

Choosing the Right Direction

Deanna, 13

Memories will fade,
The heart may cease to beat,
So keep a good direction,
Keep firmly planted feet.

Know where you are going,
Remember where you've been
See that you have saved yourself
From future growing dim.

Changing path is difficult,
A task that's hard indeed
Do it, before it all becomes
A most foreboding deed!

Direction

Xavier, 17

When one thinks of direction, one may have the dictionary definition in mind: "Direction is the point towards which something faces or the line along which one moves or lies."

At Turning Winds Academic Institute we think of Direction as: "the ability to lead through the process of correct decision-making."

If you ask me what Direction means to me, I will probably tell you something about arrows, because that is what I think when I hear the word "direction".

I think of a hundred different arrows moving in different directions, but in the end, only one arrow will take you to your happiest place.



Team Building Activity: Sunday in Snow

Austin, 16



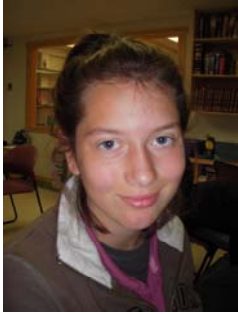
On Sundays, we always play a game. This Sunday we were going to build snow sculptures. That put a smile on a lot of faces. We were split into teams of four. Brendan, Cody, Jesse, and I were all on a team. We all had different

thoughts of what we wanted to make. Jesse wanted a pyramid, Cody wanted a dragon, and I wanted a house, but we finally agreed on building a person. Each of us took a different part to focus on. Jesse and Cody gathered snow while Brendan and I started building legs. When we had the legs and shoes done, it looked so good that we were motivated to work harder. Besides, there was an award for the winners. Having creative minds really helps; every once in a while we stepped back to give our project an individual perspective. We were open to each other's feedback, and that helped a lot. If we chose to argue, that would have slowed us down, and our man wouldn't have had the uniqueness that each one of us contributed.

Things go a lot smoother when you make the correct decision. All of the teams had the talent to make a good looking sculpture, but our sculpture won the first place. Our group put ourselves in the correct direction from the start, because we looked at all the positive options to interact as a group, and we did not get into negative arguing with each other. We found the beauty in this team building activity.

Report on History: Dachau

Stephanie, 15



The Dachau concentration camp was the first concentration camp opened in southern Germany. Dachau camp is located on the grounds of an abandoned munitions factory near Dachau, about 10 miles

northwest of Munich. There were 200,000 prisoners from more than thirty countries housed at Dachau, of whom nearly two thirds were political prisoners and one third were Jewish. Approximately, 25,613 prisoners died in the camp, and almost 10,000 died in the sub-camps. Most of the prisoners died of disease, malnutrition, brutal experiments performed by so-called scientist-doctors, and suicide.

Dachau also served as the central camp for Christian religious prisoners. According to records of the Roman Catholic Church, at least 3,000 preachers, deacons, priests, and bishops were imprisoned there.

The Nazis took the wrong direction, having no respect or understanding of other people. As a result, they caused a lot of grief and misery.

Here at Turning Winds Academic Institute, we learn how to take the right direction in our life by caring about our own path, and instead of causing misery, we are able to help others.

Alicia. My Story

Julia, 14

This is a book about a young Jewish girl who is going through hard times of World War II, and the holocaust. Alicia had a wonderful life with her four brothers, and their mother and father. Then, her family was cruelly



taken away from her. The story continues about Alicia's life during the war, and how much pain she went through. Alicia was a hero to all the Jews. Even after the war, she continued to risk her life. Her life was torn apart, but little by little she built it up again.

This is one of the best books I've ever read! I love this book because it is fascinating how Alicia pointed her life in the right direction, and she also helped others to find the right path. She saved not just her own life, but others as well.

This book helps me in my life because it teaches me how to have empathy, showing that even in your worst of times you can still make the best of it, and help others. Reading this book, I learn to take the right direction, because if Alicia could point her life in the right direction in that horrible time, then during my stay at Turning Winds Academic Institute, and later at home, I can do it, too.

Weather Report

Brad, 17

The weather here is sporadic; it may go from arid and hot to cold and damp.

It seems that Mother Nature just cannot make up her mind and she tries to give us a hard time with the weather. The direction that the weather takes is always unpredictable. Even though it may snow and become colder and colder, it may change again at any moment.

