

FREE

December Issue 2021



Background Cover Art by Shey Kolee

## Cover Story

Courtney Juste, Juneteenth! A Celebration

Featured Authors

Holiday Activities

Parent Resources



A Literary & Growth Mindset Activity Magazine



DECEMBER 2021 ISSUE

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# Little CITIZENS M a g a z i n e

## EDITOR'S NOTE

Happy Holidays from Little Citizens Magazine!

Welcome to the second edition of our magazine. Our hearts are filled with joy because of the support authors and readers have shown. We continue to welcome authors interested in being featured in our magazine.



Thank you all for making this a very successful magazine launch!



FIND HOLIDAY

# AFFIRMATIONS

C	J	O	Y	E	E	T
H	S	K	N	A	H	T
E	R	D	S	Q	P	O
E	D	N	I	K	R	A
R	F	A	M	I	L	Y
E	P	E	A	C	E	P
V	M	E	R	R	Y	P
O	X	A	C	T	O	A
L	J	O	L	L	Y	H

## Word Bank

FAMILY	CHEER
JOY	HAPPY
LOVE	PEACE
THANKS	JOLLY





# GROWTH MINDSET

## Cards

*I can make  
smart  
choices!*

*I am always  
learning!*

*I chose to be  
happy!*

*I like to try  
new things!*

*I won't give  
up!*

*I am on the  
right track!*



FEATURED  
AUTHOR

# I MISS MY TEACHER



Lisa Thompson, M.Ed, has been an educator for 30 years. After receiving her bachelor's in early childhood education, she went on to earn a master's in Elementary Education. She is an adjunct professor at Tidewater Community College based in Virginia, as well as has founded a one-on-one tutoring program for K-12 students. Outside of leadership in the classroom, she is a published writer and was twice awarded Teacher of the Year by her local districts. Lisa believes that an environment where reading is valued and seen as a tool for gaining and reflecting on knowledge can help children become life-long readers.

*Lisa Thompson,  
M.ED*



This story is about students who miss their teacher because of having to leave school so abruptly and start homeschooling because of COVID-19. The students are longing for a sense of normalcy during this time away from school. They are reminiscing about the things they miss about school.





# HOLIDAY MATCHING

Draw a line from the picture to the matching word.



Sleigh



Reindeer



Tree



Present



# Bella Jordan

FEATURED  
AUTHOR



Bella Jordan is a three-year-old model, author, brand ambassador, literacy advocate, and mini mogul.

