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Young Author Wants People to Get Lost in Her World

December 10, 2008 – Romulus, MI – She has straight A's, loves science and spelling and wants to be a famous writer of children's stories someday.

"I absolutely love to write," said 11-year old Jamesha Kirkland, who is wise beyond her years. "I write stories where young people can get lost, escape into a wonderful, imaginary world."



Jamesha who has been paralyzed from the neck down and has been on a ventilator since birth, uses a high tech piece of technology to write her stories. She has a small assistive device attached to her forehead which sends a signal to her computer when she moves her head in different directions. This "hands-free" software helps people with disabilities, who do not have the use of their arms, to control their computers.

"My computer helps me so much in school and when I'm writing my stories," said Jamesha. "I am grateful to my school for giving me this device."

Jamesha attends Barth Elementary in Romulus and excels in all of her classes. "I do like school very much, I'm not crazy about math, but it's okay."

One of her biggest dreams is to get her stories illustrated and published so she can share them with others. "I just like to make people happy and this is my way of doing it!"

Jamesha is supported by the Family Services Department at Community Living Services, Inc. CLS provides supports and services to adults and children and is funded through the Detroit-Wayne County Community Mental Health Agency. For more information, visit our web site at www.comliveserv.com.

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