half of the glasses above! Apparently, George scrounged up a little partner of his own.

— Liz Bell

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JP: I found myself feeling pleasantly urban from the vibes I was getting in Hell’s Kitchen. Also I was hungry, so I had to find something to eat.

FD: Consequently, I also found myself quite famished despite the balmy temperatures within the Kitchen of Hell we call “Hell’s Kitchen.” I said, “Jean-Paul Paul-John, perhaps we should nourish our bellies…”

JP: So I yelled out, “Where art thou in this kitchen, Food? For I am feeling famished as well!”

FD: When he behaves like this, I always know that my best friend and fellow food critic Jean-Paul needs one of two things: a burger, or some pizza.

JP: At this moment I realized: I needed pizza.

FD: So we ventured to City Slice, on 10th Ave between 51st & 52nd St.

JP: After we took a few selfies and pics with our obsessive fans, we went inside. At first I felt a little cramped because it was a small place. But I got a really friendly vibe from the servers. There was an exquisite sign that said ‘PIZZA’ with Legos on the ‘P’! There were pictures on the wall of people smiling, enjoying pizza; it made me feel that perhaps these guys know what they’re doing.

FD: We placed our order and sat patiently. It was not long at all before our first slice arrived: the Meat Lovers Pizza.

JP: My first bite: I found that the bread was a little thin. But the toppings made up for it, especially the maple bacon. That was new for me, but it really brang the whole thang together. The cheese and sauce were greatly evened out, even with all the meat on it. Very exquisite.

FD: Our next slice was the Hawaiian Pizza, a personal favorite of mine and a new flavor for my co-critic. I loved the sweet and savory combination of the ham and pineapple, but found it lacked the proper amount of sauce. Despite this, it had quite the satisfying crunch.

JP: My personal favorite out of our entire meal was the next slice: the Sicilian Pizza. At first it tasted like a regular pizza, but it was HUGE. It was like a big square with a lot more flavor. All of the
Ingredients, the cheese, sauce and the bread, were greatly evened out.

FD: Yes, it was like eating a saucy cloud. It was a satisfying meal, washed down with a large bottled water; for only $14, we were very pleased. The owner then threw in a few FREE surprises! The first were the delicious Garlic Knots. I found them to be flavorful and spicy. But when Jean-Paul took a bite, he remembered…

JP: I do not like garlic nuts at all. Worst part of the meal in my opinion.

FD: They’re called Garlic KNOTS, good sir.

JP: Well I’m not a dictionary, am I?

FD: No. You are a MAN. As a final bonus, the generous server at City Slice gave us one final FREE taste, the rare BBQ Pizza.

JP: Firstly, it was free. I was surprised to find that there was BBQ sauce instead of the regular tomato sauce. Overall it was great: the BBQ and cheese went well together with the chicken. It was like an entire restaurant dinner in a pizza.

FD: Feeling satiated and full, we put on our fashionable attire and ventured back out into the world. Overall, I highly recommend City Slice when the only thing that can make this cold world make sense is the satisfying taste of a slice of Pizza, the beautiful dance of sauce, cheese, and bread in my mouth.

JP: Well, Federico Delicioso, my thoughts are exactly the same. The best pizza I have ever had in my life.

FD: How old are you, again?

JP: I’m 11.

City Slice: The Ratings

On A Scale of ONE Sad Cat to TEN Party Dogs:

- Ambience .............................................. 9/10 Dogs
- Meat Lovers .................................. 10/10 Dolphins
- Hawaiian ........................................ 7 ½/10 Clownfish
- Sicilian .......................................... 10/10 DireWolves
- Bonus Garlic Nuts/Knots: ................. 9/10 Puppies
- Bonus BBQ .................................... 10/10 Chickens
- Price ............................................ 10/10 Hamiltons

Biographies of the Critics

Jean-Paul Paul John

Jean-Paul Paul-John was a high school dropout; he had absolutely no skills. One day he went to a restaurant and tasted the worst food he had ever tasted in his life. So he wrote about it in his Diary of Bad. He gave it to the owner who happened to run the biggest magazine in Paris, TX. At first he was offended but he saw the review JP wrote and thought it was pretty good, so he was hired as a writer for Paris Weekly to write about food he ate.

He is one of the best writers around, almost as good as Ethan Zenteno, The Best Food Critique/Non-Food Actor.

Federico S. Delicioso

Federico S. Delicioso graduated Magnum Cool Latte with his BS from the University of Herbs-de-Provence in Paris, TX. He studied under such prominent foodies as The Swedish Chef, Chef Boyardee, and Marcel Marceau. After weeping copious tears during a matinée showing of “Ratatouille,” Federico found his true calling: critiquing food.

Federico is often mistaken for actor Frankie J. Alvarez; don’t bring it up, or he will beat you with one of his four ladles.
I wanted to do Tie Dye shirts because I thought it would be cool if we did it since it was our first time. It was fun and also confusing because the box didn’t explain the instructions correctly.

In the first picture we laid the shirts down and took a fork and twisted so it would look like a donut.

And then next we put rubber bands around the shirt and then put the dye in different sections of the shirt.
Something I would recommend is to put the gloves when putting the dye on the sections because it takes a day or two for the dye to come off your hands.

Then when we finished putting the dye on our shirts, we wrapped it around with plastic wrap so the dye wouldn’t get out.

We had to wait 12 through 24 hours to rinse the shirt.

Finally...

