I am a Super Hero

A comic book created by youth for youth in Hawaii

Hosted by
Teachers College, Columbia University
Produced in partnership with
North Hawaii Community Learning Centers

Materials distributed by Dark Horse Comics
FOUNDER and DIRECTOR
Dr. Michael Bitz, Ed.D

HOSTED BY
Teachers College, Columbia University
Center for Arts Education Research
Dr. Harold Abeles and Dr. Judith Burton, Co-Directors

NORTH HAWAII COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS
Art Souza, Project Director
Susan Robeson, Complex Coordinator

DESIGN and LAYOUT
Tom Kurzanski

"I Am a Superhero" 2007 © Respective artists and writers. All rights reserved. No portion of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted, in any form or by any means, without the expressed written permission of the respective artists and writers. Names, characters, places, and incidents featured in this publication either are the products of the authors' imaginations or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual persons (living or dead), events, institutions, or locales, without satiric intent, is coincidental.
Welcome to a special comic book created by youth for youth. This year children across the Hawaii Island created comic books on what it means to be a superhero. This collection of art and writing represents the hard work, critical thinking, and character development of the many children who participated. View samples from all the comic books at www.ComicBookProject.org. See the inside back cover of this book to learn about the process.

The Comic Book Project is an arts-based literacy and learning initiative hosted by Teachers College, Columbia University. The Project encourages children to make a connection between what they write and what they draw, and it puts children in the role of creators, rather than merely receivers of information. Children create comic books about their personal experiences, interests, and environments, thereby engaging them in the learning process and motivating them to succeed in school, after school, and in life. For more information about The Comic Book Project, please contact:

Teachers College, Columbia University
Dr. Michael Bitz, Ed.D, Project Founder and Director
525 West 120th Street - Box 139
New York, NY 10027
www.ComicBookProject.org
meb53@columbia.edu
(212) 330-7444

“I Am a Superhero” was produced in partnership with the North Hawaii Community Learning Centers. This non-profit, afterschool program serving K-12 youth and their families, is a unique community partnership with the Hawaii Department of Education operating sites in six Hawaii Island public schools: Honokaa Elementary, Honokaa Intermediate/High, Paauilo Elementary/Intermediate, Waimea Elementary, Waimea Middle, and Waikoloa Elementary. Programs offer tutoring, arts and culture, science, technology, digital media, and environmental activities.

The Comic Book Project in Hawaii was made possible by funding from The McInerny Foundation and the generous support of the DOE, West Hawaii District Office. The Project would not have been possible without the efforts of Hamakua Youth Center and director, Venica Facek; afterschool instructors Dustin Brunelle, Eva Conway-McGuire, Victoria McLaughlin, Sean McNeely, and Wendy Molcilio; the tireless efforts of Brenda Johnson and Hilda Yagong, site coordinators of NHCLC at Honokaa Elementary, where over 85 students participated in a school day pilot of The Comic Book Project. And special thanks to the teachers of Honokaa Elementary, Waikoloa Elementary, Waimea Elementary, Waimea Middle, Konawaena Middle, and NHCLC site coordinators Diane Kimura Sugiyama and Shirley Reveille at Waimea Elementary, all of whom helped make The Comic Book Project in Hawaii possible. For more information:

North Hawaii Community Learning Centers
Project Director, Art Souza
Complex Coordinator, Susan Robeson
PO Box 2655
Kamuela, HI 96727

phone (808) 640-6764
fax (808) 775-1457
thecomicbookproject@gmail.com
The Legend of Shockey Boy

BY

MASON WILKES (7th GRADE)
HONOKAA INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
Once, in the town of Honolulu, Hawaii, there lived a thirteen-year-old boy named Mike. He did not like all the danger, temptation, and chaos in Honolulu at all.

Oh, brother!

Stop right there!

Ha Ha Ha!

Hey, kid! You're in the wrong place!

He was taken to the closest place that was the closest place that was the closest place.

AAAAAAAAA!!!

