

# Youth Journalism Day Special Issue!



Each summer, the Denver Post Educational Services Program hosts “Youth Journalism,” in which kids between 9 and 13 can come to the Post for a day of learning about journalism and practicing their reporting.

YJD is not only a fun educational event for them, but it’s also important for Colorado Kids, since there are always some YJD kids who apply to be CK Reporters.

This year, Denver Post Reporter Emilie Rusch and Photojournalist RJ Sangosti spoke to the group about their jobs, and participants received instruction on interviewing, writing reviews and reporting from CK Editor Mike Peterson before tackling the stories you’ll see in this week’s issue.

# ColoradoKids

July 29, 2014



*A lesson in hitting tight deadlines!*

## next Gen

### DOES YOUR WRITING BELONG IN NEXTGEN?

If you’ve never visited NextGen, you’re missing a lot of interesting writing.

The stories you see in Colorado Kids each Tuesday are edited versions of stories that also appear on NextGen, but there are more stories there than you’ll see here.

The editing of stories for CK is the same as for any newspaper: There is a little fixing of spelling, or a change of words when something is unclear, but mostly it’s just some shortening to make it fit the space.

Unlike the newspaper, though, is that you can go to [yourhub.com/nextgen](http://yourhub.com/nextgen) and see the full-length story, just as the writer turned it in.

Another difference? Our writers are no older than 14.

If you are 13 or younger and would like to see your writing on NextGen, why not go there and follow the links to sign up?

## ‘GLOBAL KITCHEN’ IS A LOOK AT FOOD’S PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

By Sam Schechterman,  
12, Centennial

The exhibit “Food: Our Global Kitchen” at History Colorado teaches visitors how food is grown, shipped, processed, and eventually eaten.

The path twists and turns, with photos and facts such as that 13 percent of all cropland is used for corn, or that the cassava root is ground up to make tapioca.

There is an estimate that in 2050 there will be two billion more people on Earth.

Experts have been thinking about this and have engineered a “farming skyscraper” to provide more growing space.

This dome-shaped open building with a spiral path of farmland is an innovative solution that has started a conversation.

A hands-on TV there gives you an overall look at where your food comes from.



**Vertical farming** This “farming skyscraper” would allow food to be grown in a smaller area *Photo/AMNH*

And a small room gives you samples of fresh agave nectar, then shows you what tools you can use to make an assortment of sweets or of savory treats.

But even though we know how to make an assortment of things, we also know how to waste things.

In fact, about 414 pounds of food are discarded annually for each person in the U.S. That’s 1656 lbs for a family of four!

And that’s just by individual consumers. A lot more food is lost from farms through transportation and processing.

We can change the amount of food that we waste.

For instance, you can take less than you think you want, then go back and get more.

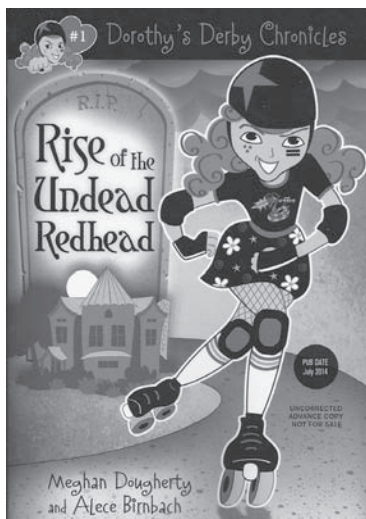
And don’t throw away your leftovers! Save them and eat them tomorrow!

The exhibit, Food-Our Global Kitchen teaches us about the

past, the present, and the future. It teaches us about making food and our senses.

But don’t worry: Even though it will teach you tons, it is still fun with all the hands-on projects.

This is a must see exhibit!



# Tough, fast sport sends girls a message

By Sanya Bhartiya, 11  
Centennial

There are thousands of children's books written and published, but only a few of them are written with the purpose of inspiring young girls.

