

Writing by Students
at the
Gilbert Albert Community Center



January, 2018

About this publication



This is the first edition of writing created by students of English and literacy at GACC. The authors of this collection of stories come from Honduras, Dominican Republic, Cape Verde and Haiti. We wanted to create a magazine to give our students an opportunity to express themselves and share their stories with each other.



We would like to thank First Literacy for supporting this project and Lenore Balliro for her expert guidance. We would also like to thank Cynthia Peters of the Change Agent for providing invaluable teaching and editing suggestions, strategies, advice and encouragement.

Gilbert Albert Community Center
155 Washington St.
Dorchester, MA 02120

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All illustrations are drawn by students.

Student Authors are from...

Honduras



Dominican Republic



Cape Verde

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Haiti

*



João M.

My name is João M. I am 36 years old. I came to America 3 months ago. I am from Cape Verde, I live in Boston, MA with my family. I am a single man. I don't have any children. I have three brothers and one sister.

I work as a janitor at the Residential Company. I like to study bible, play soccer and watch movies. I go to school every Tuesday and Thursday to learn English. I am happy to be in the U.S. with my family.



Gladys C.

Hello, my name is Gladys C. I am 56 years old. I came to America 1 year ago. I am from Haiti. I live in Boston, Massachusetts. I work at Berklee College.

I have 3 children, 2 sons and 1 daughter. My daughter is 21 years old. She is studying at the university in Haiti. She likes to play soccer. My son Douglas is married. He has 3 children- 2 daughters and 1 son.

Jean Lesly C.

My name is Jean Lesly. I am 42 years old. I came to America 4 months ago with my sister. I am from Haiti. My parents are from Haiti. I am the third in my family. I have two brothers and two sisters.

My girlfriend is Johane. She is studying management. She is 34 years old. She is beautiful. She has black hair. She likes to read. She likes basketball. She was working as a secretary at Universal Micro Centre Haiti.

In Haiti I worked as a stock manager at Valerio Canez. Now, I work at the Cheesecake Factory restaurant. I am studying English at Gilbert Albert.



Marie Louisana D.

My name is Marie Louisana. I have been in Boston four months. I speak Haitian Creole. I am Haitian. I have 3 children. I have 2 sisters. I am a babysitter.

Paul A.

I'm going to school to speak English because I want to speak with my boss. I like construction work. I like carpentry.

I need to read and write. I have never learned to read and write. I would like to be able to read and write.

~ ~ ~



Acephie L.

Hello my name is Acephie. I am a black Haitian. I have light skin. My hair is brown and short. I am beautiful. I am married. My husband's name is Reginald. He is tall and has light skin. He has a mustache and a beard.

I have 3 children, 1 daughter and 2 sons. Their names are Alexandra, Jean-Michel and Andy. Alexandra is the oldest. Jean-Michel is the youngest.



Simone J.

My name is Simone. I am 56 years old. I came to America 2 years ago. I am from Haiti but I live in Randolph. My husband is Famie. He is from Haiti. I have two children. Their names are Farah and Jeff. I am studying at Gilbert Albert. I am happy because I came to America. I ask God to bless America. A benediction on America and my school.

Margarida C.

Hi. My name is Margarida. I am 34 years old. I came to America 1 year ago with my family. I am from Cape Verde. My parents are from Cape Verde. I am youngest in my family. I have 5 brothers. My husband is João. I have 1 child. Her name is Josiana. She is 8 years old. She has long curly hair. She studies in Cape Verde. She is in 3th Grade. My husband works in immigration. I am a factory worker.



Germana G.

Hi, my name is Germana. I am 38 years old. I live in Boston. I am from Cape Verde. I came to America 1 year ago with my daughter. Her name is Joice. She is in 12th grade.

I work as a fish packager. In Cape Verde I was a homemaker. I am the oldest in my family. I have 4 sisters and 3 brothers.



Marie-Carme G.

My name is Marie-Carme. I'm very excited to explain about my story. I'm 33 years old. I came to America 1 year ago with my husband and my youngest daughter. I am from Haiti. We came in U.S. because of a political problem. I'm the youngest in my family. I have 3 sisters and 3 brothers.