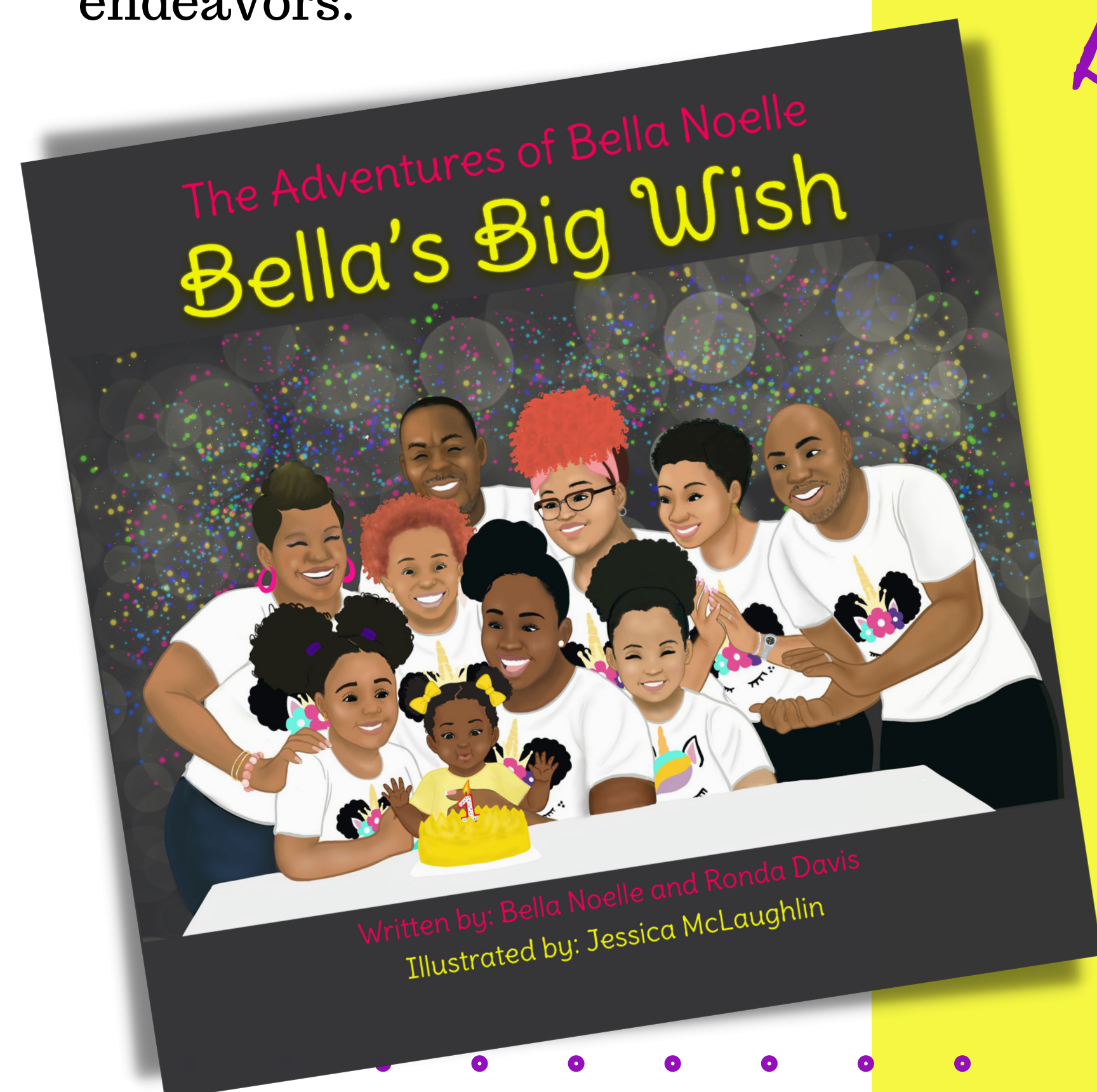
Bella's love for learning and adventure has been the driving force behind her published book series entitled "The Adventures of Bella Noelle." It is within this series that Bella explores subject matter like dementia, college, and fitness through books entitled "They Say She Has Dementia, I Say She's Perfect," "Bella Goes to College," and "Let's Go for a Walk."

As a brand ambassador and mini mogul, Bella has had a myriad of opportunities that have taken her all across the country to discover, define, and develop her gifts and talents. From the east coast to the west coast, Bella has made it a point to document her travels and use these experiences as inspiration for her future endeavors.