Girls are expected to be fashionistas, only care about looks, and be frightened to get down and dirty.

However, two Colorado women decided to change the way that females look at themselves by writing and illustrating "Rise of the Undead Redhead," a novel about a group of girls who must learn how to play the

sport of Roller Derby.

"Rise of the Undead Redhead" by Meghan Dougherty and Alece Birnbach, is the start of a series about a girl named Dorothy,

who moves in with her grandmother after her mom decides to become a superstar.

Her grandma lives in a funeral home and is quite frightening to others. After moving to the town,

Dorothy meets many friends of different shapes, sizes, and personalities, and they soon discover that Grandma was once a champion at Roller Derby, a sport where girls try to push

and shove each other on roller skates in order to stop the other team from passing through.

When the bunch learn that Grandma was a star athlete, they accidentally sign up for a championship Roller Derby match.

Will Dorothy's grandmother be able to prepare the

girls in time for the game?  
Read it and find out!

This story sounds crazy and fun-filled but it's also empowering.

Meghan and Alece have a mission to help girls feel confident. Roller derby is helpful because girls can do it and be great!

Meghan said "It's about deciding that you are awesome!" – Audry Abel, 11, Denver



**Alece Birnbach and Meghan Dougherty** of the series "Dorothy's Derby Chronicles" Photo by Harley Brittenham, 10, Parker

## Colorado Kids

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Denver Post Educational Services

Executive Editor: Dana Plewka

dplewka@denverpost.com

CK Editor: Mike Peterson

coloradokidseditor@gmail.com

We welcome your comments.

For tools to extend the learning in this feature, look under "eEdition lessons" at: [www.ColoradoNIE.com](http://www.ColoradoNIE.com)

eEditions of the Post are free of charge for classroom use. Contact us for information on all our programs.

Denver Post Educational Services  
101 W. Colfax Ave.  
Denver CO 80202  
(303) 954-3974  
(800) 336-7678

Stories without bylines were written by the editor.

## Author for all ages offers writing advice

At the age of five, Jenny Goebel often told her older brother stories, but he always listened rather reluctantly with a bored expression on his face.

"I'm sure that my storytelling abilities have improved a great deal since my early childhood," says Goebel with a smile.

When she was slightly older, she told stories to herself as she delivered newspapers at the crack of dawn. All of her stories always began with "what if ..."

Goebel had two adult jobs before taking on life as an author. First, she worked as a headstone engraver. Then she was a teacher for some time.

Finally, she decided to be an author, and, since then, she has written two picture books and a chapter book.

Goebel's top tips for good writing?

- 1) Plan your story and organize your thoughts,
- 2) Choose your words carefully and be sure to know what each word means,
- 3) Go out into the world and have lots of experiences so

you'll have more to write about.

-- Finn Spangenberg, 9, Denver

Jenny Goebel doesn't have a favorite book because "they're like my children." That shows you how much books mean to her.

Every book she writes connects to something in her life.

"Foreman Farley Has a Backhoe" reminds her of when her

children were little and she watched them play with toy trucks and building equipment.

When she wrote her first book, "Grave Images," she submitted it to Scholastic, where they turned her away and said her writing was "too muddled."

For 6-9 months, she revised her story. Then, after she submitted it again, Scholastic accepted her. That shows you that she never gave up and she tried her best.

Now she is writing a book called "Fortune Falls," where superstitions are real.

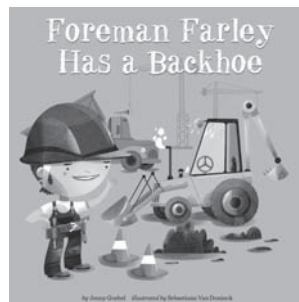
Example: If you step on a crack on the sidewalk, you actually break your mom's

back.

Her favorite part of writing is meeting other people along the way.

Jenny Goebel is an amazing person. She's also very nice.