My husband's name is Joshua, we have 3 children. Their names are Jose Marlie, Nephlie and Greatnise. I don't have a son. Greatnise has long black curly hair. My husband works at Sky Chef at the airport. He is a handsome man. I work at Geriatric home health care agency. I like my job because I like to work with elderly people. I go to English class at 9:00 o'clock in the morning.

My religion is Christian. I was happy to talk about myself. Thanks

Nassau D.

My name is Nassau. I am from Haiti. I'm working at Dunkin Donuts. I'm a cashier and I make sandwiches. I have six sisters. One sister lives with me and five live in Haiti. I live with my mom and sister.



Christeline B.

My name is Christeline Bigor. I am 43 years old. I came to America 8 years ago with my family. I am from Haiti. My parents are from Haiti. I am the oldest in my family. I have two brothers and two sisters.

My husband's name is Francois. We have three children. Their names are Wendy, Josiane and Judith. Josiane is 23 years old. She is beautiful. She has long black hair. Wendy is 19 years old. She is cute and has short curly hair. Judith and Wendy go to school in Haiti.

Nitchelle A.

My name is Nitchelle A. I am 35 years old. I came to America 2 years ago. I am from Haiti. I am the oldest in my family. I have five brothers. I am not married. I have one child.

His name is Tabachino R. He is tall and cute. He is 11 years old and is in the 7th grade. He plays basketball and Candy Crush. He has short hair and black eyes. He lives in Haiti with my parents. Every Sunday he goes to church. I don't work. I'm studying to be a CNA at KIF. I'm studying English at GACC.



Marie Lucienne I.

My name is Marie. I speak Creole. My native language is Creole. I am from Haiti. I am a home health aide. I have ten children.

Lucinda P.

My name is Lucinda. I am 38 years old. I came to America 1 year and 8 months ago with my son. I am from Cape Verde. My family is from Cape Verde. I am divorced. I live in Dorchester. I work in Lacerta. I am studying English at GACC.

I have two children. Their names are Jaqueline and Alexander. Alexander goes to school in Boston, he is in the 2nd grade. My son is cute. Jaqueline is beautiful. She lives in Cape Verde with her father. Jaqueline goes to school in Cape Verde. She is in 10th grade.





Beatriz M.

Hi my name is Beatriz M. I am 43 years old. I live in Boston. I am from Cape Verde. I came to America 4 months ago with my children. My husband's name is Carlos Barros. We have three children. We have two boys and one girl. Their names are Yanik, Edu and Carla.

My oldest son Yanik is 15 years old. He is in 10th grade. My son Edu is 13 years old and he is in 8th grade. My daughter Carla is 8 years old. She is in 2nd grade. She has long curly hair.

I work as a janitor. In Cape Verde I was a home maker. I am the oldest in my family. I have 4 brothers. I don't have any sisters.

When I Was a Teenager

Patrick L.

When I was a teenager around 16 years old, I had a lot of dreams in front of my eyes and my mind. I was a church acolyte and sat with the church father and other religious people, but I didn't dream about becoming a priest.

At first I dreamed about becoming a famous lawyer. The court was in the same building where I lived. I used to look into the courtroom through a hole in the wall and I listened to the judgements. They had a big influence on me.

I used to play soccer a lot when I was a kid. Whenever I was injured playing soccer, I would go to the hospital where my Mom was a cook. I watched the nurses' teamwork and the physicians' care. I watched them working in their



white, long jackets - operating with the stethoscope, checking blood pressure, putting dressings on injuries. I hoped to be one of them in the future. But medical schools are expensive. When I was in 12th grade, my father had a stroke and then left Haiti in 1987 to live in Boca Raton, FL. My mother's job at the hospital couldn't support my studies. My dream couldn't come true.

For a short time I thought I would be a civil engineer for road and house construction. I never dreamed of becoming a geologist and a geology teacher but this is what I am now. When I meet my old friends who I grew up with, they tell me that they haven't reached the goals they dreamed of. They say " My good old friend, it started out ok, but the usual mistakes, time and family responsibilities made us leave our dreams behind.