## Bella's Big Wish

The big day was fast approaching. What was Bella to do? Mommy had made all sorts of plans. Family and friends were coming from both near and far. But Bella couldn't find it anywhere! Where would she find her First Big Wish?

Join Bella on her very first adventure to find her First Big Wish!



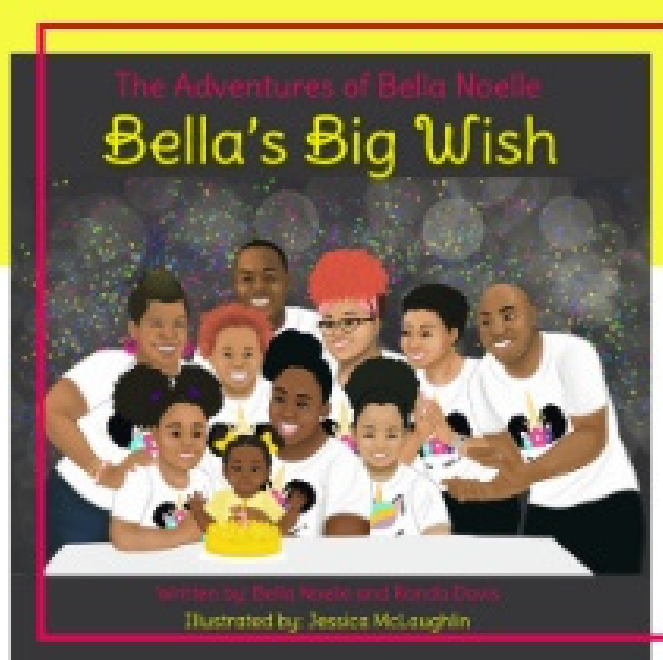


# Bella's Big Wish

Being the youngest published best-selling author, Bella has most recently been named the youngest certified speaker after completing the Young Moguls Speakers Academy. This, along with being an ambassador for Young Biz Kidz Day, keeps her actively involved in community events, helps her develop her entrepreneurial skills, and enables her to increase her advocacy skills, especially when it comes to reading which she loves.