Then suddenly...

Mike, it seems that the electricity hit the glass into your body, leading you to that shocking likes.

So, Mike made a decision to use his powers to fuse, resulting from this new life as Shocky Boy.

Sweet!
Mikey started his spree of justice one day by helping old ladies across the street...

...stopping robbers...

...not so fast! What about the back? Stay back!

...re-lighting broken lighthouses...

Where are you?

There's the lighthouse! Thank Shaky Boy!

...and helping cats down trees...

Arrrr!

My Kirby!

After a long day, Mike went home to rest.

Hi Honey! Whew, what a day!

Hi Honey! Yummy pizza!
Mickey! There seems to have been a robbery this morning!

Mike changed into his super hero gear and flew to where the police were already there.

He arrived at the store to find all of the cigars gone.

Now, who would want to steal so many cigarettes at once?
Later that day, whileショッキーBoy was out doing good deeds.

Heres your purse, Ma'am.

Thank you, dear!

What? The?! Ekk!!

Hello,ショッキーBoy!!

Eeuw!!

Hey! (cough!) Who are you, and (cough!) What are you (cough!) doing?

I am Zigar!!

...And I am here to destroy you and fulfill my dream; to force every living soul to smoke cigarettes!

It all began when I couldn't resist smoking, and I asked others to smoke with me but they all refused.

So, I built a machine with all the cigarettes I stole from TVs in a chamber, and my self in another...
The Machine was made to combine whatever was in the two chambers: Me and Nicotine.

Now, I can control anyone to smoke, even you, shaky boy!

Also, I discovered that those who "follow" me became these guys!

Oh, no!

Soon, you will become one of them, and then there will be no one to stop me!

You can't control me!!!
What's happening?

I'm losing my power.

As Zigor lost power, so did his minions.

Woo! Woo!

We're alive!

Liger was arrested, and Honolulu was safe.

Thanks to Shacky Boy!

Wheee! Wheee!

ShackyBoy saved us!

Remember, think before you do the wrong thing. Even a little like can ruin your life. And also anyone can be a hero if you just look for what you want.
BY
KAYLA UEMURA (7TH GRADE)
KONOWAENA MIDDLE SCHOOL
"Nice day for a swim, Nancy Kay thought, a regular swimmer at Point Blanc Lake. Little did she know...

Pull to, the sludge virgin was coming to contaminate the very lake she was about to take a swim in...

The pollution starts to surround her and she starts to change...

Her eyes start to close and the hell thing she sees is poems sludge her sinking away.
A week later from her ordeal, Nancy is recovered and is back to her regular routine. "This sucks. I have to go to the real pool since this lake is way too polluted," said Nancy, looking gloomy.

"Hey, Harmony. I Hear your hair is just done and I think you just got a new modeling suit! Think of the possibilities..."

"Yeah, mine is Lois Valeris. Ha ha ha," laughed Nancy.

As Harmony closed her eyes and giggled, Nancy got angrier and angrier. She wished someone or something would punch her over the mouth. Nancy would have had one eye closure. But...
With her new powers, Nancy becomes a superhero, fighting pollution and littering at local beaches, lakes, and parks. “I will patrol the beaches first!” Flippers girl said heroically.

Nancy Kay

Flippers Girl

A.K.A

same

As Nancy scoured the waters for any trouble, she spots Poliuto about to reach his grimy hands into the water in which she was swimming. “Oh no, you don’t,” she bubbled.

Example:

Nancy leaped out of the water like a dolphin right over Poliuto behind him. Then she pushed him over into the sea, her element.

splash

push

Example:
Polluto to a blow to the face, while Polluto was still stunned, Flipper Girl called some of her "fishy friends to help."

"Ow. Ow. Ow."

"War. Pak. Aaaahh."

"So Polluto spent his life in jail and the beaches were cleaned up by the citizens of the city. Nature is one thing, Flipper Girl wouldn't like to say..."

