

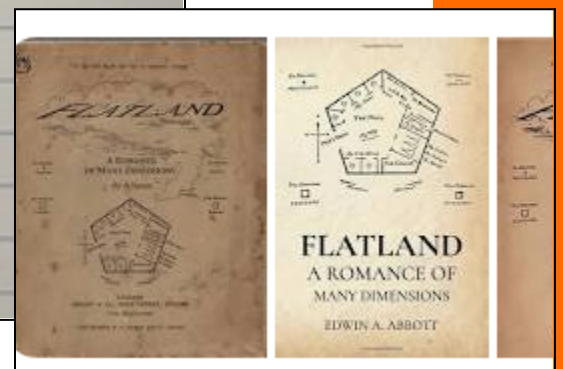
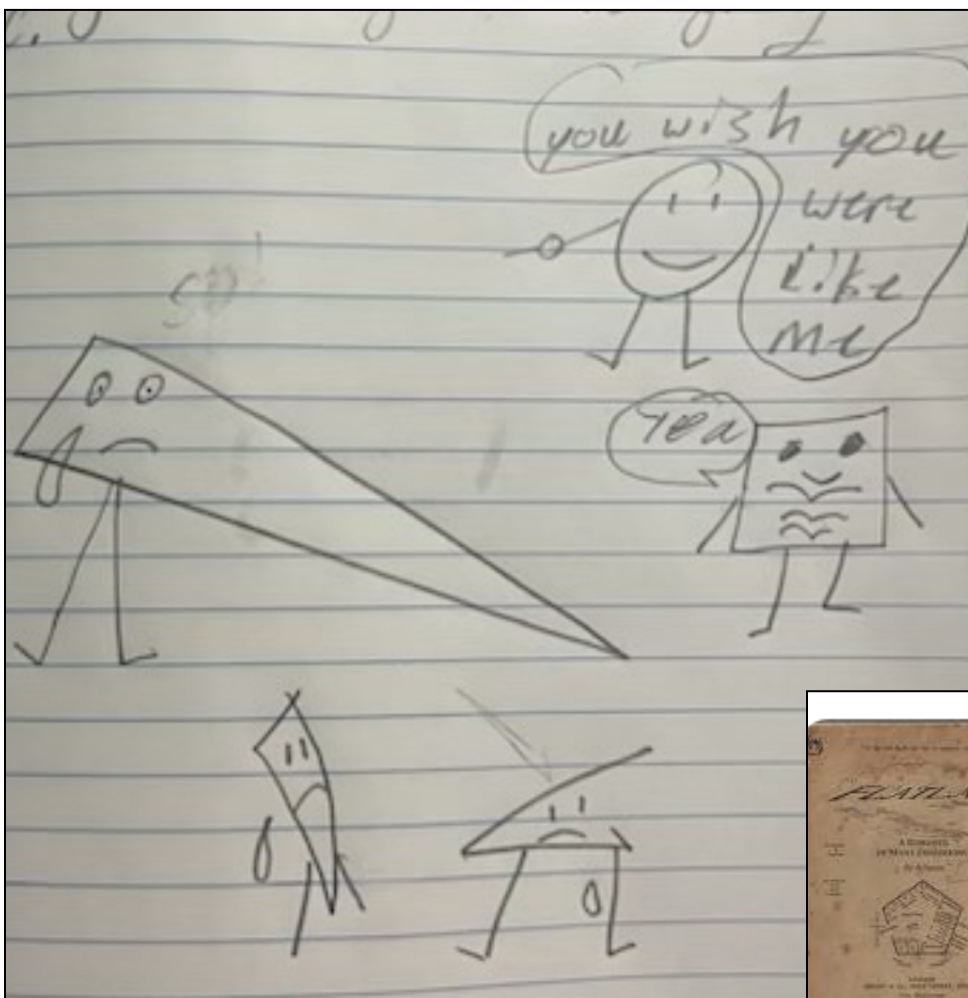


Off Da Beaten Path Learning LLC
Spring 2023 Newsletter

Off Da Beaten Path Learning LLC currently has the honor, privilege, and great responsibility of serving **five** learners with highly personalized weekly 1-on-1 education guidance! For a small education outfit, that means we are currently at full capacity! In the future, we hope to expand and serve ten times more!