In her free time, Bella always makes time for adventure as she spends time with family and friends, doing gymnastics, participating in social media challenges, and reading books with characters that are culturally relevant and diverse. Bella's future plans include releasing a line of educational products that promote literacy and fluency in math and reading. She also plans to create a magazine specifically designed for amazing toddlers like herself.

Even at her age, Bella understands that life is one big huge adventure, and she's definitely ready for the ride.



## Bella's Big Wish

**BELLA NOELLE**

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☎ 615-497-2428

🌐 [www.theadventuresofbellanoelle.com](http://www.theadventuresofbellanoelle.com)

f @bellanoelleadventures

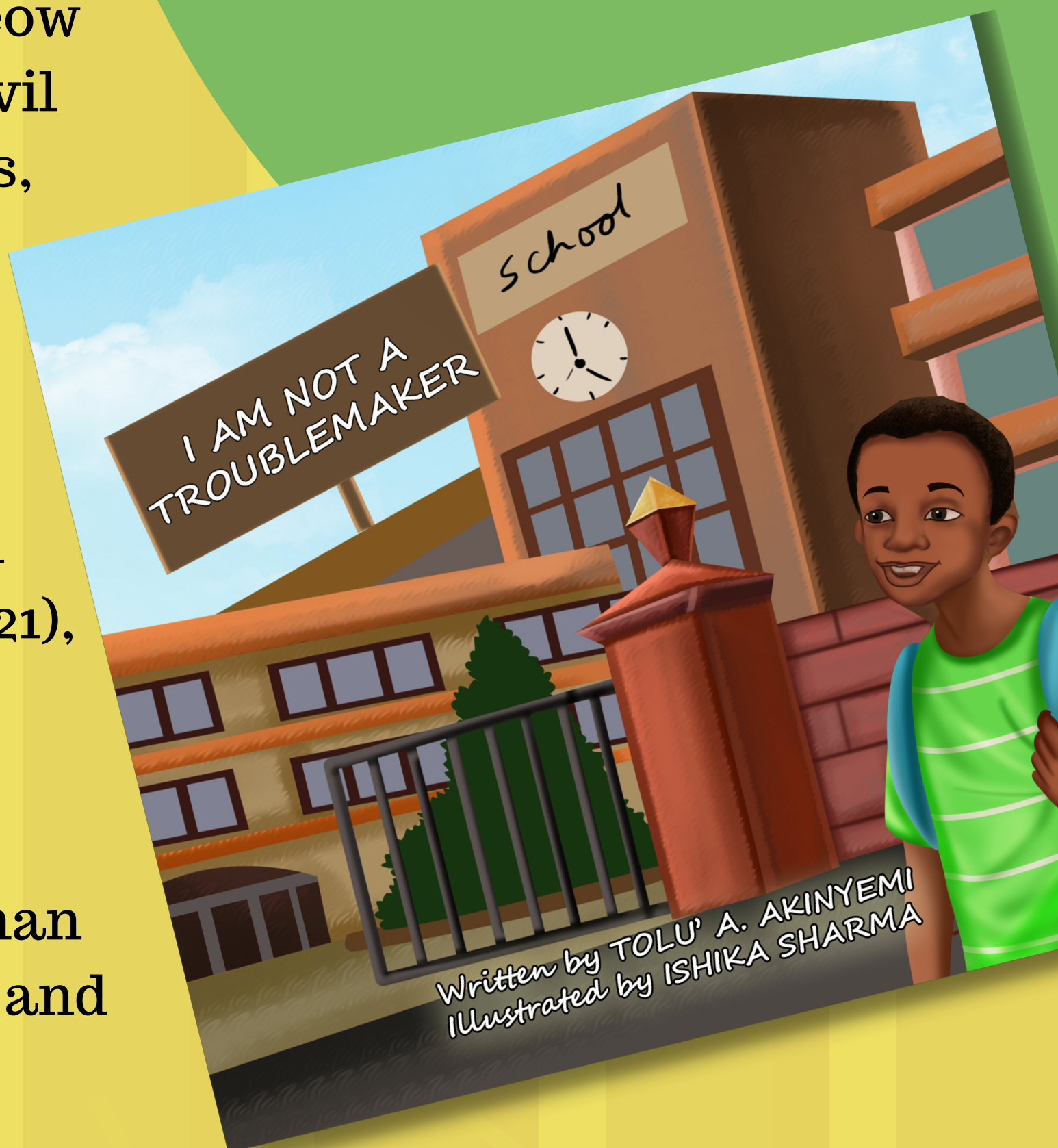
📷 @bellanoelleadventures



Tolu' A. Akinyemi (also known as Tolutoludo & Lion of Newcastle) is a multi-award-winning author in the genre of poetry, short story, children's literature and essays. His works include:

Dead Lions Don't Roar (poetry, 2017), Unravel Your Hidden Gems (essays, 2018), Dead Dogs Don't Bark (poetry, 2018), Dead Cats Don't Meow (poetry, 2019), Never Play Games with the Devil (poetry, 2019), Inferno of Silence (short stories, 2020), A Booktiful Love (poetry, 2020), Black ≠ Inferior (poetry, 2021), Never Marry a Writer (poetry, 2021), Everybody Don Kolomental (poetry, 2021), I Wear Self-Confidence Like a Second Skin (children's literature, 2021), I Am Not a Troublemaker (children's literature, 2021), Born in Lockdown (poetry, 2021), A god in a human body (poetry, forthcoming - January 2022), City of Lost Memories, (poetry, forthcoming - August 2022), You need more than Dreams (poetry, forthcoming - January 2023) and The Morning Cloud is Empty (poetry, forthcoming - March 2023).

# Tolu' A. Akinyemi



**FEATURED  
AUTHOR**



## I AM NOT A TROUBLEMAKER

Chadwick has just joined a new school, and he is stung by the label of troublemaker. Will the label stick, or will he get the chance to come clean?



# I WEAR SELF-CONFIDENCE LIKE A SECOND SKIN



Matilda has been battling her fears at home and in school. Will she be able to build her self-confidence, or will she crumble under the weight of her fears?

**Social Media:**

Instagram: @tolutoludo

Facebook: Tolu A Akinyemi | Facebook

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/toluakinyemi>

Tolu has been endorsed by Arts Council England as a writer with “exceptional talent.”

He is a co-founder of Lion and Lilac, a UK-based arts organization, and sits on the board of many organizations.



## COVER STORY

# VIRTUAL BOOK TOUR

*December 5th - 10th*

Courtney Juste is a first-time children's book author and graduate of the University of Georgia. She spends her days working within the healthcare IT field, but in her spare time, she loves to read, dance, and learn.

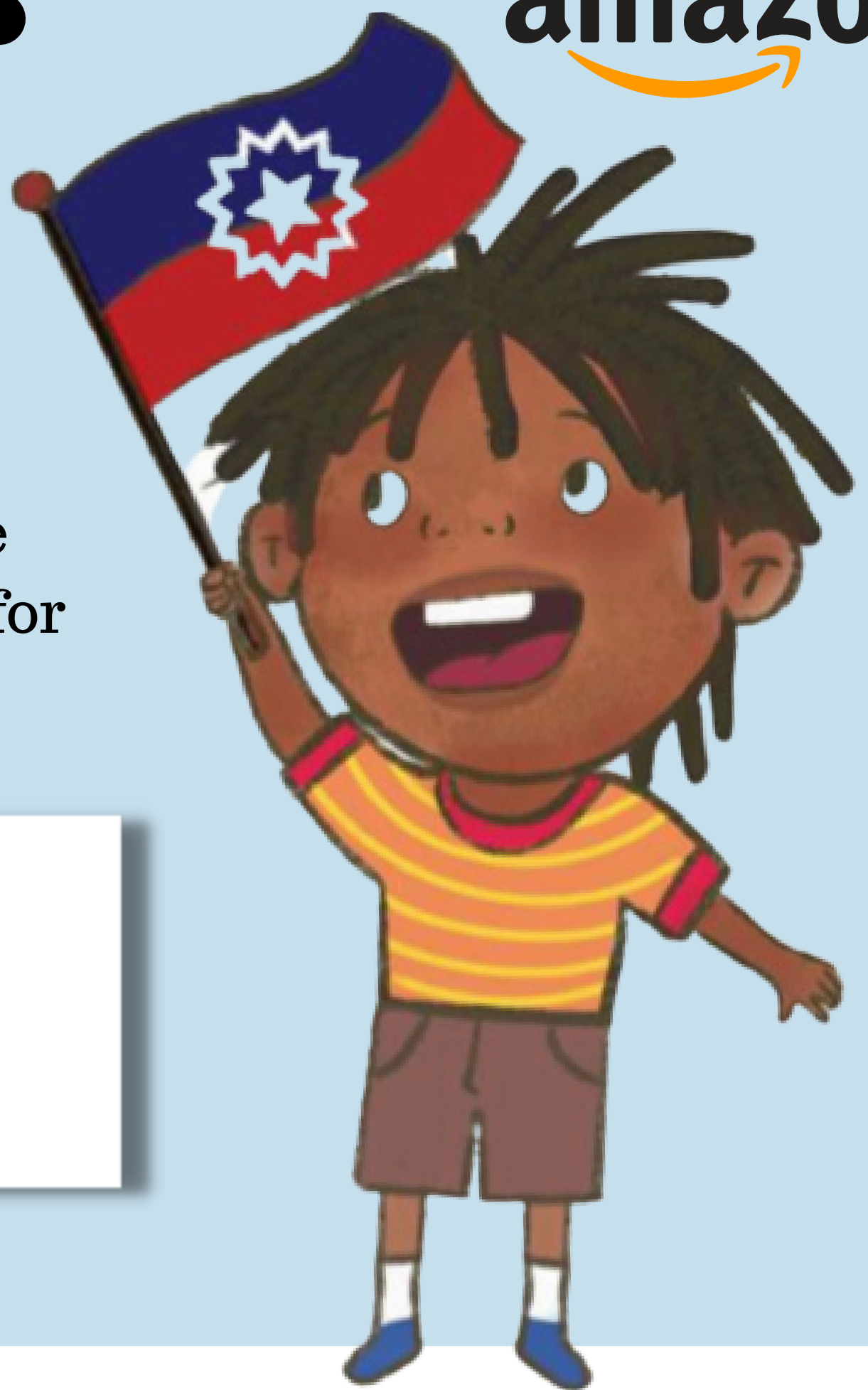
Courtney is a mom, creative, dreamer, and abolitionist!