...we had awesome shirts! 😊
One Saturday afternoon, my mom and me were downstairs relaxing. She had told me to go upstairs and take my dog out of its cage, so I walked upstairs and started walking to the cage. My dog (he is the cutest thing in the world) is about two, three months old. He is a pit-bull with hazel and white spots all over him, and his ears are floppy. As I’m unlocking the cage, he bursts out and starts running around the whole upstairs. So in my mind I’m thinking, “I have to get this dog back in the cage before my mom comes upstairs and takes my phone away.” So he’s running around the wall that divides the kitchen and the living room, and I’m chasing him around the whole kitchen, and after I’ve chased him for a while I notice also that he is peeing.

In my mind I’m thinking, “Oh my God what’s wrong with this dog.” I’m still trying to chase the dog, trying to avoid the pee spots, and just as I’m about to catch him he runs under the table and starts peeing under the table. So I had this really nice idea to go around the table and trick him. And just as I was about to turn the corner of the table, I slipped on a puddle of pee, hit my head on the table and fell backwards. I was in so much pain. My head really hurt. Meanwhile, he’s still peeing under the table. But when he heard that I fell backwards, he stopped peeing, came over to me and started licking my face and jumping on top of me. So I’m saying to him, “I’m going to catch you, cause you’re going to get me in trouble!” So I picked him up and threw him in the cage….. not that hard, it was soft inside.

So I locked the cage and said, “one thing down, another to go.” I grab Clorox wipes and Bounty paper towels, and start cleaning up the pee that was all over the walls and floor. And as I’m about to finish cleaning, my mom starts walking upstairs. So I’m like “Oh my God I need to start hurrying up and hiding all of the bags of Clorox and Bounty paper towels.” So just as I’m trying to hide the bags of garbage, from the top of the step she’s like, “Jayla. Why does it stink up here?” And right then and there I knew that I was in so much trouble, and that she was going to take my phone away.

So she told me to go downstairs and take a shower, and she would clean up the mess. So I had gone
downstairs and taken a shower, and by the time I had finished and walked upstairs, she had finished cleaning and it smelled like strawberries. And I was like walking past the cage and seeing that the cage was all clean, and he was sleeping. So I walked into the kitchen, and my mom was standing there with my phone in her hand. She said, “you’re not getting this phone back for a long time.” And then in my mind I’m thinking, “no wonder his name is Trouble. He always gets me in trouble!”

Cat-Dash-Trophe
Told by Ethan Zenteno, age 11
Storytured by Greg Hildreth

So one day five years ago in Bushwick, Brooklyn, Greg and his friend Reebo had lost their cat Shasta. They had Shasta for a long time, since Reebo was in college. This cat was very fluffy and white; she looked like she belonged in an 80’s movie. One day Shasta got lost, Reebo was very sad because Shasta was her favorite thing in the whole world, it was like her own child. So Reebo started getting very scared, and she started putting up posters all over town. So a few weeks passed and still nothing, so they decided to give up hope. They thought that she was gone, dead, never to be heard from again, let’s move on.

So one day they were going out to dinner (Greg, Reebo and a few friends) and Reebo gets a call: it’s a little kid saying that they found their cat. They think it’s a scam because it’s a little kid’s voice, and they still haven’t found the cat for weeks, so why would this be any different? But just in case they went anyway, because this was their last chance of ever finding Shasta. When they get there, there are about ten kids on skateboards and bikes, and it’s the middle of the night. So when they arrive they’re out of school, and there is a big eight foot fence between the cat, the kids and them. So Greg asks, “how are we going to get to the other side? And the smallest kid, maybe about eight years old climbs the fence with ease. And Greg asks him, “So get the cat.” And the kid says, “but I’m scared, he might bite me.” And Greg says, “you just jumped over an eight foot fence and you are scared of a little cat?”

So surely enough the kid goes to the cat and tries to get it, but then Shasta runs away, and she starts running and goes under the fence, and Reebo and Greg try to catch it but it goes right through their leg. So then they go on this wild chase, all you see is these adults and some kids running down the street for this one little cat. And remember, it’s the middle of the night so there are barely any cars. The cat stops and jumps under the hood of a car, Reebo follows. While she is under the car, the man who owns the house in front of the car says, “What are you doing to my car?” He thought they were vandalizing it. And then Greg stood up and raised his voice, saying, “We’re trying to save a cat.” Surely enough, Reebo got the cat. She held it very close to her because she finally found her cat. As they were walking on the street, they were complimenting the kids because they finally found him. Then out of nowhere one of the kids say, “Um, wasn’t there a reward involved?” So they went to an ATM and got about sixty dollars. Each kid only got a few bucks, but they still looked at the money as if it were a pot of gold.

When they went home, they saw that Shasta was dirty. She had knots in her hair and she was very black. It was disgusting. So they took her to the vet and shaved off all of her fur except for her head and her tail. Imagine how ugly that is. But they didn’t care, because they had their cat. When they got home, Shasta caught a mouse. She had never caught a mouse before, so Greg thought that this was her way of saying that she learned something while she was on the street.
Why Did I Decide to Do Flips Today?
Told by Charde Harvey, age 11
Storyturged by Charly Simpson

So when I was about five or six, it was the weekend, I decided to do flips. I don’t usually do flips or cartwheels. I was in my mom’s bed, I decided to do these like cartwheel-, flip-kind things, so I did this one like amazing flip, and I landed in like a downward facing dog position, like my head looked like this (she demonstrates), and while this is happening I’m thinking, “Why can’t I move my head?” It feels like an anchor, and I can’t pick it up, and I try like, “ugh, ugh.” And then I call my brother, he thinks that I’m joking at first, but then I show him I can’t pick up my head, I gesture like, “ugh, ugh.” Eventually he believes me, and then the ambulance comes, and then I get rushed to the hospital. And I’m crying, I’m sad because I know that my head is going to have to get popped back into place. Because it happened with my arm before.

