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Your Poems

These poems were submitted by students in the Hopeworks program in Camden. Hopeworks aims to broaden the educational prospects of the city's young people, particularly African American and Hispanic youth.

My Vows

I vow to offer joy to one person in the morning,
And to relieve the grief of one person in the afternoon,
I vow to live simply and sanely,
Content with few possessions,
I vow to keep my body healthy,
I vow to let go of all worries and anxieties,
In order to be light and free.

— *Bernie Rucker, 22***Bernie Rucker**

Camden

Camden is my home
The place where I grew up
Where people come to roam,
To judge and to corrupt
Outsiders say we're dirt
When they have no one to blame

We would give them our shirts
If they didn't consider us lame

People see the bad parts,
But never notice the good
And we're always the ones to start
Cuz we're from the hood

— *Samantha Mojica, 15,
Brimm Medical Arts High School*

**Samantha Mojica**

Hopeworks

Hopeworks is a program
Open the door and see
People to help out in the community
Easy as writing on a piece of paper

Working on technology
Operating on computers
Reaching for our goals
Kids is what Hopeworks live for
Simple that's what
Hopeworks is here for

— *David Kirkland, 15,
Camden County Technical School,
Gloucester Township campus*

**David Kirkland**

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