

Beginnings XXIV

Share your words. Speak your heart.

For decades adult students participating in Aspire programs have found and shared their voices through the publication *Beginnings*. Thousands of original Aspire student entries have been submitted for possible publication in the anthology. These submissions include writing of all genres—poetry, short stories, stream of consciousness, memoirs, essays, letters, and personal histories.

When my instructor asked me if I wanted to write a submission for Beginnings I thought... Who would want to hear anything I have to say? Who would want to read this?

Actually, I was having a bad week when I wrote my submission "How Can Someone Live In a House full of People and Feel All Alone?" I wanted to practice writing because I wanted to write a story about my friend Sandra who passed away.

When I found out my submission was selected and published in Beginnings I was amazed and felt proud and pleasurable shocked. I would encourage other writers to take a chance - see where the road leads.

*Dorine Nienkark
Beginnings XXIII Author*

The Ohio Literacy Resource Center is now accepting entries for *Beginnings XXIV*. Aspire instructors can upload student writing by logging into the Aspire Professional Development System at www.ohioaspire.org. The deadline for submissions is March 10, 2022. Entries are evaluated in a blind review process and judged on the following criteria: content, organization/structure, creativity, and mechanics. After the selections have been made, the chosen authors will be published in *Beginnings XXIV*.

Aspire students are also encouraged to submit art for inclusion in the 24th edition of the publication. Artwork will be judged on originality and how the piece best captures the "spirit" of *Beginnings*.

Beginnings is not solely for students in advanced levels. If you or your students need suggestions on the writing process, which genre to try, or what to write about, you can access a number of publications on writing at <http://literacy.kent.edu/beginnings>. Please follow our Back to Beginnings Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/OhioWritersConference>.

Ohio Literacy Resource Center · Ohio Writers' Conference

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