You do your best in life.

~ Where I'm From ~

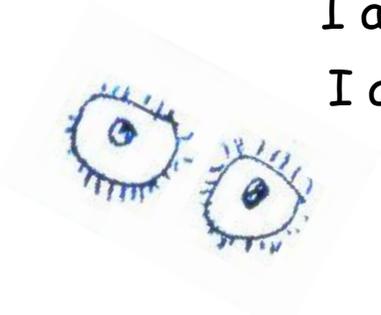
I am from Fernando and Ana
I am from football and cards
I am from dog and cats.
I am from faith and hope.
I am from a stone house covered in straw.
I am from red roses and chocolate.
I am from Kizamba and funana.

~ Riveline

~ ~ ~ ~ o ~ ~ ~ ~

I am from my mother and father.
I am from my mother's rice and beans.
I am from running until I was tired.
I am from get down on your knees you stayed out too
long.
I am from everything on the floor to pick up.
I am from all the children getting together to read
before bed.
I am from bad smells outside.
I am from Jingle Bells on a toy piano.

~ R



Riveline D.

When I was young my dream was to be a businessman, to help the people live and to help the development of my country for example giving employment. My father was a bricklayer. My mother was a public agent.

I have been in the U.S. since November, 2015. The day I arrived in U.S. I felt normal and very cold, because I arrived in the cold season. I saw snow for the first time.

If I ever win the lottery I will go back to my country to build my dream home. I would help my family and build for my country's development mainly in the areas of health, employment and security.

Jean-Bern R.



My father is dead but I miss him so much. My mother is sick now in Haiti. I would like to see my mother before she dies but I don't have money because I don't work in this country. My mother has 6 children - 4 daughters and 2 sons.

Bertho S.

I am an immigrant.

I came to the US because in my country I didn't have a job.

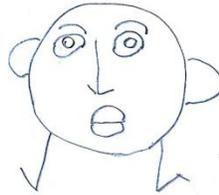
I came here in May, 2016.

I go to school two times a week.

In the US there is a lot of opportunity.

People go to school and then they can find a job.

I feel so-so because the president speaks so badly about immigrants.



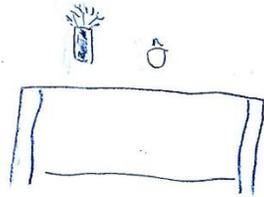
Frantz F.

When I first came to the US, the first thing I did was I went to school for ESL. The first job I had was as a barber, but now I'm a cab driver. I work six days a week, 10 hours a day. It's a very hard job. I'm usually busy but sometimes my work is slow. It depends on the day and on the season. Sometimes I have to be lucky.

Joseph S.

I am an immigrant in the US. I came here first as visitor. I have been in America a long time. I have seen many things I like. And I with my people ask, "What is it, America?".

Now I live here with my family. We have been living here for 10 years. I think every country has many good things and many bad things, so how do you know?



Delta P.

I came to America to change my life.

I left my country to help my family.

I have been going to work to support me and my family.

I talk with the people in my workplace.

Sometimes I feel bad because there is a lot of stress in my life.

Sometimes I feel good because my friends give me support.

Alex D.

I am an immigrant.

I came to this country because I want a better life for my family.

I left my country because in my country I didn't have any opportunity.

I have been in the US for two years.

All people from other countries are immigrants.

Some immigrants are legal and some immigrants are illegal.

I feel better in the USA.

I am lucky because I have papers to stay here.

Rose J.



I am an immigrant.

I'm here for a better life.

I have been here since 1979.

I live with my father and mother-in-law.

I came by airplane.

I still feel fine. I don't feel any difference.

Belmira F.

My name is Belmira Fernandes. I live in Boston. I going work and school. I speak creole and portuguese. I am caboverdian. I love America.



Mithenson C.

My name is Mithenson. I am from Haiti. I speak french. I live with my father. My native language is Haitian Creole. I live in Boston. I don't go to work. I like my school.



Francisco S.

