



## Second Story A Creative Writing Project for Youth

LISC Indianapolis – *Improving Access to Quality Education*

**LISC**  
Indianapolis  
*Helping neighbors  
build communities*

## SECOND STORY

With urban schools struggling and writing skills in decline, the Second Story youth writing project came together to keep creative expression alive in Indianapolis. As part of its strategic priority to improve access to quality education, LISC recognized the importance of Second Story's mission — and its connection with the youth programming and education components of the Near East and Southeast quality-of-life plans. So LISC partnered with State Farm on a grant to get Second Story off the ground.

In its first two years, Second Story piloted programs in public schools, after-school programs, and summer day camps, special events, and workshops — reaching more than 300 kids. The program at IPS on the Near Eastside culminated in the publication of a book of stories by fourth graders. A summer camp at the John H. Boner Center produced a series of audio slideshows sharing neighborhood stories. Best of all, kids in Second Story's programs now say they love to write.

Now Second Story looks to expand its programs and open a facility in Fountain Square, where it will offer writing help to neighborhood kids and host field trip visits. To find out more, visit [www.secondstoryindy.org](http://www.secondstoryindy.org).

**Total LISC Investment:**  
\$20,000

**Total Project Costs:**  
\$110,000

**Project Partners:**  
LISC, State Farm, The Indianapolis Foundation a CICF Affiliate, Southeast Neighborhood Development, Indianapolis Public Schools, Kaleidoscope Youth Center, Y-Press, John H. Boner Community Center, and Indy Parks.

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