For T, I am Aunty Dom, her education mentor. Age 8. We just started working together last week. She loves horses, spiders, burgers, and playing with Canva.

For R, I am his writing coach. Age 13. We started earlier this year. He is a football player, comic artist, and gamer. Below, see a basic and brilliant depiction of Flatland: A Romance of Many Dimensions, an 1800s satire on social hierarchy. My favorite part is the Square. All he says: "Yea." He is smiling because at least the circle isn't pointing at him. But who decided the circle was in charge?



For Tara, I am their mentor and now a long time friend. Age 17. We're currently in the process of getting them a seat to take the GED exam, and have employed much support from the [Adult Learning Program at the Brooklyn Public Library](#). Thank you, BPL!

Tara is an artist, a prolific and innovative filmmaker, who manages to see timeless truths and churn them into something novel and immersive. You can [check out their already-enormous, already award-winning portfolio here!](#)

Below, the first panel of their mood board for *Fraudulently, Fish*:



With Faith, we go even further back, and look at us now, still hanging out and talking about writing! 😊 Love it. Faith is mentored by **Enkay Iguh** (pictured below), author and educator, who has been so wonderful to volunteer their past academic year! They shared their gifts, from one writer to another.

Faith continues to write her short story toward the path of publication. You can read her writing, "A Quick Love Letter to You," on the next page!

Dom and Faith, pictured below, seen in Red Hook, Brooklyn, 2022



AN INFINITE THANK YOU 🥰

Because of NK, Faith gained a refined direction for her story, helpful insights that led to a greater awareness of her story and characters, and continued encouragement from a published author. All that in one hour a month!

“A Quick Love Letter to You”

Once again the feeling of not having you around leaves me desolate. I often recall what it was like to be around your energy and soul, how you would be an asshole but the good kind. The kind that knew never to push it too far. I miss the sound of your breath. Breathing in and out over and over again. I try to track how many heartbeats you have in a minute. I could never keep count because I would constantly get distracted by gazing upon your face. How perfectly sculptured it was. God took his time putting you together, and now I get to reap the benefits of it. I am brought back to reality when you briefly turn around and say, “I love you.” Hearing you say that ignites every one of the five senses of my body. I don't think you quite understand how much I love you. “What value does he bring to your relationship? Do you feel like you are growing in your relationship? What does he do for you?” These are questions I get asked everyday. I even ask myself. But why does that matter? What about the fact that I love you and that's it?

© by Faith Anderson, 2023.

DESCHOOLING PARENTHOOD

Children thrive with parents who are non-anxious, gentle guides.

9-WEEK GROUP | STARTS JULY 2023

with Alexa Kapor-Mater,
Deschooling Ourselves
Educator & Parent

For [Alexa Kapor-Mater](#), I am her coach! We started earlier this year. She is a parent herself and a Montessori educator.

We have been working together toward her goal of creating and starting a deschooling course to support child caregivers in harnessing trust and releasing schoolish anxieties.

Enrolling now! Starts July!
Interested?
Let me know—I will refer you!
dom@offdabeatenpath.com

The team grows!

We are in the process of onboarding the first ever Off Da Beaten Path Learning Head of Marketing, Keiti-Aen. She will be posting and engaging [via my Instagram](#), where I love to represent Off Da Beaten Path Learning work, thoughts, stories, etc.

Thank you for joining us, Keiti!

Keiti-Aen | Social Media Management Entrepreneur

💻 It's my heart's desire to help your business reach its full potential
📞 [Book a free strategy call](#)



****and the crowd goes wild!! aaaaahhhhhhhhhhhhhh****

[Keiti's LinkedIn](#) | [Keiti's Instagram](#)

Going On in the Community

Neurodivergent in the house!