**amazon**



This wonderful book is filled with a rich vocabulary that teaches children about the Juneteenth holiday! This is a terrific book for everyone to read!

**Juneteenth!**  
A celebration



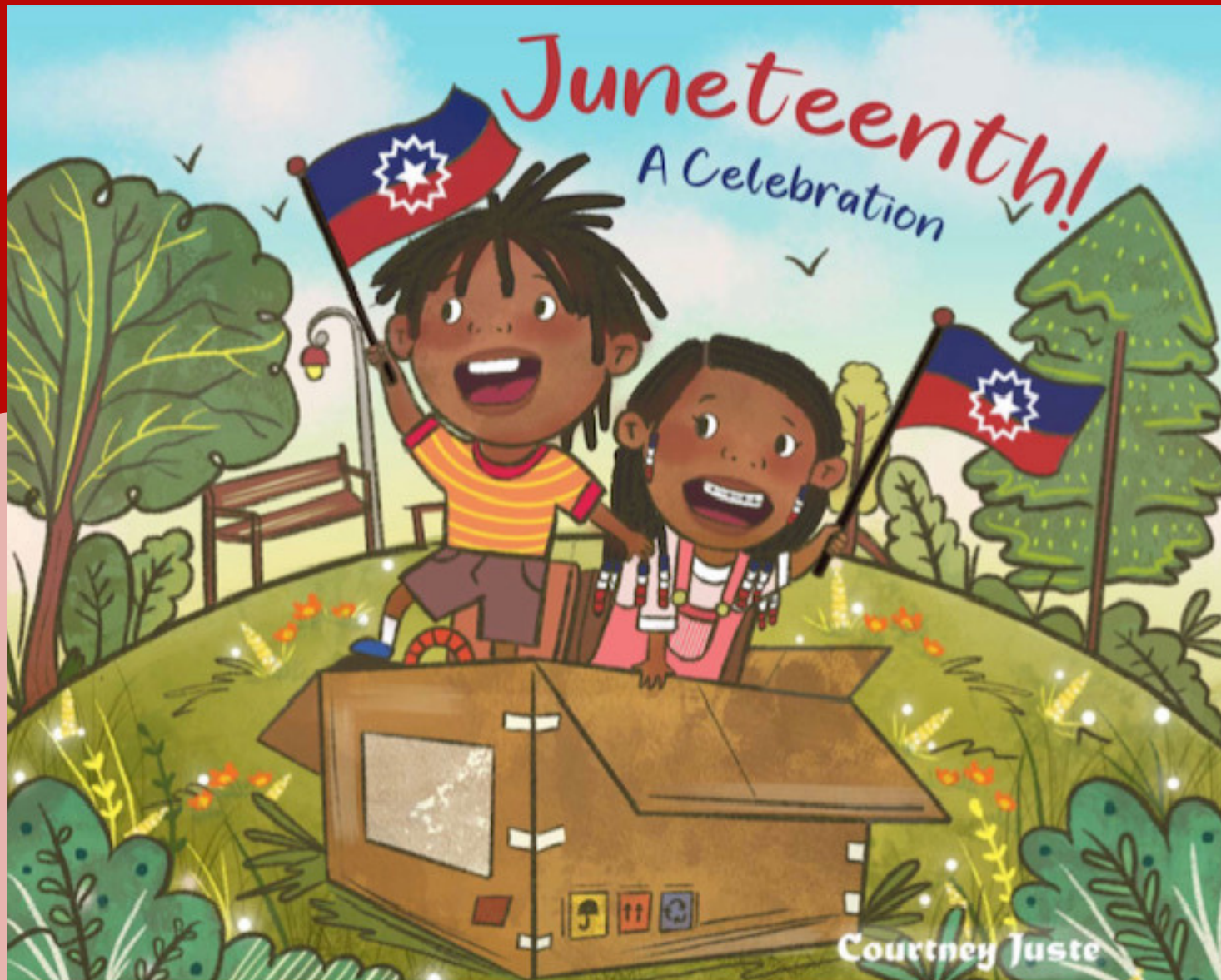
# COURTNEY JUSTE



FEATURED  
AUTHOR

# Juneteenth!

## A celebration



I'm Courtney Juste. Wife, Mommy to two kids (one pet and one human), and I reside in Clarkston, GA.

My book is a children's introduction to the Juneteenth holiday. I wrote it about a month after purchasing a horrific Juneteenth book on Amazon. I thought to myself, I can do better than this, and I did.

*Meet Author,  
Courtney Juste*

## Illustrations

This book is beautifully illustrated by Silver Star.



## Juneteenth!



## A Celebration





HAPPY  
HOLIDAYS

5 Ways

I can lend a helping hand this  
holiday season:





# The Power of A Friend



Written By  
Miss Sade Harvison

Lo'Tuz (Lotus) is a sad little girl. Missing her mommy and wishing they could be together, she often cries herself to sleep at night. One day, however, she meets a girl who understands how she feels, someone she can laugh and play with, which makes all the difference in her life.

The Power of a Friend by Sade Harvison is an inspiring story that shows the healing power of friendship in our lives. Based on the author's own experience growing up without her mother, the story shows the hope that we can bring by being there for each other and teaches readers that no matter what they're facing, they can always dream bigger than their circumstances.

**FEATURED  
AUTHOR**



## Sade R. Harvison



Sade R. Harvison is an American author who created a children's book series based on her own experiences and life journey. With her "Lotuz" Series, Sade hopes to inspire young children who struggle with similar situations as she did growing up.

She wants them to know through her own life story, that some of the most beautiful things come alive in the dark. Most importantly she wants to show her three sons that with vision and dedication nothing can stop you!