– Geddy Jackson, 10, Denver



## SEE IT FOR YOURSELF!

Want to know more about these exhibits, writers and artists? We've always got live links with more information about our stories at [ColoradoNIE.com](http://ColoradoNIE.com)

You'll also find information there about how to become a CK Reporter, and about the valuable educational programs and curriculum materials we have for teachers.

# Variety of images in DAM photograph exhibit

**E**ric Paddock is a curator at the Denver Art Museum. His job is to pick out photos and pictures for the museum.

Most of the pictures we saw were donated by Joyce and Ted Strauss, who are now in their 70's. A lot of the pictures are from the 1800's.

There were many pictures in the exhibit, some more interesting than others, but all good.

Some were old and some were recent and some were very old!

The saddest one was about burial at sea. The author was going to die, so he made a picture of him trying to escape it.

A happy one was one where there were a bunch of red foxes in a dining room all playing around.

-- Jack Slaughter, 11, Aurora

Sandy Skoglund's photograph, Fox Games, is at the Denver Art Museum and there is also an exhibit based on it, too.

Skoglund designed the whole set for the photograph the Fox Games, which was made in 1989 as a silver-dye bleach print. She used all sorts of things: fishing line,



**Fox Game:** The three-dimensional version of Sandy Skoglund's photograph of foxes in a restaurant is seen here. You can see both pieces at the Denver Art Museum. *Photo courtesy Denver Art Museum*

paint, styrofoam, paint and fake things.

For paint, she had two colors, red and gray. She painted everything gray, but the foxes.

The foxes were the color of a bright red fire truck.

Her intention was to do a nice, fancy restaurant with red foxes messing it up.

In the other building of the Denver Art Museum there is an actual exhibit of the Fox Game, but there is one thing different about it compared to the photograph: The colors are switched, so the foxes are gray and the rest of the scene is red.

Some people from London came to New York to see the painting and asked Skoglund if they could make it into a three-dimensional exhibit.

-- Madison Colpitts, 12, Littleton

Chuck Chase suffered from brain damage and the consequence of that was not remembering what peoples' faces look like, but that is what made him a famous painter.

Chuck Chase painted huge portraits of people, there was no "small" in his world.

One day, he wanted to remember his own face, and so he got a person to take a picture of himself with a camera about the size of your refrigerator.

Everyone has something bad in their life, but what you need to do is to do something about it, like Chuck Chase did.

– Cierra Young, 11, Highlands Ranch

**ck Find out more about the exhibits, books and services in this week's issue of CK at [www.ColoradoNIE.com](http://www.ColoradoNIE.com)**

## Check it out!

**Visit our NIE website. You'll be glad you did.**

**The Denver Post's Newspapers In Education (NIE) has a ton of content for you to learn from. The site features include:**

- Colorado Kids on Tuesdays
- Mini Page on Wednesdays
- "This Week in History" quizzes to help teachers
- New ways to compare and contrast local media content



Visit the new website today at  
[www.ColoradoNIE.com](http://www.ColoradoNIE.com).

**ColoradoNIE.com** 

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## Sudoku

*Rules: Every row across, every column down and each of the six smaller boxes must contain numerals 1,2,3,4,5 and 6, one time and one time only. The solution to this week's puzzle is on Page 4.*

3					6
			3		2
5					
	2			6	3
	6		1	2	
		1			

# TEACHERS MAKE SCIENCE VISIBLE

By Emma Davis, 13  
Englewood

Imagine turning a corner and finding two people in tie-dyed shirts pointing what look like futuristic ray guns at you.

This is what greeted a group of us on Youth Journalism Day.

The people pointing those ray guns were Sheila Ferguson and Brian Jones, part of the "Little Shop Of Physics."

Little Shop Of Physics is a program whose aim is to "make science visible for people and make it real for people," as Jones said.

Today's hands-on science experience was on thermal radiation and thermal energy.