So the doctor says that I don’t have to get it done right away, I think it was because I was scared, I’m not sure.... And I’m relieved, I’m like “yaaaaaaay.” But the good thing at the time was that I didn’t have to go to school, but now I like school, so.... It’s fine. And I had to ride around in a stroller with my head like this (she demonstrates), I had to sleep like this (she demonstrates), it was a whole thing. And in a couple of days I had to go back to the doctor, and they had to eventually snap my head back into place, so I’m like fidgety, I’m so scared, I’m crying and the time comes and he tries to like keep my head in place, but I’m like moving, cause I really don’t want it to happen, nobody wants to get their head popped back into place. He says he’s going to go “1, 2, 3.” He goes “1, 2” *snap*. And I’m really mad. I’m like crying cause I thought he was going to do it on three. So then, after that I never decided to do flips in my mom’s bed again.
see them, meet them and see what they think of her. She wants to meet her mom, the dough, her dad, the frosting (specifically, chocolate), her sister, the sprinkles, and her brother, the deep fryer. No-Name is really sad about not seeing them. So she comes up with a master plan about being as ugly as possible so they can send her to the back of Dunkin’ Donuts where her family is. To the employees only section. Which probably won’t work because she is really cute. So her first attempt is to shake off all of her sprinkles and frosting so she could be just a plain donut that no one want to buy. But people thought that she was still adorable. And even if they didn’t think she was adorable it wouldn’t have worked anyways because the employees put more sprinkles and more frosting on, and so she looked like a new donut. She was shiny, clean and she had rainbow frosting. Who doesn’t want rainbow frosting? So that was a fail.

Her second attempt was to squeeze into a little raisin shaped donut so no one would want her. And that didn’t work because people thought that she was a new and improved shape of donut that was limited edition. Every kid wanted her. So that was a fail. Her third attempt was to work off all of her sprinkles and frosting. So she moved around a little bit, she did jumping jacks even though she doesn’t have any arms. And she swept off all of the sprinkles and frosting, so all she had was sweat on her. But that didn’t work because people thought that she was the cutest glazed donut.

So No-Name has lost all hope of seeing her family ever again. And that night she couldn’t fall asleep because of that. She was so sad you could only see a tear shred from her eye turning into ten. So at 3 AM, she overheard the manager and one of the employees talking about moving everything from the back of Dunkin’ Donuts to the front for renovations. And at that moment No-Name was super excited and she had the biggest smile on her face, she was so excited to see her family, she couldn’t wait. Even then she couldn’t fall asleep because she was so excited. So she finally fell asleep with a big smile on her face. And when she woke up, No-Name found all men working to put everything from back, to the front. They were carrying ovens, utensils, food, everything. So No-Name sat up, and she watched the door that connected from the back, waiting for her family to roll by. She sat there for three hours, and nothing. She was about to give up and lose all hope for seeing her family ever again. Right when No-Name was about to turn around and give up, her family rolled by. They all had the biggest smile on their faces and were about to cry. They couldn’t believe what they saw. No-Name just wanted to go up to them and jump on them and give them a big hug, but No-Name had no legs. And at that time, you could see No-Name’s sprinkle dimples, which had never been seen before.

Hat-Trick or Treat
Told by Milen Tokarev, age 12
Storyturged by KeiLyn Durrel Jones

October 31st, 2014. And I’m talking to you right there, that’s Halloween, and that’s last year if you didn’t know. So it’s Halloween, we’re trick or treating, knock on doors, give me candy, thank you. Hopefully not get poisoned. So I get home, I open my bag, and there’s not as much candy as I thought there would be, and I think to myself you know there’s always a next year. So Thanksgiving. Christmas. New Years. Cinco de Mayo, whatever you call it, passes by. It’s a new year. October 31st 2015, and I’m still talking to you right there. It’s still Halloween and a new year.
10 AM. We have a hockey game. It’s warm-ups and I’m a goalie. I’m blockin’ shots, savin’ shots, doing everything I can, I’m looking like a pro. Warm-ups end. First period. Right off the bat, our centerman passes it to our defenseman, the defenseman takes it out of the way, takes a shot, off the pipe and in. He made the goalie look like Swiss cheese. I’ve seen coupons save more than him. Second period, nobody scores. Third period, they answer. Their defenseman takes a snapshot, and it goes in because it got tipped by one of our player’s sticks. I mean I wasn’t expecting that to happen. So now we’re in overtime, because we’re tied, and overtime is like sudden death, so like first team to score wins. So I’m on the post.

And number nineteen passes it to number five, so he could get the one-timer into the net. And I wasn’t expecting number nineteen to pass it to number five, ’cause he has been the puck-hog the whole game. So he passes it to number five, and then I’m just lunging over trying to save it, but I can’t. I look like a fool. It’s too late. We lost.

