



“What’s Your Passion?” National Essay Contest

Kids in grades 1-8...we want to hear from you!

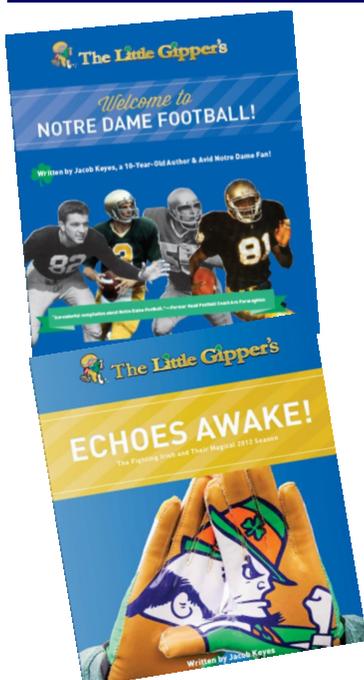
The Little Gipper Spirit National Essay Contest is calling for stories (500 words or less) and artwork. Tell us about your passions and how you have shared them with other people or chased your dreams!

Maybe you love music and play for your church? Or love pets and volunteer at a shelter? Or maybe you and a group of friends worked on a project to help others in your community? How about a love for science, and you have an awesome invention? The possibilities are endless...we want to hear them all!

Young People + PASSION, PURPOSE & ACTION
This is Little Gipper Spirit!

Entries accepted until 2/15/2014. Selected entries will be published in a book to be sold at University of Notre Dame’s Hammes Bookstore and online at our website!
All entries must be submitted online.

Visit www.littlegipperspirit.com for all the details



Jacob Keyes of Spokane, WA published *Welcome to Notre Dame Football!* at the age of 10 and wrote the supplement *Echoes Awake!* at age 11.

He had an idea (to write a book about ND football) and pursued the project even when he knew it was going to take a lot of hard work and effort.

He and his sisters, Grace and Tess, started Little Gipper Spirit because they want to share the lessons they have learned! You are never too young to start...use your passions to serve your community... chase your dreams!





“What’s Your Passion?” National Essay Contest

Teachers, Youth Group Leaders, Parents...

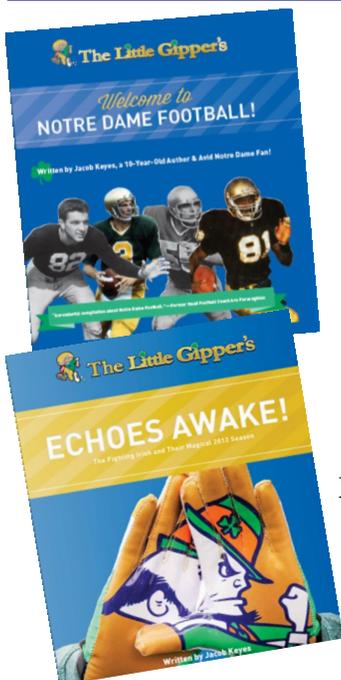
Little Gipper Spirit is calling for essays (500 words or less) and artwork from students in grades 1-8. The LGS team wants to share stories from around the country about how ambitious kids with passions and hobbies have shared talents with their community.

Stories can be about one child or a group of children who have come together to make a difference. The possibilities are endless...whether it is music, arts, sports, academics, a love of animals, serving the poor or elderly, championing a cause, or being a kidpreneur...young people are capable of great things, and we want to inspire others by spreading the word!

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History of Little Gipper Spirit

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“What’s Your Passion?” National Essay Contest Featured in...

THE INDEPENDENT
NEWSPAPER SERVING
NOTRE DAME AND
SAINT MARY'S

THE OBSERVER

TO UNCOVER
THE TRUTH
AND REPORT
IT ACCURATELY

VOLUME 47, ISSUE 47 | FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2013 | NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

While visiting The University of Notre Dame for his 3rd book signing on Nov. 2, 2013, Jacob Keyes and his sisters were interviewed by staff reporter Joanna Lagedrost about The Little Gipper Spirit Essay Contest. Thank you to Joanna and The Observer for sharing our story! This article was published Nov. 8th.

Jacob Keyes, the boy who published a book about Notre Dame football at age 10, has plans for a sequel, this time co-written by his sisters Grace, 10, and Tess, 8.

The siblings from Spokane, Wash. have begun working on a new project called “The Little Gipper Spirit,” a follow-up to Jake’s book, “The Little Gipper’s Welcome to Notre Dame Football.”

“Little Gipper Spirit” is a youth movement meant to encourage kids to find their passion and use that to help people down the street or across the globe, Grace Keyes said.

“Jake wrote his book and we wanted to do something more and get more involved,” Grace Keyes said. “[It’s] a joint effort.”

Jake Keyes, now 12, said the movement also stemmed from adult responses after publishing

his first book and its 2012-2013 season supplement, “Echoes Awake!” Many people reached out to congratulate him and asked him the nature of his next project, he said.

Mike Keyes, the father of the Keyes siblings, said his family realized Jake Keyes’ accomplishment might inspire other young people to positively impact the community with their passions, just as it inspired his sisters.

The Keyes children not only formed the movement, but have also launched the “What’s Your Passion?” essay writing and art submission contest, Grace Keyes said.

“Kids are going to write about what their passion is [or submit artwork] and say how they’re going to use it to help other people, and the best essays are going to be put in a book,” Grace Keyes said.

The contest, which is open to all first through eighth graders, launched Nov. 1 and will close Feb. 15, 2014. Essays should contain a maximum of 500 words, and art submissions must be scanned. Entries are accepted through littlegipper.com.

The Keyes siblings will act as

judges of the submitted works. Each one will oversee the works of a specific age range, Grace Keyes said.

“We will pick the entries that best show how kids are using their

passions to help others,” Grace Keyes said.

Selected submissions will be featured in a book scheduled to be published in late spring

2014. The book will be officially licensed through the University and sold in the Notre Dame Hammes Bookstore, Jake Keyes said.

“We want kids to help others,” Jake Keyes said “By entering the contest, they’ll probably discover more about what their passionate about and use that passion in new way..”

For more information, visit littlegipper.com.