# *Holiday* *Word Unscramble*

**edr**

---

**reed**

---

**wons**

---

**eetr**

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**gfti**

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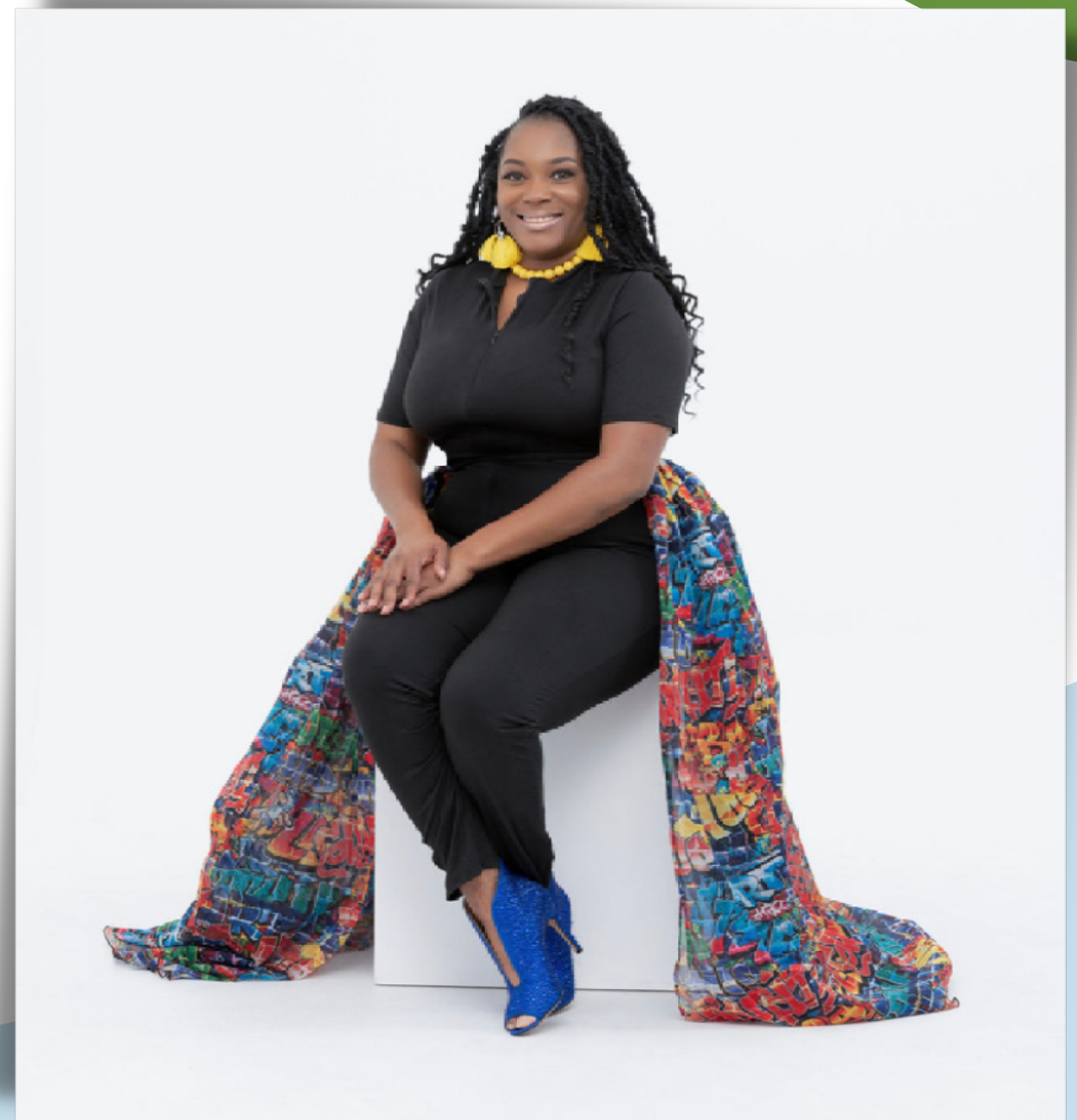


Happy  
Holidays



# I am BROWN and BEAUTIFUL

Portia Smith founded Imagine Me, Creative Book Publishing, in 2019. Smith always had a passion for creating stories and reading books. She took that passion and desire to see African American children as the main characters in picture books and created her brand.



Smith has been featured in Impact Magazine, Black Parent Magazine, Exposure TV Network, Wee Nation Radio, Hip Hop Weekly Magazine, to name a few. Smith was recently named to Forbes Next 1000 list in the top 500 in the US as a rising entrepreneur.







## FEATURED AUTHOR



Self-esteem plays a crucial role in a child's sense of self-worth and overall development. "I Am Brown and Beautiful" will teach your child:

- A powerful and holistic way to build a positive mind,
- To appreciate themselves and other people,
- Boost their confidence so that they can overcome challenges,

And so much more!

To connect with Portia Smith visit:

Social Media: Instagram:

@portias\_bookshelf

@imagineme\_cbp

Website: [www.imaginemecbp.com](http://www.imaginemecbp.com)

Email: [p.smith@imaginemecbp.com](mailto:p.smith@imaginemecbp.com)

*Portia Smith, CPCE, LPC, CRC*



# DR. TAIWANNA ANTHONY

**FEATURED  
AUTHOR**



Dr. Anthony is originally from Natchez, Louisiana. She attended and graduated from Natchitoches Central High School. Prior to completing high school, Dr. Anthony was selected to participate in the HCOP preparatory college program at Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Upon completion of high school, Dr. Anthony enrolled in Northwestern State University where she obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Social Work and a Master of Education with a minor in Educational Technology Administration. In between that time, Dr. Anthony enrolled in Southern Methodist University to pursue a certification in Spanish. In tandem with SMU, Dr. Anthony also studied Spanish at the Instituto de Mexico. Dr. Anthony also attended Texas A&M University to obtain her Education Administration certification.

Dr. Anthony pursued her Doctor of Philosophy degree from Prairie View A&M University where she major Educational Leadership and Counseling with a minor in Human Resources and a concentration in Education Administration.