"Take care of our waters!"
In your dreams

BY

LEIANA NITURA, YVETTE NITURA, AMANDA AGDEPPA & KOA KAAKIMAKA (6TH GRADE)
HONOKAA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
sigh... What a beautiful day! It should be no problem to walk to school. sigh...

What! 8:00 a.m. already. I'm late for school!

I'm really waaaaoood!!

Late again, Shirina? sigh... When will she ever learn?

Come again! Don't you ever learn?
On Shrine, you're here.

Oh, um... you kind of missed the gate.

Huff

Huff

Hey, open the gate! NOW!
Well, I don't have the keys. But I do have something just as good.

Oh, thank you Raju!

Close your eyes now.

Ta daa! MAMA!

Oh yeah. Great idea to use butter knives.

Come on. It'll be easy. No sweat.

Oh sure Shrina. Come the wall with butter knives. It will be easy. Yeah right. He knows I'm afraid of heights.

I just remembered. You're afraid of heights. MAMA.

It's okay. I'm not afraid.
Totter

Whoa...
I'm scared.

Slip

No worries, Shrinka.
I gotcha!
I gotcha!

Help me Ryu!!!

I gotcha!

Soft a little longer and you'll land in my arms.

Crash
Why did you miss your body!! It shit too hard to miss.

Sorry, I have to get to class.

5 MIN. LATER

\[ Yx5-1 = a = yx2 = \text{yes!} \]

\[ r x n x P e = A \]

\[ A + A + - = 7 + 2 = 9 \]

It's dark... nooo?

C + M + S = EBR

I feel sooo...

Sleepy...

Sigh...

zzz
In Shriani's dream:

Help!!

Huh?!

Where am I?

Help me, anybody...

Please.

Shut up! You owe me your money. NOW!!

To be continued.
All of Honokaa’s super heroes were gathered for a meeting to choose a fearless leader.

I should be boss.

You can’t be boss if you’re so small.

Help Fish!

Fish Manger
MY Beautiful FISH!

I want some tartar sauce for these!

mmm. Fish stick

Something smells fishy in here.

I Big fight!

Watch it

As quick as punch

Kick fish lover's
Here acid in your eye!

HELP

TEAM UP
OH NO, I have to change my pants.

Hey guys, I have an idea.
I'll freeze time and every one can use their powers.

No, I wanna do it!
Let's Do This!

We can not defeat them with our powers but those wonder weapons.

When all the soup heroes combined their powers, then were the most powerful.
You hold them, Nani! girl.

And you whack 'em with your paddle.

Alarm, alarm!

Landing

Uh, where are we?

Human
GREAT WORK!!

COMIC BOOK SELECTIONS BY HAWAII STUDENTS

MONTE WHITE & TIGER OAKES (4TH GRADE)
WAIMEA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

ERLYNN TAKAHASHI (7TH GRADE)
WAIMEA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

ALLISON (2ND GRADE)
WAIKOLOA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
**THE PROCESS**

**Step 1: Instructor Training**
Hawaii educators attended a training workshop about The Comic Book Project.

**Step 2: Introductory Activities**
Students used the *Activity Booklet* to learn how to write and design a comic book.

**Step 3: Writing the Manuscript**
Students used the *Manuscript Starter* to plan, draft, and sketch their comic books.

Students used the *Comic Book Canvas* to write, draw, and produce their comic books.

Every student who finished a comic book is featured on the website art gallery at [www.ComicBookProject.org](http://www.ComicBookProject.org). A select comic book from each participating school was chosen to appear in this publication. Also, exhibits of the children's work were established for students, parents, teachers, and community members.
Later that day, while Shocky Boy was out doing good deeds...

Here's your purse, Ma'am.

Thank you, dear!

What the?!

EEK!

What?!

Oh my!

Hello, Shocky boy.

Eww!

Produced in partnership with
North Hawaii Community Learning Centers

Visit www.ComicBookProject.org to view samples of all the comic books!

Back cover by
Mason Wilkes (7th grade)
Homokaa Intermediate School