My name is Francisco. I live in the state of Massachusetts. My nationality is Dominican. My language is Spanish. I am from the Dominican Republic. I work construction. I want to learn to speak English.

Laurore E.

I like Spanish, but I don't speak it .

I must speak English in class, it is an obligation.

I come to class all Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The teacher speaks English very well, one day I will speak it also .



Frantz L.

My name is Lamy .

My First Name is Frantz

My Country is Haiti

I speak creole.

My car is blue.



Nelia

My Name is Nelia. I am from Dominican Republic .
My language is Spanish. I live in Hyde Park. I work in Upham's Corner Health Center. I like my job. I want to speak English in my English school in Dorchester .

Mateus M.

My Name is Mateus. I am from Cape Verde. I speak Creole and Portuguese. I don't work. I am living in America .



Fidelka D.

My name is Fidelka . I am from Dominican Republic. I speak Spanish. I have three children. I have ten brothers . I live with my husband.



Silvia U.

My name is Silvia .
I speak Spanish. I am from Honduras.
I live with Dora, my sister.

Lady Liberty

... a symbol of

~ the migration of people from many countries into the United States....

~ ideals such as liberty, peace, human rights, abolition of slavery, democracy, and opportunity.

- UNESCO

libète
pe
dwa moun
abolisyon esklavaj
demokrasi
opòtinite

liberdade
paz
direitos humanos
abolição da escravatura
democracia
oportunidade



libertad
paz
derechos humanos
abolición de la esclavitud
democracia
oportunidad

~ the seven rays of the Statue's crown represent the seven seas and continents of the world



Color and learn capital letters



Λ	Μ	Χ	Λ	Σ	
Ο	Β	Ο	Β	Ζ	Ι
Η	Ι	Ι	Κ	Γ	Μ
Α	Β	Γ	Δ	Ε	Ζ

Alphabet

Manman Son Yo

i
a an
e e en
o o ou on

[mɔ:] [sɪ:]
λ λ λ λ
[εε] [fɪ:] [lɔ:]
[ε:] [εw] [εw]
[εl] [εm] [εn]
Ss Tt Uu
[εs] [tɪ:] [ju:]
Yy Zz
[waɪ] [zɪ:]



A	B	C			
H	I	J	K	L	M
O	P	Q	R	S	T
V	W	X	Y	Z	

Alphabet



Color and learn capital letters



Anne

Mwen genyen twa timoun.

Lè yo sòti lekòl yo pa ke ede-m fè devwa mwen paske yo fatige anpil.

Timoun mwen ale lekòl setè pou senkè.

Yon fwa yo rantre lakay yo pa gen tan pou ede-m paske yo gen anpil devwa.

Mwen oblije vin lekòl.

Mwen oblije vin lekòl paske lekòl se lavi.

Mwen ta renmen li ak ekri.

Si nou pa konn li ak ekri nou we nwa.



Paul A.

Lè mwen te piti nan jakmel mwen te rete avek grann mwen epi se mwen epi kouzin mwen. Mwen te konn ale chache bwa pou yo fè manje pou nou manje. Pa-t gen elektrisite, nou te konn sèvi avek lanp agaz nou te konn sèvi pou nou kapab we pandan lanwit. Kisa elektrisite ye? Se kouran pou moun sèvi. Nou sèvi avek elektrisite fe anpil bagay lakay nou pou nou sèvi.

Denise M.

Mwen antre a minwi mwen pa ka dòmi byen.

Anvan mwen kouche mwen lapriyè.

Mwen fatige anpil.

Mwen fè lapriyè men mwen pa ka dòmi.

Mwen kouche nan kabann mwen.

Mwen pa ka leve.

Mwen panse ak manman mwen avek fanmi mwen.

Mwen pa we manman-m avek papa-m depi lontan.