Dr. Anthony is currently in the process of publishing two more children's books and her personal memoir; "Beauty and Brainz: A Blessing and A Curse".



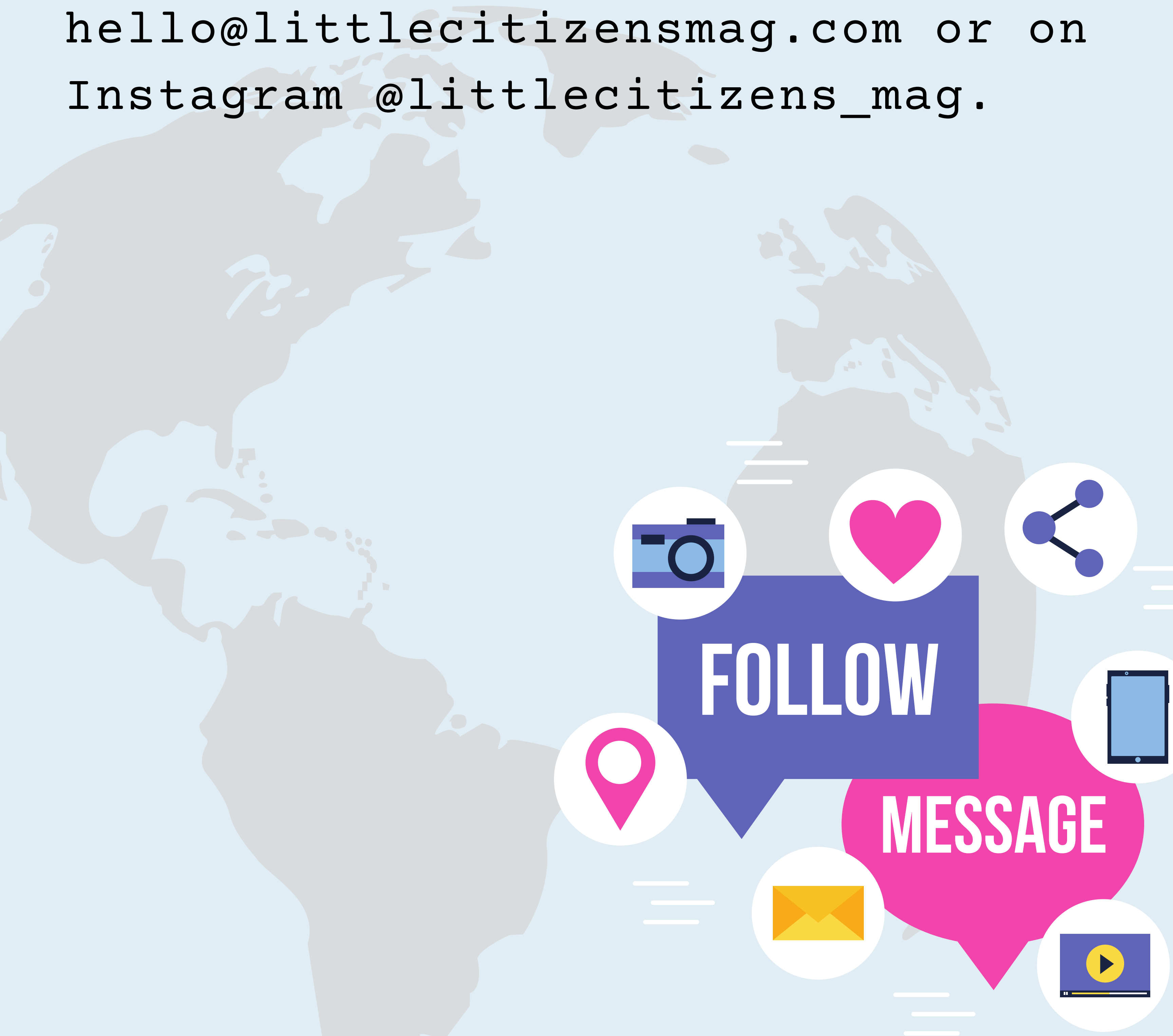
# THE ENCHANTED COLUMNS



# Connect With Little Citizens

LET'S COLLABORATE!

Please reach out to us with any ideas, partnerships, or requests at [hello@littlecitizensmag.com](mailto:hello@littlecitizensmag.com) or on Instagram [@littlecitizens\\_mag](https://www.instagram.com/littlecitizens_mag).







Cover art by Shey Kolee