Then I remember. The day isn’t over. I still have trick or treating and Halloween. So I get home, and I smell like a wet chipmunk. And my mom tells me to take a shower. And I’m like, “Mom. Do I really have to, I’m really tired.” And she tells me, “Yes, because it will make you feel better.” And even though I knew that that was true, and even if she didn’t tell me I would have still done it. Because you know, you have to respect your parents. So I’m in the shower, thinking about life, thinking about the hockey game, thinking about Halloween, thinking about trick or treating, thinking about my costume. So I get out of the shower and I go to sleep. But then, an idea hit my head. What if I watch half a season of Futurama and I’ll get a dream about it. I mean, who doesn’t want a dream with Fry, Leela, Bender, Professor Farnsworth, Doctor Zoidberg? So I watch the last season that they ever made, season seven. The last episode almost made me cry, and I close my computer and I go to sleep. I wake up. It’s dark outside! I run over, it’s Halloween time, time to get crazy! I put my costume on. I’m a werewolf. I put my gloves on, I put my mask on, then I run over and I see the clock, it’s 11 PM. It’s too late. What! I didn’t get a dream about Futurama! I lost the hockey game! I DIDN’T GET A LOT OF CANDY LAST YEAR AND NOTHING THIS YEAR, WHAT! WHY? WHYYYYYYYYYYYYY?  🎃

**The Day of the Fog**

**Told by Natasha Davis, age 11**

**Storyturged by Rachel Bonds**

My friend/partner (Rachel Bonds) told me a story about how when she was fifteen years old and she had just gotten her learner’s permit. She was on the mountains, the roads were really narrow and windy, and it always got foggy, you could see something only sometimes. And she hated driving. She hated it. It was the last thing she ever wanted to do. And one day her dad was like, “Rachel, you’re gonna drive me to the store!” And her whole world just shut down. She was like… “no.” And he is over here like, “Rachel it’s now or never, face your fear, come on, you can do this.” The parent talk, you know how they do it, and she gave in. She was like, “Ok, I got this, I’ll do it. So, they’re in the car, the engine starts, they get in the mini van, you know. She is driving, doing good so far, she feels like a cool kid, she is like “yeeeee, I got this.” Everything is going well. Then, it gets really foggy. Like you can see nothing. So she gets scared, she is like, “Dad, oh my gosh, I can’t see anything.” He is like, “It’s fine, just drive slow.” So she is like this, looking side to side, making sure everything is ok. And as she is getting to drive, she sees a ditch, and there is something in the ditch. And she is looking like, “What is it?” And then she is like, “Oh my god there’s a car in the ditch. Oh my god, that could have been me.” So her Dad is like, “It’s fine, relax.” And he is looking at the road, while she is still like this: “Oh my god.” And when he is like “Rachel!” She is like, “What?” And she looks in front of her. And there is a policeman right in front of her, literally in front of her. And she gets scared, and is
like, “Oh, my God!” and swerves, swerves her car around.

Then she makes a new friend, everyone. She goes in the ditch with the other car. And then, it’s a moment of silence. Literally, you hear the wind whooshing, leaves falling, crackle crackle. And, her dad is like, “Rachel. Rachel are you ok?” And she is all like, “Ya, I’m fine.” It’s surprising, she’s fine, no concussion, nothing. So obviously you don’t need to call anyone because there is another car, tow truck, police, everyone is already there. So as they’re getting out she is talking to herself in her mind, “Rachel, even though we almost died, it’s ok. We faced our fear, we drove the car, we didn’t die, you know, we are all good.” And that is the time she drove to the grocery store, but just to let you guys know, she moved to a place where she never has to drive. There are like taxis, cars, buses, you know all that stuff which is New York. And that is the story of Rachel Bonds.

Handling Anxiety Featuring Connor

Told by Brandon Leon, age 17
Storyturged by Nic Grelli

Tenth Grade, sophomore year was the best year. It was when I met my best friend Connor. Before I got to know him, I thought he was a bully, a pushover; I didn’t want nothing to do with him. Turns out he was the complete opposite. He was shy, he was really smart, he was fun and outgoing, but little did I know he had a few problems with anxiety. He would never tell me, but I would always ask him and he wouldn’t talk much about it. And we would just leave it like that. Besides that, we would have so much fun in class, prank each other, imitate the teachers, laugh, it was wrong, I know.

Junior year was when things started getting harder. Teachers, school, homework. It was the first time I noticed him having a panic attack. It was during earth science class. We were walking up to the roof with a bunch of students. We were walking and we noticed the railing of the stairs, the wood split in half. We immediately thought, we are going to get in trouble, but before we got to leave the teacher caught us and the students, and the teacher said, “Stay right where you are, you are in trouble.” And the principal came, and I knew I wasn’t going to get in trouble I didn’t do anything but Connor was red, he was full of rage. I could tell something bad was going to happen, and I told him to calm down but there was no use. He had an outburst, he yelled at the teacher, cursed at them and walked away. I stood back with the rest of the students and eventually the two students got caught, and I was free to go. After that I went to look for Connor but he was still with the principal and I was alone.

Senior year, orientation began and I noticed Connor wasn’t there. Which usually means that your friend isn’t going to come back or got kicked out, and I know he didn’t get kicked out. I was just wondering what was happening with him, and why he would not tell me. A couple of days later he came back to school, but he wasn’t himself, he was completely blank. He shut everyone out, including me, and no matter how hard I tried to talk to him, he would just not talk back. He started coming back to school on and off. He would skip a week and sometimes not come at all. I always tried to help him. I would say, “I’m always here, if you can’t talk to me, you can talk to someone else.” But a few weeks into senior year, he texted me and said he is leaving school, I don’t know what school he is attending, and I was shocked, I had a complete blank expression. What was going to happen? I replied back, “Well if you ever need someone I’m always here, if you need a friend, and it will be ok.” I said, “Good luck with everything, and we’ll always keep in touch.” After that I realized, people come, people go. The important thing is to stay in touch with them, to always talk back, and it may get hard, it may seem rough, it may feel your world is ending, but things will get better. There will always be a new day. And the sun will always rise. And it will be fine.
1. Gustavo wakes up.