There is still time to reserve your space for your [Neurodivergent Learning Retreat!](#) The theme is SENSORY LEARNING & COLLABORATION. Especially designed for a neurodiverse audience! Not your usual conference! Hosted by another VELA Grantee by the name of Tamyra Telles, Founder of [Infinite Learning Academy](#).

For Families: June 13th and 14th, 2023
For Educators: June 15th and 16th, 2023
Location: Hutchinson Island, Florida

AERO Conference is upcoming, and in New York!

June 23 - 25 2023. @ [LIU Post](#) & Online!

[Alternative Education Revolution Organization \(AERO\)](#) is back with its annual conference! When I attended in 2015, I found the Goddard College table as soon as I walked in the conference lobby. I didn't know it then, but I was talking to Kumari, then-director of the education program. She would go on to find me the best faculty advisors so that I could have a great self-directed college experience.

Conference website: <https://www.aeroconference.org/>

The Unschool Files Zine has an open call for submissions from self-directed learners and families! Zine Number 5!

Submit until June 21st (& there will be more zines)

Especially looking for:

a recipe
a Featured Family
Youth Art or Creations
photography

meghan@theunschoolfiles.com



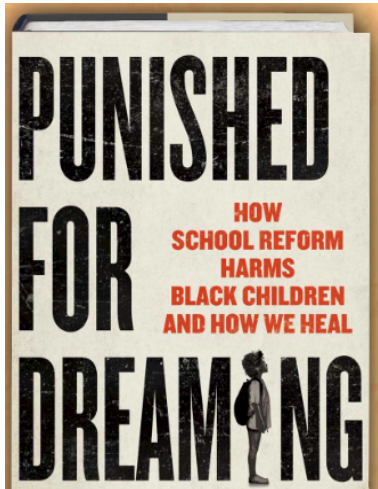
THE UNSCHOOL FILES

COMMUNITY ZINE

Issue 5

due out summer 2023

Knowledge is Power



There is a new [Dr. Bettina Love](#) book, *Punished for Dreaming*, that is expected for publication for September of this year. Putting this on everyone's radar. [Preorder here.](#)

She also wrote *We Want To Do More Than Survive: ABOLITIONIST TEACHING AND THE PURSUIT OF EDUCATIONAL FREEDOM*. Order via [AbeBooks](#). Used starting at \$6



[A poem on liberated, self-directed learning](#) 🥰

By Cait Quatmann

Found in Tipping Points, May 26, 2023

Brought to you by [Alliance for Self-Directed Education \(ASDE\)](#)

Read about the importance of independence, play, failure in the latest report from Dr. Peter Gray.

[Decline in Independent Activity as a Cause of Decline in Children's Mental Wellbeing: Summary of the Evidence](#)

"A 2014 study of "Stress in America," conducted by the American Psychological Association, found that **teenagers in school were the most stressed people in the United States**, and **83%** of them attributed their stress at least partly, if not fully, to school."

Gray, Peter & Lancy, David & Bjorklund, David. (2023). Decline in Independent Activity as a Cause of Decline in Children's Mental Wellbeing: Summary of the Evidence. *The Journal of Pediatrics*. 10.1016/j.jpeds.2023.02.004.

Events!

Bay Ridge Fifth Avenue Festival is back, and we're joining again!

[Come find our table! Right by Gino's!](#)

We will have newsletter sign-up incentive goodies, art supplies, and games!

Sunday, June 4th
10 AM - 6 PM
Location: 5th Avenue &
85th to 69th street,
Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, NY

More information: [Bay Ridge 5th Avenue BID](#) & [their Instagram](#)



&

[Past Events, now on YouTube!](#)

With Anita Williams, DragonFLy Academy
February 2023 VELA Workshop on 1-on-1 work with neurodivergent youth

Off Da Beaten Path Learning LLC

www.offdabeatenpath.com

1-on-1 self-directed education. Empowerment through choice.

Thank you!

Dominique Paloma Bible (she/they)

Founder & Educator, Off Da Beaten Path Learning LLC

Contact dom@offdabeatenpath.com