

*Beginnings*  
**VI**



*Artwork created by Eddie Soich*



## Foreword

People who *know* often *write* about what they *know*. They sometimes write about their lives; their histories; their experiences; or their memories through diaries, letters, or scattered notes left on bedside tables.

In this 6<sup>th</sup> edition of *Beginnings*, you will meet people who *know*. You will meet adult students who wrote about their lives, their histories, their experiences, their memories. In addition, this year students were encouraged to reflect on Ohio's rich history and culture in honor of Ohio's Bicentennial. The first three sections of this book offer a variety of well-written pieces that focus on Ohio in unique ways. As we celebrate Ohio's rich culture and diversity, another special feature of this year's edition is the inclusion of artwork submitted by adults with developmental disabilities from the Youngstown ABLE Workplace Literacy site, MASCO. We hope you enjoy and appreciate their creative contributions!

The authors of *Beginnings VI* and their teachers were honored during the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Writers' Conference sponsored by the OLRC in the spring of 2003 at the Wyndham Dublin Hotel in Columbus. The participants engaged in dynamic presentations by authors Francis Kazemek and Judy Hendershot, as well as storyteller Lyn Ford, that featured preserving our past and present.

In addition, we recognize the talents of the students who are not included in this book. They are listed in the *Honorable Mention* section and we thank them for their creative submissions and encourage them to continue their fine attempts to craft entries for next year's conference. We

celebrate *all* ABLE authors in this 6<sup>th</sup> edition of *Beginnings* and thank their teachers for supporting their creative writing abilities.

The OLRC acknowledges and thanks the Ohio Department of Education - Adult Basic and Literacy Education Office, particularly State Director Denise Pottmeyer, for its continued financial support for this project. In addition, we thank the following readers who dedicated many hours judging the nearly 300 submissions: Dianna Baycich, Judy Hendershot, Bill Kist, Lisa Lenhart, Chris McKeon, Nancy Padak, Connie Sapin, Dale Sherman, and Lori Siffert.

Now, sit back, read, and enjoy this 6<sup>th</sup> edition that begins with a tribute to Ohio!

The journey is everything! ~ *Willa Cather*

Happy Birthday, Ohio!

*Chris McKeon*  
2003 Conference Organizer

# *Ohio State Song*

## *Beautiful Ohio*

Written by Ballard McDonald  
Special lyrics by Wilbert B. McBride  
Composed by Mary Earl

I sailed away;  
Wandered afar;  
Crossed the mighty restless sea;  
Looked for where I ought to be.  
Cities so grand, mountains above,  
Led to this land I love.

### Chorus

Beautiful Ohio, where the golden grain  
Dwarf the lovely flowers in the summer rain.  
Cities rising high, silhouette the sky.  
Freedom is supreme in this majestic land;  
Mighty factories seem to hum in tune, so grand.  
Beautiful Ohio, thy wonders are in view,  
Land where my dreams all come true!



*Artwork created by Paula Voytilla*

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