2. Gustavo finds a note on his bed and picks it up.

3. Gustavo reads the note. It says...

THE NOTE

Meet my commands by sundown or I will deep-fry Potatoman!
I want all the ketchup in the world, all the salt in the world, all the vinegar in the world.
P.S. Don’t use your potato power to try and stop me. Love,
A.G.


5. Potatoman regrets nothing.

6. Gustavo feels like the Kool-Aid Man. And accidentally cuts Avocado Guy in half -- OH YEAH!!!
7. I - don't know what to say (Narrator doesn't know what to say)!

9. Avocado Guy fries to DEATH!

11. They'll never eat avocado again. Never.


10. Gustavo finishes Potatoman's sentences.

12. D-d-d- That's all, folks!
20 MILE BIKE RIDE

By Sebastian Lopez and George Babiak

SABASTIAN:
One day George And Sebastian went on the Biggest Bike Ride Of All Time!!!! We started at the 52nd St. Project at West 52nd St. and 10th Ave. We arrived at the Hudson River bike path at 1:00 pm. We kept on riding on the bike path. We arrived at the Huge Hill (!!!) in the area where Gus lives (up in Washington Heights).

GEORGE:
It was an amazing day! Sabastian and I had been planning this ride for months, long before summer even. We rode confidently and with great strength and powered up the bike path for almost 10 miles. Then we arrived at a small hill that led up to the George Washington Bridge. It was so tiny that I knew we would have no problem climbing it.

SABASTIAN:
In my head I said to myself, “I can’t believe Gus lives in an area where there are huge hills.” What I felt like going up the hills was as if a person was spinning me and spinning me around and around. There were gears on the bike I was riding and I never knew about it and it made me work more than I was supposed to.

GEORGE:
The climb was fantastic. Our tireless legs pumped us up the hill like powerful engines. I turned and saw that my partner Sebastian was having the time of his life. We were conquering the slope and soon we would be on the bridge itself! Never had we been so happy!
SABASTIAN:
We finally got to the George Washington Bridge. I felt like I wanted to pass out on a water bed. We stopped at the first tower of the George Washington Bridge. My legs felt like they were wiggling uncontrollably. I sat down on the concrete doing the Criss-Cross Apple Sauce. My stomach felt like a worm hole. The vibration of the bridge added an extra tinkley feeling in my stomach.

GEORGE:
First tower! We made it! Kings of the World! Sabastian and I had triumphed. I was ready to cheer our victory to the entire city when I noticed that Sabastian was sitting on the concrete. It was clear that he was emotionally overcome by all the pride and joy he was feeling. I let him experience his happiness for a while since we only had one more goal: make it to the other side and be the first Smart Partners to ride to New Jersey!

SABASTIAN:
After recovering we took pictures of our trip to show proof that we accomplished our journey To New Jersey. I felt excitement running through my body when we got to the other side of the bridge to New Jersey. I loved the sensation of going down hill on the other side of the bridge and entering the state. I felt the relief of having completed the worst of the worst of the challenge.

GEORGE:
There we were, Sabastian and I, standing on new territory that had never been touched by Project feet before. New Jersey, home of shopping malls and farmlands! I could tell that Sabastian was sad because the hard parts were over and there were no more challenges for him. Together we rode back over the bridge with tremendous pride. We rode down the tiny hill and stopped by the river and ate the lunch we brought (bagels with ham and cheese) as we surveyed the bridge we had just crossed.

SABASTIAN:
We were heading back to New York City. We were on the bike path and we bumped into Florencia Lozano, a Project volunteer who was in my brother Bryan’s Playmaking play. Finally we arrived at the Project sweating in exhaustion. I was walking home listening to music. Straight when I opened up my door I sprinted towards the bathroom and took a warm bath. The next day I woke up my arms were sore from holding the handle bars for 3 hours.

GEORGE:
Well, the big day was done. I was sure that Sabastian was at home feeling very sad to be off his bike. I’ll bet he can’t wait until our next 20 mile bike ride.
1. Sandy Patties (aka choc. chip cookies)

Ingredients: store bought gluten free cookie dough (its all The Amish market had to offer).

Directions: use your feet, wash your hands. Take dough out of bag. Roll into small balls. Heat oven to 350° or 375° (we really don't know). Butter the pan. (we used olive oil) place dough balls on pan. Put pan in oven for 25 minutes (or until the project closes). That gives them a great sandy taste!

Hi Sandy Patty friend!

2. Perfectly Undercooked Pizza

Ingredients: mozzarella cheese (also, from the Amish market) frozen gluten free dough (we're not even gluten free), Tomato 3 cheese sauce, salt.

Directions: defrost dough in microwave (there's a defrost setting! Awesome!) grease two pans (we're making 4 mini pizzas here). Pre-heat oven to ... 400°? 450°? No one knows. Roll out dough. Strange shapes preferred.

