

**1st place Christmas Poem – Read at the Youth Village Holiday
Celebration, December 4, 2008
By Charles T., D Dorm**

Family and friends and the Holiday trends, riding around to get presents for friends.

You go to stores and get presents galore, on that special day they'll smile for sure!

Your budget is tight, but they're smiles are bright, but you gotta hurry hurry before the stores close tonight.

Christmas turkey and ham Man, I love my Fam.

Today as his birthday, the baby in the manger, who came to save us from all the danger.

Your family comes together no matter what the weather, trudging through the snow you feel light as a feather.

I wrote this rhyme for Christmas time and now its time to end this line.....

1st place Christmas Essay

By Trevor L, C Dorm

What Christmas means to me

Christmas is not all about gifts. It is not all about hanging out with your friends. Some people think that Christmas is just a holiday when family come together to show that they love and care for one another. They think that Christmas means sitting around the dinner table full of tasty food and sharing old memories. Some people think that family should come together at Christmas to show that they're sorry for all the fussing and cussing during the year and to show that they still love each other, no matter what happens.

These aren't the true meanings of Christmas. What's hard to understand is that no one pays attention to the main reason why Christmas is a holiday and what it truly means.

This is what it truly means to me. About 2,000 years ago, there was this woman named Mary who gave birth to a baby. This was no ordinary baby but a special one. He is known as the King of Kings, the Son of God. He is the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. He is Jesus Christ. It was the 25th of December when Christ was born. It's the day of his birth. That's what Christmas means to me.

Happy Birthday Jesus!

My 16th Christmas – What does it mean to me?
Essay by Marquez H., D-Dorm

Well, this year will be my 16th Christmas. I am extremely happy because I get to spend a lot of time with the people I love. We share presents and stories, food and even money. I really am thankful for another year for the presents and everything.

This year may be my best year for Christmas ever because I have many new friends. My mentor is an example of one of my new friends. Ever since I first met him, he had a glow that said “whatever you need help with, I'm the guy”. Since he signed up to become my mentor he hasn't stopped helping me.

I am also thankful to the Motorcycle Club and the Chapel volunteers. I'm very thankful for these positive people to be able to be with me and the other residents for Christmas. These guys and ladies have actually put forth the effort to spend some of their holiday with us. That is the holiday spirit.

I really love the holidays. It's time for families to come together and express their love through hugs and kisses, presents, food and everything in between. I love spending time with my family friends. This is personally my favorite holiday. So to all the people of the world, Merry Christmas!