This is where those "ray guns" came in.

They're actually thermal cameras that show how much thermal radiation something is giving off.

Thermal radiation is energy that is emitted by something above absolute zero (as cold as anything can be).

There are three distinct ways that these cameras are used.

The first is to determine if and where a building is wasting or losing energy.

The second is finding defects in electrical systems, and the third is observing the natural world and tracking the rate of glacial melt.

We were given some time to experiment with the thermal

imaging cameras, and learned that clouds emit more thermal radiation than the open sky.

This is because the clouds "bounce back" some of the thermal radiation coming from the earth.

Photo by Emma Davis

This phenomenon is part of the reason that Venus is so hot: The cloud cover traps its thermal radiation.

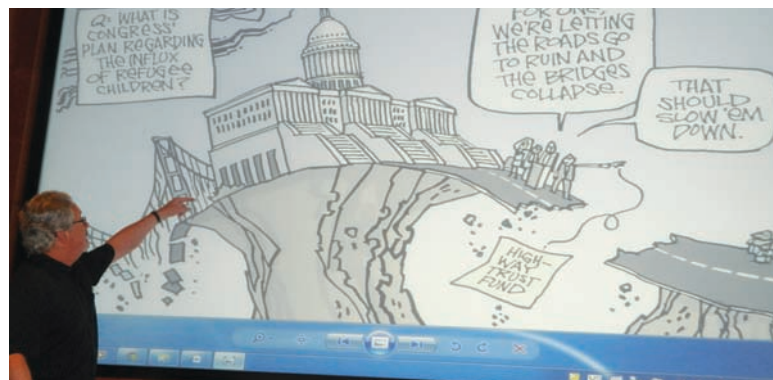
Both Ferguson and Jones are teachers, and at the end of their presentation they shared their favorite part of their job and the hardest part.

For Jones, finding money is the hardest part, but he loves teaching others.

Ferguson said, "Every day is different, I learn every day, and I get to work with people who are in preschool through the elderly."



# A SHARP, COMIC PEN



**Drawing the line:** Mike Keefe points out how the details in his art add up to create the desired effect. Photo by Molly Miller, 11, Cherry Hills

By Katherine Moraja, 11  
Englewood

Editorial cartoons are comics in the paper that tell the personal opinions of the cartoonist about controversial issues.

They are usually ironic and humorous but can open your eyes to issues going on around the world or in your community.

Mike Keefe is an editorial cartoonist who worked for the Denver Post until retiring a few years ago, and who still freelances for the Post.

At first, Keefe wasn't all that interested in cartooning.

He got a graduate degree in math and joined the Marines but never stopped doodling.

"It was just a hobby," he says about drawing. "But I realized I was good at it."

Soon, however, the hobby turned into a job.

His work at the Denver Post adds humor and color to an otherwise dull page.

Keefe mocks the mainstream (which he is proud not to be a part of) with jokes like "Peyton

Manning will fix the economy, stop the wars, end world hunger, and make America great again!"

Keefe has insightful and entertaining comics as well as skillful illustrations.

"It only takes 30 minutes." He says of the process. "The faster I go the more I like it."

Keefe likes to exaggerate perspective. The pillars on the Capitol Building might be too tall, for instance, and the top might stick out too much.

And, while other cartoonists might make roads perfectly straight, Keefe likes his drawings more when they are not perfect.

Keefe's style helps portray the idea he is trying to get across.

For a comic that is supposed to be light and uplifting, his strokes are lighter, with more white spots than dark.

For a blunt, here's-how-it-is comic, however, he uses heavy, black lines and more of them.

To see Keefe's animations go to Youtube and type in Mike-KeefeCartoons or his website, <http://www.intoon.com>

Youth-written stories that appear here also appear on

**nextGen**

YourHub.com/NextGen

COME READ MORE STORIES, AND MAYBE WRITE ONE YOURSELF!

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