Put tomatoe (not how you spell that) sauce on the pizzas, then cover in cheese, then sprinkle olive oil and salt on top. Bake! Leave in for 30 minutes (or until the project closes). Take out, enjoy, share with all the project friends!
3. Wild Brownies

Ingredients: Brownie Mix (From CVS!), vegetable oil, eggs, sprinkles, marshmallows, potato chips

Directions: Preheat oven to ___ (whatever the box says). Mix the box contents and eggs and vegetable oil in bowl, grease pan, pour in batter to pan. On one third of the batter sprinkle crushed potato chips. Pour sprinkles in middle third. Place marshmallows on last third. Bake! for 30 minutes, or until half baked. Enjoy! Share!
In May of 2016, we brought back an old favorite in our New Platforms series of workshops: Photography Week. Program Director Garrett Kim, having been a master teacher of the verbal arts in Storytelling (see page 6) took the helm again for the visual arts and steered 6 kids through the esoteric and peaceful art of photography. Here, for you, is the best of their work. The photos were all centered around characters that the kids created, which is evident in many of the captions. We also have some self-portraits!

DEREK REY, AGE 11

Jason vs. The World
"Jason passes the defense to score the goal."

Clearing the Mind
"Jason's favorite place to calm down at the park."

Jason's Father
"His father's job is delivering packages."

Self-Portrait
Diva Shoes
"John's galaxy heels stand out in the sea of black shoes."

Greatest City in the World
"The city looks different depending on how you look at it."

Serenity
"On this rainy day, people keep going about their lives and the world keeps turning."

Self-Portrait
"Kaitlin paints with all the colors of the wind."

KAITLIN FELICIANO, AGE 15
EMMANUEL GOICURIA, AGE 12

*Behind the Bush*
"Being watched without knowing it."

*The Shady Bridge*
"A scary dark place located under a bridge."

*The Shady Bridge, Part 2*
"The rest of the shady bridge filled with empty cars and lonely streets."

*Self-Portrait*
LAUREN AMADOR-CRUZ, AGE 12

A Brighter Way

"This is where Mariana wants all of her family and her brother to live so they can go places together."

Day of Doom

"The day is dark, chilly, gloomy, and the clouds are gray."

Self-Portrait

"My name is Lauren Amador and I love style. Photography is very fun and has inspired me to take pictures at home. When I go home, I always think about how my day was and I say 'It was one of a kind.'"

The Puddle of Happiness

"Everyone wants the day to be like this, the trees with their beautiful leaves, and the sun out and shining."

My Biggest Dream

"There once lived a homeless man named Erick. His biggest wish was to live in the biggest building in Hell’s Kitchen. Everyday he would wake up and look at that building and close his eyes and imagine that he was there. But all he saw was a dark tunnel. He did not know what it meant but he then saw 2 girls on the other side of the tunnel, one would not move and speak, the other would then stare. He said, “This is strange.” so he went back to his Western Beef pushcart bed and sat. He then saw two of the most beautiful flowers. Erick got up and walked over to them. He picked them up and brought it to his abandoned construction site/ apartment. He then put the flowers on his table and stared at them. He also then noticed a stray black cat with a gold necklace. He thought to himself, if he were to get the cat he could live in his dream building. So Erick approached the cat, and as soon as he got close, it scurried away. Up and down the street he went. So then Erick decided to chase it. The cat ran in a dark tunnel, so Erick followed it. He then noticed when he was inside, that this is the tunnel from his dream. The closer he got inside he found the necklace on the floor. Erick picked up the necklace, stared at it, closed his eyes and yelled, “Yay! I will no longer live as a bum again. My fear is over.” The next day Erick went to the pawnshop, he asked the clerk how much the necklace was worth. The clerk told him that it was worth $1,000,000,000,000. Erick after that went to the store, brought a whole new wardrobe, went his dream building, purchased an apartment."
NICOLE QUILES, AGE 12

Make a Wish

"Emma loves dandelions because she thinks they will make her wish of becoming a ballerina-princess come true."

Persistence

"Emma wants to go join Alvin Ailey so she can learn how to dance. She is willing to get blisters and bunions if that’s what it takes to make her dreams come true."

Self-Portrait

618

"This is Emma’s home. Although it isn’t a castle, she doesn’t mind it. She has learned in the past that we should be fortunate for what we do have as opposed to getting upset about not having the things we don’t."
Dear Lakshmi,

I have had the most wonderful time this year being your Smart Partner.

Before we began, I was nervous because I've never been a Smart Partner before, and now, after eight months, I'm completely thrilled that I got to spend all this time getting to know you and hanging out with you.

We have had some pretty awesome adventures together! One of my favorite things that we did together outside the Project was go to Books of Wonder to meet Libba Bray and Patrick Ness, and on the days when we decided to stick around at the Project, I loved it when we would teach me Spanish using flash cards. Also our time competing in the Ping Pong tournament was terrifying and very fun.

If there was one thing I could have added to our experiences this year, it would have been a trip to a zoo or museum, but overall I have had a fantastic time being your Smart Partner. I think you are an incredible person, and getting to know you this year has made me realize some of your best qualities, especially your sense of humor and kindness toward everyone.

Thank you for spending all these hilarious and fun times with me! I will miss you like crazy this summer!

Love, January
Dear January,

I have had the most hairy time this year being your Smart Partner.

Before we began, I was happy and now, after eight months, I'm completely frustrated.

We have had some pretty pretty adventures together! One of my favorite things that we did together outside the Project was skydiving and on the days when we decided to stick around at the Project, I loved it when we would ice skate. Also our time competing in the Ping Pong tournament was smelly and spontaneous.

If there was one thing I could have added to our experiences this year, it would have been flying, but overall I have had a gorgeous time being your Smart Partner. I think you are a healthy person, and getting to know you this year has made me realize some of your best qualities, especially bravery and loyalty.