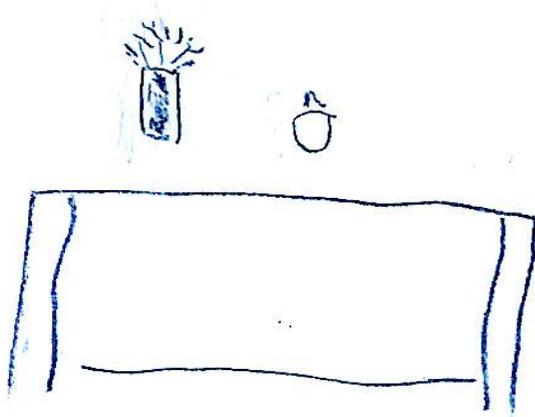
Mwen ta voye yon ti lajan pou manman-m.

Mwen pa la pou-m ede manman mwen.

Se pou tout pitit ede granmoun-yo lè yo vin aje.

Mwen di Bondye mèsi paske li ban fòs kouraj pou sa ou
fè nan lavi a.

Mwen mande dye ede tout fanmi mwen yo.





Simone P.

Mwen sonje manman-m.

Li te renmen mete jipon blan.

Li te renmen ede moun.

Li te genyen anpil timoun ki te rete lakay li.

Mwen sonje li te renmen achte wòb pou pitit, achte
manje chak jou pou pitit yo.

Manman-m se te yon gwo komèsan.

Li te konn vann anpil banann.

Li te konn vann anpil aransel..

Li te genyen anpil bèt.

Ki sòt bet li te genyen?

Li te genyen cheval, li te genyen bèf, li te genyen
kabrit, li te genyen poul, li te genyen kochon.

Li te plante mayi, pwa, diri.

Pierre S.

Mwen sòti Camperin, Ayiti.

Mwen te rete ak manman-m ak papa-m nan menm kay ak lòt fanmi mwen.

Papa-m te konn travay latè.

Papa-m te genyen mouton ak kabrit.

Matant mwen te abite nan menm zòn avek mwen.



Kounye-a mwen granmoun. Mwen marye. M abite Randolph nan Boston. M prann machin pou vin lekòl.

Mwen pa renmen jwe lekòl paske mwen vini pou mwen aprann.

Sa se yon bel bagay lè ou aprann.

Annou tout travay ansanm nan klas la.

Li ta bon yon timoun fèt tout konnen.

Bebe bezwen aprann li ak ekri.

Kijan bebe aprann? Yo pale.

Yo komanse pale ak manman son yo - i, a, an, e, è, en, o, ò, ou, on.

Timoun yo dwe gen tout pwoteksyon paske yo pa gen konesans.

Koman pou-m fè pou mwen konnen?

Ale lekòl.

Madanm bezwen linèt

Poukisa Madamn bezwen linèt ?

Li bezwen linèt paske li pa we sou tablo-a.

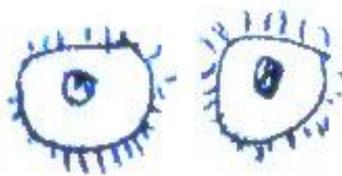
Kijan pou-l konnen ki linèt l-ap bezwen ?

Kay doktè pou-l ale pou-l fè konsiltasyon.

Kisa doktè-a pral fè ?

Doktè-a pral egzamine je Madamn.

Aprè li fini egzaminasyon sa-a, doktè-a pral bay Madamn yon preskripsyon pou-l achte yon linèt.



- *Se tout elev nan klas ki ekri istwa sa a ansanm*

Agemie

Mwen sonje manman-m.

Manman-m pa te two wo.

Manman-m te renmen diri blan avek kalalou.

Manman-m te renmen rad ble.

Manman-m te renmen tout pitit li.

Poukisa se rad ble li chwazi pou-l renmen?

Manman-m te telman renmen koulè ble lè-l mouri se rad ble yo met sou li.

Ki lòt manje li te renmen?

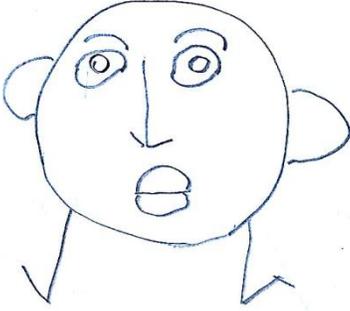
Manman-m renmen pwason avek banann.



