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## **Woodland Hills Junior High School Student Earns Writing Scholarship**

For Isaiah Lowrey, a seventh-grade student at Woodland Hills Junior High School, writing is the gateway to a world of storytelling.

“I like to write because I can create stories and entertain people,” Lowrey said. “It’s like I’m creating a movie in peoples’ minds. And writing helps me to communicate my ideas and express myself.”

When Lowrey writes, he commands attention. The Swissvale resident recently earned a scholarship from the Western Pennsylvania Writing Project and The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust to attend the Young Writers Institute by providing a sample of his work. Lowrey will participate in six sessions to be held between January 30<sup>th</sup> – March 6<sup>th</sup> at the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust in Pittsburgh. As a participant in this program, Lowrey will receive specialized instruction in the writing process administered by members of the Western Pennsylvania Writing Project or graduate student instructors in the University of Pittsburgh creative writing program.

Susan James, Lowrey’s seventh-grade advanced English teacher at Woodland Hills Junior High, received information about the scholarship opportunity and encouraged Lowrey’s pursuit.

“I thought of Isaiah right away because he has such a passion for writing,” James said. “His writing just comes alive as you read it. He has a special gift, and I wanted to share this wonderful opportunity to enhance his skill further.

“The Western Pennsylvania Writing Project’s decision to grant Isaiah this scholarship is a testament to just how talented of a young writer that he is.”