Thank you for spending all these fearless times with me! I will jump this summer!

Love, Lakshmi
SUNSET, BROOKLYN

We had to go to Brooklyn to see a play, "Light." The theater only had about 100 chairs. It was really hot that day.

In the play, it was really dark. If they wanted light, they used the lights attached to their helmets or in their hands.

Usually, sunsets are more red. But this was more orange. It hadn't set all the way down – there was still some sun left.

I focused the camera, I walked closer to the water, so it looked clear, not blurry.
This was my first time riding on a conveyor belt like this — a horizontal one. It gave you a boost in speed if you walked on it while it moved — you could move faster than people just walking. It made you feel like an orangutan. At the same time, it was pretty fun. And the escalator was one of the tallest I’ve ever been on, except the Lexington Avenue one.

I rode backward on the conveyor belt — it pushes against you. It’s fun, like riding up the down escalator.
Wilhelmina Ohene Kari Kari and her adult SP Lindsay Torrey went to see Zootopia. Here are their reactions.

DAMN Wilhelmina & Lindsay, back at it again with doing fivey submission last minute.

"Zootopia" Taken to the movie by Lindsay Torrey

Illustrated by Wilhelmina Ohene Kari Kari

It had a very nice animation.

5 stars in my Book!!

Zootopia is such a great movie!!

Brought up interesting ideas

Predators and Prey living in harmony!

There was like one Jump scare.

There was mystery and action.

Go see Zootopia! It's awesome.

We also saw Gus Roger son and his son!! (special visit amiright?)
I was lucky enough to sit down with recording sensation Blustin Blieber to get some insight into the mind of a genius.

Where were you born?

*I think Earth, but I wasn’t there.*

Why do you think your music is so popular?

*People are sheep and they have sheep as kids and the sheep like music and... what was the question?*

If you had all the money in the world what would you do?

*I already have it.*

Are you afraid of anything?

*Not being able to buy the Great Wall of China. And those bugs that look like sticks.*

Where do you see yourself in 5 years?

*Older.*

For exclusive video of the entire interview, check out our YouTube clip at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dw0aC7snFUw

Editor’s note: We cannot confirm or deny the persistent rumor that Blustin Blieber and Kamil Kuzminski are actually the same person.
BETTY

Jim Bob is walking through The Forest. Jim Bob is having a bad day. He did bad on his assignment. He hasn’t slept in three years. He’s looking for a lizard that he can bathe with. He hasn’t bathed in three years because he only bathes with lizards. Jim Bob heard a noise. It was a lion. He was so terrified, he ran for 300 miles in the other direction. He found himself in the desert.

He was surrounded by thirty ten-year-olds in costumes. The ten-year-olds were led by a Dinosaur. The Dinosaur was Betty. She stood five miles tall, and ten feet long. Her face was weird, and her body was a pumpkin.

Jim Bob tried to make eye contact with her, but she was too tall. Betty walked through the ten-year-olds and went face-to-face with Jim Bob. The ten-year-olds were wearing costumes celebrating some holiday Jim Bob had never heard of. Face-to-Face with the giant lizard, Jim Bob tried to catch it in his sack of hope, but she would not fit. His sack of hope was very full with tacos. He hoped for tacos. Jim Bob believed that Tacos were the light. All he needed was a lizard to share them with.

Betty stole Jim Bob’s sack and scarred him for life. The children raised Jim Bob and bathed him with no lizards. Now, Jim Bob hates children that are ten years old and wear costumes.

Clean for the first time in three years, Jim Bob felt like he was wearing a costume. Jim Bob frolicked in the snow.

The End.
A SPRITE AND A COOKIE

Denise didn’t know how to drive. Denise learns best from cookies. She could not find any cookie teachers. Oh, who on this earth will be honest with her tonight? She finds a cookie teacher, but it smelt like frosting. He was on the table in her neighbors kitchen, she watched it through the window. “Why do you smell like frosting?” She asked the cookie. “Why do you smell like skin?” the cookie teacher asked back.

“The reason I smell like skin is because I’m addicted to lions.” “I am also addicted to lions,” said the cookie teacher. “Can you teach me how to drive?” Denise asked the cookie. “Sprite.” What?” “Sprite.” “What?” “Get me a Sprite,” the cookie yelled. “How will I bring it to you, you’re in my neighbor’s house?” “I need a Sprite to teach you. The spare key to the house is under a fake rock-come get me-bring Sprite.”

Denise rushes to the church to get Sprite. The priest is crying in the chapel. Where do you keep your Sprite?” She asked the priest. “In the toilet.” “I think it’s going to rain,” Denise said.

Denise goes to the bathroom and slurps the Sprite but doesn’t swallow it. She brings the Sprite to the cookie in the tomato sauce rain. “I am ready to teach you,” the Cookie whispered. “I don’t have a car,” Denise confessed “We can use this neighbors, the keys are here, they trust me.” The Cookie touched Denise on the head with a chip.

Denise is speeding the wrong way across the largest highway in town. The cookie is next to her, singing. The cookie sings the Jurassic World song and Denise automatically becomes the best driver in the world.

Sirens scream behind her, she is getting pulled over by the cops. Denise goes to a store and lives there forever.

The End.
Jessica and Maya are having a sleepover before they get ready to do things.

Jessica's Mom comes with a plate of cookies and milk.

After that, Maya couldn't find her P.J.'s.

"Hey, what about the dump?," Jessica said. "..." Maya said. So they go to the dump.

They find a closet and open it but then... AHHHHHHHHH!!!
"Where are we?" they both said.