Bernadette

Mwen sòti Jeremi, Ayiti.

Papa-m, manman-m, sè-m, frè-m te rete
ansanm.



Lakay nou te pre lamè.

Mwen pa te janm konn naje.

Papa-m te konn fè komès.

Li te konn vann mouton ak kabrit.

Matant mwen te abite menm kote ak mwen.

Mwen pa te janm ale lekòl.

Mwen te konn travay ak manman-m lakay mwen.

Mwen te konn lave, mwen te konn fè manje tou.

Lè mwen te piti mwen te rete ak manman mwen.

Mwen te gen de sè ak youn frè.

Mwen te konn jwe ak yo.

Ki jwèt mwen te konn jwe ak yo?

Mwen te konn jwe osle ak yo.

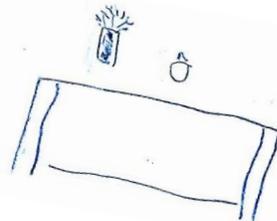
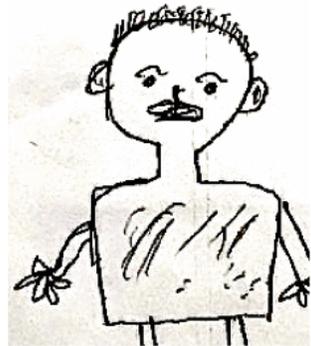
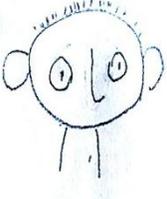
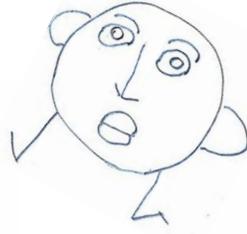
.....

Yeswa mwen dòmi byen paske kay-la te cho.

Pa te gen bwi.

Timoun-yo te rete an silans.

Se sa ki fè mwen ka vini lekòl bonè maten an.



tablo nan sa

* * *

Kreyol

*Anne L. *Paul A. *Denise M. *Simone P.	*Pierre S. *Agemie A. *Bernadette J.
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Angle

Joao M. *Gladys C. *Jean . *Marie Louisana D. *Paul Alexandre *Acephie L. *Simone J. **Margarida C. **Germana G. *Marie-Carmen S. *Nassau D. *Christeline B. *Nitchelle A. *Marie Lucienne I. **Lucinda P. **Beatriz M. *Patrick L.	**Riveline D. *Bertho S. *Joseph S. *Delta P. *Rose J. *Alex D. *Jean-Bern R. *Franz F. **Belmira F. Mithenson C. *Francisco S. *Laurore E. *Frantz L. ***Nelia **Mateus M. ***Fidelka D. ****Silvia U.
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Se elev yo ki fè tout desen yo

Otè yo sòti...

Honduras



Dominican Republic



Cape Verde

**



Haiti

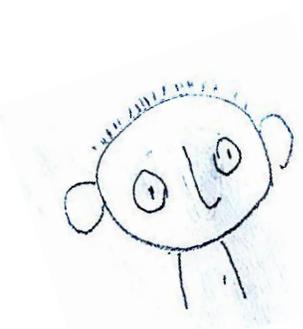
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sou ti liv sa



Men premye edisyon ekriti elev yo angle avek alfabetizasyon nan GACC. Otè tout istwa sa yo sòti Honduras, Dominiken, Kap Vèd, ak Ayiti. Nou kreye magazin lan konsa ke elev nou yo gen opòtinite pou yo eksprime tèt yo epi pataje istwa yo avek lòt elev yo. N ap espere nou li istwa sa yo avek plezi.



Nou ta renmen remesye First ekriti sa a, epi nou remesye Epitou n'ap remesye Cynthia Peters, ki travay nan Change Agent, pou tout gwo sijesyon sou anseyman ak koreksyon li te ba nou, pou tout bon strateji, konsey ak ankourajman li ba nou.

