

SAYF Worship Journal
October 2018 Retreat
Nashville Friends Meetinghouse

On the weekend of October 12-14, 2018, the Southern Appalachian Young Friends met at the Nashville Friends Meeting. This is our witness. This is our story.

SAYF,
Finn and I will write this together:
As was revealed, through grace and time.
When left to sit, butter turns to slime.
It always happens when I start getting bread.
Just watch out for your sweet little head.
Like damn, butter really be hurtin.
Bring it to SAYF; It'll cheer up, I'm certain.

Friends, thank you for such a great weekend. I appreciate what each and every one of you brings to the community and I'm so glad we get to grow together.

All my love,
Cora

I know about half as well as I wish and wish I could really change that. I luv y'all and you keep bein yourselves.
- Finn

*My darling SAYFers and beloved FANs,
and former SAYFers and FANs,
You rock! I'll miss you.*

Thank you for some beautiful memories. I'm so glad I got to know each of you. You have blessed my life.

*With big love,
Mary Linda*

Thank you SAYF. It was fun to be here. I learned new things that were a big part of my life. All the things we did were fun and it was like we were in class but a fun class. I didn't make lots of friends but I love how it still felt like I had lots of friends. You guys make me happy and that is why I came here. Thank you so so much. I don't have much to say but all I can say is you guys are the best people and keep the good good job. I'm also thankful of you guys give us the time being here of us and making sure we have lots of fun. Thank thank thank you. Lots of love SAYF.

Sometimes sayf feels a little tiring because I'm with my dearest friends, but in an age-appropriate, structured world. At the same time, people still blow through that to have the most moving conversations and interactions. I also find a lot of leadership opens up in me. Either way, I'm so proud cause I've never seen a place with a culture anything like this, where folks at wildly different ages and backgrounds can share an intimate space and its not really forced. I'm glad to be heading home, yet so happy for what we have here.

Callum

This community is truly amazing, every retreat is unique and different, I get to meet old friends, and make new ones. SAYF holds a very special place in my heart, like a home away from home. Take care of yourselves, hope to see you all next retreat.

- With love,
David Myers

Dear SAYF,

This retreat has been one of my favorite so far. Although it was small, we still had a great time. I think that the coming-out activity was really awesome, too. Singing with the other SAYFers was somehow changing to me. And the walk in the sculpture garden was transforming, especially the last piece of art, the room. I can't wait to see you beautiful people again.

Sincerely,
Eliana

Dear SAYF,

I usually try to write something nice and poetic, but the creative juices just aren't flowing right now. So instead, I will write a list of things I want to remember. Prepare yourself.

- 1) Graffiti on a High School Wall (song)
- 2) Crazy good songwriting, singing, and guitar-playing
- 3) Castles and Monsters and Spells and Stuff
- 4) The spider crawling across the sand in the egg structure at Cheekwood
- 5) Chug=3 glugs, glug=3 gulps, gulp=3 swallows, swallow=3 sips, sip is about this size [drawing] sip.
- 6) Real nice sloppy joes
- 7) Several others have begun learning the most beautiful art of juggling
- 8) A really good sandwich consists of bread, lots of mustard, 2 slices of swiss cheese, and lil' slice of ham.
- 9) Kenya's biology teacher making a great dialogue about LGBT+ community and identities
- 10) Bonobos

I hope you have appreciated this list.

With love,
Oliver, Ollie, Olive Oil, or Lil' Ollie boy