When they relaxed, they were in a magical fashion world. Suddenly they saw the most beautiful P.J.'s everywhere.

THE END
During the February school break, three budding auteurs spent a week at the Project creating original films with adult “cinematurges” and professional actors. A fourth team did their own film on their own time! Here’s what they made!

**WORK OF ART**

Carl Hendrick Louis and Wrenn Schmidt are two foreign visitors (from Norway and Australia) applying for the same job. Ginaija Hires made the movie and played the boss. Charly Evon Simpson (G.’s Smart Partner) was the cinematurge.

**UNEXPECTED**

Emma Ramos is Japan’s greatest jewel thief and David Costabile is assigned to stop her. After realizing they are brother and sister, they join forces and flee Japan on a private plane with Mom and Dad. Maria Martinez wrote, shot, and played the stewardess while George Babiak was her grown-up mentor.
THE WEIRD RELATIONSHIP OF BROTHER AND SISTER

Tina Chilip and Jose-Maria Aguilà are cave-dwelling siblings who move into a construction site. Andry Moreno was the kid creator and played a “Pilgrim Thief.” His cinematurge was Michael Stahl-David.

THE CRANE PROJECT

Sofia Santoni (right) and her Smart Partner Grace Rex were the “indie” entry. The film documented their efforts to give an origami crane to everyone they met. They even gave one to local grocer Sonny (left). He liked it!

All of these films can be seen on-line! Just visit www.52project.org and look under the “Kid’s Stuff” menu.
PODCAST PIONEERS
By Britney Trinidad and Flor De Liz Perez

Smart Partners have been talking about Podcasting for years, but Britney and Flor are actually doing it for the first time! Here are their thoughts on starting out.

BRITNEY
I was inspired to start this because I am not going to lie: being a 16-year old teenager comes with a lot of struggles because that’s the time when you are finding yourself and maturing. Everytime I am with Flor De Liz and I am venting, she says I have inspirational words when it comes to dealing with things and the way I give my opinion. Regardless of the topic, whether it’s boys, friends, school and just overall anything, she feels like I should share my words and that’s how we got here. This idea at the beginning kind of was something I wasn’t sure I wanted to do because I was kind of shy of sounding stupid or people not agreeing with my opinion but Flor De Liz kept reminding me this wasn’t for people to agree with me but more for me to express myself. So I went with it and now let’s see how it goes...

FLOR DE LIZ
The idea for a podcast came from our talks during our Smart Partner Meetings; I would listen to Britney talk about her life and experiences... whether it be with boys, school, family, or the world at large. She had some very valuable things to say and I wondered how her insight and personality could be shared with others, for inspiration. We live in such a digital age where inspiration and guidance come not only from those around us but those on the Internet; we seek a wider audience, to know we’re not alone in experiencing something. Why not contribute?

What's a podcast and how can you start your own?
We think it would be great for other Smart Partners to start recording their own podcasts, letting everyone know what projects and interests they’re up to!

pod·cast (ˈpäd_kast): Podcasting is a form of audio broadcasting on the Internet. The reason it became linked with the iPod in name was because people download the shows to listen on their iPods. However, you don’t have to listen to podcasts only on iPods; you can use your computer

What do you need? A laptop with a recording program (we use Garage Band, so we can edit and add music to the file), a microphone, and a passion!

Where do you post it? We decided to host ours on SoundCloud.com for free.

Helpful hints? Visit this website for some great info on RSS and how to use it: https://www.entrepreneurs-journey.comm/230/what-is-a-podcast/
**THE KEY TO OUR "SPECTACULAR" COVER**

This year's cover theme is stereo-optical! Like a pair of eyeballs, each Smart Partner team looks at the world from two slightly different perspectives to create one view. Fivey's cover just makes that fact a little more literal. Want to know who all the "visionaries" are? Check out our handy-dandy key below.

1. Kaylee Zambrano  
2. Hannah Allen  
3. Ethan Zenteno  
4. Frankie Alvarez  
5. Kamil Kuzminski  
6. Rory Scholl  
7. Wilhelmina Ohene Kari Kari  
8. Lindsay Torrey  
9. Darby O'Donnell  
10. Sarah Johnsrude  
11. Chayse Peña  
12. Korey Jackson  
13. Aramis Jimenez  
14. Jeremy Stoller  
15. Genesis Hires  
16. Rachel Rusch  
17. Sofia Santoni  
18. Grace Rex  
19. Emmanuel Goicuria  
20. Tim J. Lord  
21. Sebastian Lopez  
22. George Babiak  
23. Karen Tineo  
24. Lauren Blumenfeld  
25. January LaVoy  
27. Enrique Caballero  
28. Dylan Dawson  
29. Tiffany Miller  
30. Anne Troup  
31. Sabrina Caldonia  
32. Christina Roussos  
33. Kaitlin Fernandez  
34. Eliza Baldi  
35. Sevan Asencio  
36. Sean Kenealy  
37. Ethan Perez  
38. Josh Moody  
39. Britney Trinidad  
40. Flor De Liz Perez  
41. Valeria Oliva  
42. Mikhaela Mahony  
43. Stevens Velasquez  
44. Sathya Sridharan  
45. Justin Bannister  
46. Eric March  
47. Tatiana Goode  
48. Krystel Lucas  
49. Jayleen Velez  
50. Alyssa Cartwright

Cover photography, design, and layout by George Babiak.

To see this issue (and all previous ones!) in full color, download it from our website: www.52project.org