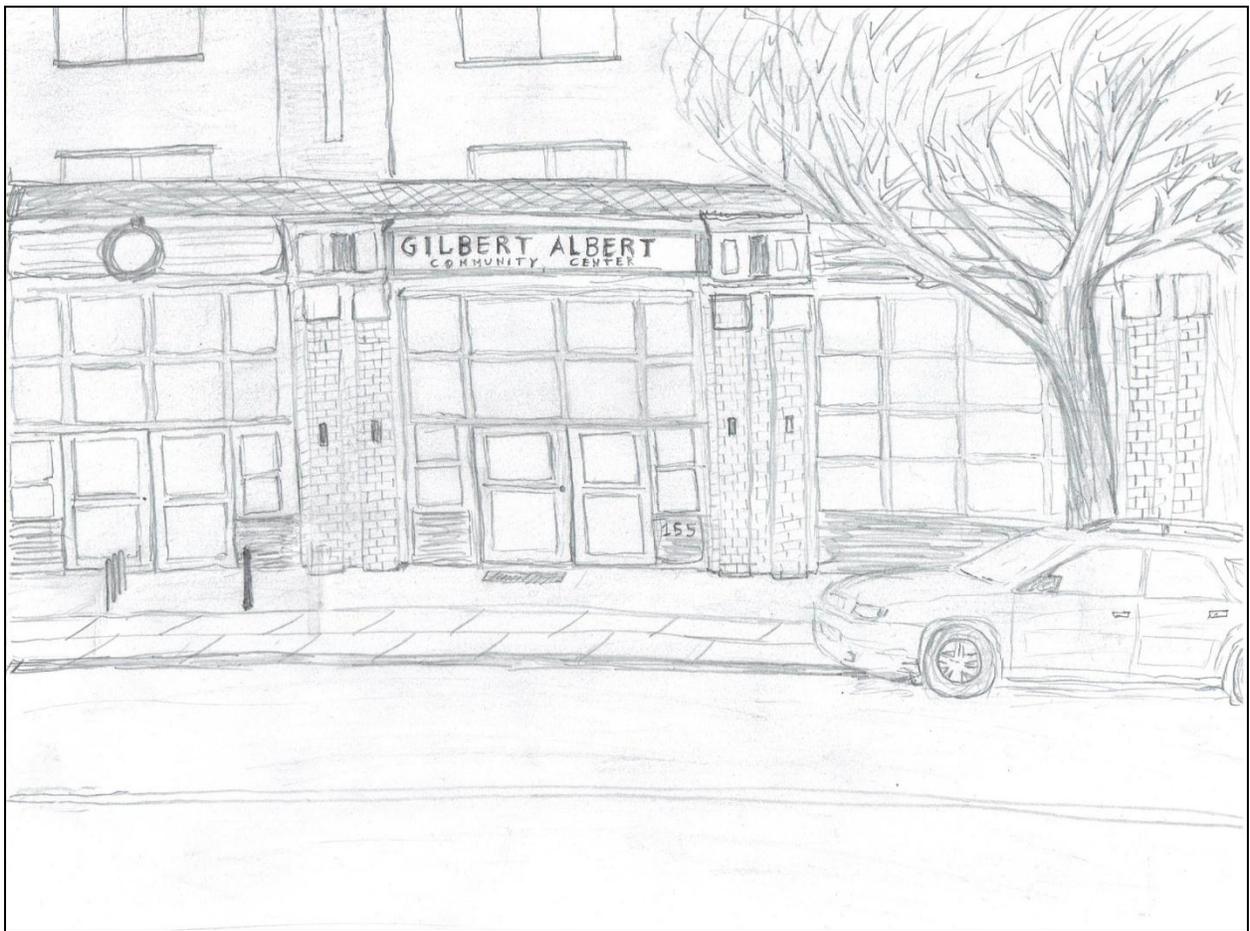
Literacy ki sipote nou nan pwoje Lenore Balliro pou konsey ekspe li ba nou.

Sant Kominote Jilbè Albè
155 Washington St.
Dorchester, MA 02120

Ekriti Elev-yo

nan

Sant Kominote Gilbert Albert



Janvye, 2018