

**People & Stories/Gente y Cuentos: Outcome Domains and what *youth participants* have to say.**  
**Excerpts from participant program evaluations**

Self-Esteem	Literacy	Critical Thinking	Cultural Context	Authentic Voice	Engagement	Well-Being
<p><i>"I would recommend this program because it helps with your confidence."</i> –Summer 2013</p> <p><i>"Now I'm able to talk more comfortably in front of people."</i> – Spring 2012</p> <p><i>"Something I didn't expect from this program- I stopped being shy."</i> –Spring 2012</p> <p><i>"I feel like a new individual. The program taught me good morals."</i> –Spring 2012</p> <p><i>"I understand myself a little better now."</i> – Spring 2012</p> <p><i>"I learned to not be scared to talk in front of others."</i> –Spring 2012</p>	<p><i>"One of my favorite stories was "The Thing They Carried" by Tim O'Brien; it made you think they're (the soldiers) carrying more than it tells in the story. The story is a "thinker."</i> – Fall 2012</p> <p><i>"I learned how stories are constructed."</i> –Fall 2012</p> <p><i>"I learned how to find "shadows"(P&amp;S literary category) in the story."</i> – Spring 2013</p> <p><i>"I learned how to edit a story a little better; my reading level is doing a lot better."</i> –Spring 2013</p> <p><i>"Reading does build your vocabulary, even if you're just listening."</i> –Spring 2012</p> <p><i>"This is a better way to know about books."</i> – Spring 2012</p> <p><i>"I learned new words."</i> – Summer 2012</p>	<p><i>"At the ending of the stories, I would love to see people's expressions because I can see that they just finished a great adventure inside their imaginations."</i> –Fall 2012</p> <p><i>"I've learned how to keep asking myself questions."</i> –Summer 2013</p> <p><i>"I've learned to deal with problems in a better way."</i> – Summer 2013</p> <p><i>"I have learned that reading can be related with my own life and that it's good for you because it can clear your mind."</i> – Spring 2013</p> <p><i>The stories were closely related to things we deal with."</i> –Spring 2012</p>	<p><i>"I have learned that I need to listen more to other people and be less judgmental."</i> – Fall 2012</p> <p><i>"I understand that despite having different ethnic backgrounds we can all connect somehow. And we can have different perspectives from one topic."</i> –Fall 2012</p> <p><i>"A favorite story of mine was "The Thing Around Your Neck" by Chimamanda Ngozie Achidie. It was an interesting story of coming to America."</i> –Summer 2012</p> <p><i>"What has meant the most to me is learning about other cultures and people's stories."</i> – Fall 2011</p>	<p><i>"I learned how to express myself more and to cooperate."</i> –Fall 2012</p> <p><i>"I learned how to share better in front of others."</i> – Summer 2013</p> <p><i>"I would recommend this program to a friend because it will help you learn how to have an orderly conversation with a group of people."</i> –Spring 2013</p> <p><i>"I learned how to communicate better with others through reading."</i> –Spring 2012</p> <p><i>"Now I can say what I think out loud and not be scared."</i> –Spring 2012</p>	<p><i>"A memorable moment was when we read "Atomic Blue Pieces" by Angela Johnson. I feel as though the whole class came together and started explaining about their life stories."</i> –Fall 2012</p> <p><i>"I've learned to be open and that people won't judge me."</i> – Summer 2013</p> <p><i>"I've learned that sharing your thoughts helps you understand other people."</i> – Spring 2013</p> <p><i>"I've learned that my story isn't as different as others. I also learned to be a better listener."</i> – Spring 2013</p>	<p><i>"I have learned many ways to cope with problems."</i> – Summer 2013</p> <p><i>"I've learned how to self-reflect and get more out of reading and writing."</i> – Summer 2013</p> <p><i>"What has meant the most to me about participating in this group is being with others and making friends."</i> – Summer 2012</p> <p><i>"This program showed me that you shouldn't judge people, like the saying goes, "don't judge a book by its cover." Because you could be wrong."</i> –Spring 2012</p> <p><i>"I learned that it's okay to help other people when they need it and it's good to stand up for yourself."</i> – Fall 2011</p> <p><i>"I'm liking reading more, I used to hate it."</i> – Spring 2011</p> <p><i>"The stories made me look at things differently."</i> –Fall 2011</p>