

San Antonio Writing Project

Thursday 15, 2006

We started the day by responding to a letter to Anthony Soltero printed in Rethinking Schools. The letter provoked issues such as immigration and testing. Please examine the website www.rethinkingschools.org/org/archive for the many resources it has to offer K-12. The web site has links to other interesting and important Web sites for educators such as Teaching for Change and PBS Online.

We continued by sharing our first writing due. The experience was invigorating and encouraging. Hearing everyone read their own piece of work showcased everyone's unique abilities to write and share their experiences. Inspiring!!

Our noon nourishment was another creative enterprise that fueled us.

Naomi Shihb Nye is a parent, a San Antonian, an Arab, an American, and a poet who understands the power of words. She has lived in old Jerusalem, in St Louis, and in San Antonio. She is the daughter of an American mother and a Palestinian father. Please check www.pbs.org/now/transcript/transcript_nye.html for a transcript: Naomi Shihab Nye: A Bill Moyers Interview.

Presentation by Shihab Shihab Nye

- Writing is for everyone.
- Writing like exercise is needed.
- We do not get to the page organized.
- Found Poems--write freely, wrecklessly. You do not want anything polished. That way you can fix it.
- You have to go into revision.
- Living in a Mexican American community taught her what it is to be Arab.
- We cannot say, "That did not happen to you. You did not live that."
- I read the poem down and up and then I jump around.
- Poems take you to many places.
- Literature holds our lives together
- Dazzled by the possibilities in writers
- Recommends the book, *Hummingbird* written by Kinky Friedman
- Recommends the movie—Turtles Can Fly
- Mentor: William Stafford
- San Antonio Public Library has one of the best collection of poetry.
- Recommends Donald Hall—Nations' poet Laureate
- Recommends Ted Kusser— Nations' past poet Laureate
- Carl Sandburg—best for classrooms

Some Books by Shihab Nye

1. *Habibi*
by Naomi Shihab Nye
2. *Between Heaven and Texas*
by Naomi Shihab Nye, March 1, 2006)
3. ***19 Varieties of Gazelle: Poems of the Middle East***
by Naomi Shihab Nye March 1, 2005
4. *A Maze Me : Poems for Girls*
by Naomi Shihab Nye, Terre Maher (Illustrator) March 1, 2005
5. *Sitti's Secrets*
by Naomi Shihab Nye, Nancy Carpenter (Illustrator) (October 1, 1997)
6. *You and Yours (American Poets Continuum)*
by Naomi Shihab Nye (September 1, 2005)
7. *Words Under the Words : Selected Poems (A Far Corner Book)*
by Naomi Shihab Nye (October 1, 1994)
8. *Words under the Words: Selected Poems (A Far Corner Book)*
by Naomi Shihab Nye (May 1, 2001)
9. *This Same Sky: A Collection of Poems from Around the World*
by Naomi Shihab Nye (May 1, 1996)
10. *The Tree Is Older Than You Are: A Bilingual Gathering of Poems & Stories form Mex*
by Naomi Shihab Nye (April 1, 1998)

Other Books Brought In:

Rosita's Bride by Mary Fisher

In other Words by John C. Walker

Hooway for Wodney by Lester/ Munsinger