A LOVE LETTER TO OAKLAND YOUTH

We are here to listen to you. Remember that what you imagine is important. Listen to what makes you laugh and to what makes you sad. Your story matters.

Trust in yourself and know that your imagination is a source of power. You’re invited and welcome in this space. Remember to prioritize yourself. Altruism is so important in making this world the best that it can be, but you cannot give what you don’t have.

You are valid and your words are proof. If you don’t like writing, or think writing is hard, or that you are “bad” at it, sit down—pull up a chair.

Dreams are real and you have everything you need to make yours real already. We are here to give you the space to dream, write, create freely without judgement.

We are so thrilled and honored to know you and your dreams, to read your words and write alongside you. We are all writing our own fantastic futures together—for Oakland and the world. You’re part of that!

The world, media and your peers will try and tell your story for you, but you can change the world around you by becoming the author of your own life. You have the power to do this. Your mind is not your enemy, and your heart is not a hindrance. We’re just here to help you make your soul your ally.

Language is a tool for change; this is a place for your language. What do you want to say?

Read your work out loud before you revise. This year, work to discover who you are and write about that person. Be that person out in the world. You are perfect just the way you are. This is so true. Be true to this and yourself.

Manifest transformation in your world, in your work, but first manifest transformation in your mind. When you begin to think of the change you want to see, you begin the manifestation process. Don’t stop there! Speak your thoughts into existence and nourish them as they grow right before your brilliant eyes.

With Love,

Chapter 510
& the Dept. of Make Believe