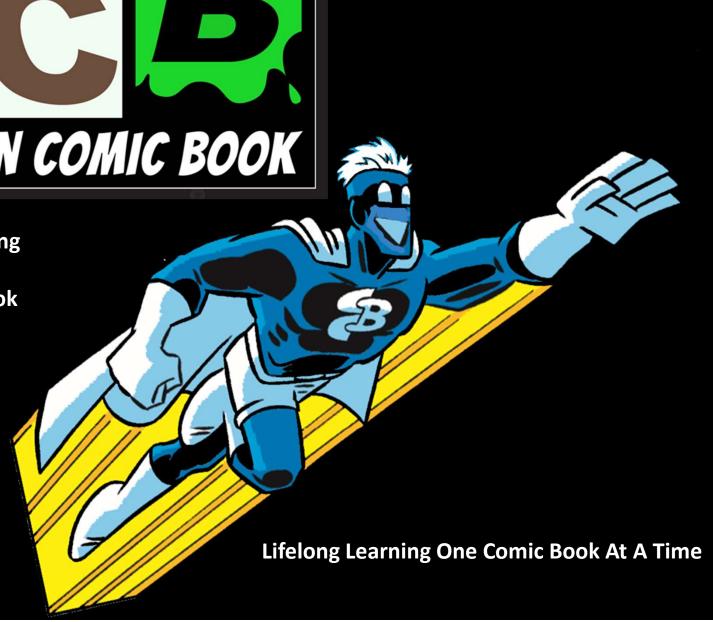


Inside is the exciting origin of OCB and Captain Comic Book

**Partnerships** 

**Outcomes** 

**Future** 



# **HISTORY**

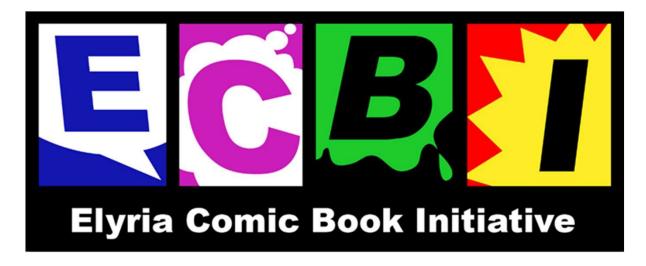
2009- A brave band of board members came together in Elyria, Ohio with a passion to promote literacy through comic books.

### BUSINESS DETAILS & FILINGS

Tax Exempt 501c3 since 2009

### **Business Details** Entity #: **Business** 1832514 THE ELYRIA COMIC Name: **BOOK INITIATIVE** Filing CORPORATION FOR NC Type: Status: Active Original 10/04/2024 Exp. Date: 01/27/2009 Filing Date: Mission Location: **ELYRIA LORAIN**

Our Organization has developed its mission to promote literacy and creativity by offering the necessary tools and outlets for reading, writing and artistic expression through the production and use of comics.



2009

# 1st SATURDAY



...AN ORGANIZATION WHOSE MISSION IS TO PROMOTE LITERACY AND CREATIVITY IN ALL AGES BY OFFERING THE NECCESSARY TOOLS AND OUTLETS FOR READING, WRITING, AND ARTISTIC EXPRESSION THROUGH THE PRODUCTION AND USE OF COMICS!



COMIC BOOK

## Holy signups, Batman! Comic initiative off to a super start

Andrew Harner The Chronicle-Telegram

ELYRIA - Last month on Free Comic Book Day, Ken Glanc was looking to register people for the Elyria Comic Book Initiative.

Set up at Keith's Comics at 394 Broad St., Glanc watched as more than 1,000 comic books were passed out and 275 people filled out registration forms for his nonprofit ini-

"I was blown away by that number." Glanc said. "I was hoping to see maybe 50 or 60 people stop by and fill out a registration form. We are just trying to create as much awareness for the ECBI and its role in literacy as possible."

That role is to promote literacy and creativity through comic books, and Glanc is hoping to take his initiative into area schools to engage students in a visual learning program by having them create their own comic books based on themes such as leadership and conflict res-

Then Glanc wants to find a place to open the Comic Book Academy, a place where members of the community can come to together and collaborate on comics, for example, combining a writer's story with a colorist's art.

Knowing that there are many students who walk the downtown area. Glanc initially approached Jim Deery — the onetime owner of Jim's Coffee House at 2 Lake Ave - last summer about using the second floor of the shop as the Comic Bool Academy.

However, since then, Glanc's has switched hi focus from the academy to getting involved with schools and starting an after-school program as an opportunity to share one of his hood pastimes with today's

Glanc said he was infatuated with Saturday morning cartoons and superheroes - especially Batman



Kenneth W. Glanc organized the nonprofit Elyria Comic Book Initiative (ECBI), which promotes literacy and creativity through comic books.

aunt who was big on reading. comics were always his choice.

"Comics are fun to read," he said. He said some of his board memhers share similar experiences "One of our board members said

that, 'When I was growing up, I couldn't stand reading, but then I got turned on to comic books. Ever

since I was turned on to comic books, I became a voracious reader, Glanc said. "Everybody's got one of these stories"

For the remainder of the year, EBCI will try to find others who have those same types of stories as

smaller comic book conventions and local arts festivals where admission rates are less expensive

"We're still in that introductory phase," Glanc said. "We don't have the ability to pay the admission fee for some of these.

weeks at www.elvriacomic Contact Andrew Harner at 329-7155

involved with ECBI should e-mail

elyriacomicbookinitiative@

yahoo.com. A new Web site is

expected to up in the next few

We announced our existence on Free Comic Book Day 2009 at Keith's Comics in Elyria, Ohio.

We helped sponsor the free comics and started building a mailing list.



First afterschool comic book workshop fall 2009 Eastern Hts Middle School Elyira, Ohio

13 students received free comic books, illustrator kits and made their own original comic book



SUNDAY F4

## BOOKS

Teaching literacy one superhero at a time



### Students learn art of 'bam,' 'pow' and 'flash'









### Super Lessons

here's nothing that gets FirstMerit
Bank manager Ken Glanc going like
a good comic book. Ever since he
was a kid, he has lowed the pictures,
plot lines and battles between good and evil superheroes. "I'm still a Batman guy," says the father of three, who uses comics as a way to teach
his kids life lessons.

Now he's bringing those lessons to others through the Elyria Comic Book Initiative, a non-profit he began to teach kids how to manage their money after his bank saw a sprouting of check-cashing stores throughout Elyria — businesses that serve customers who need a fast financial fix when they've gotten in too deep. But even in its early stages the organization has more on the agenda than financial accountability.

"There are so many other stories that could be told: personal responsibility, leadership, self-empowerment, conflict resolution ... the list goes on," Glanc says, emphasizing that the initiative is separate from the bank for that reason. He believes that comics, which are kid-riendly because of their larger-than-life characters who portray right from wrong so vividly, will be the best translator of those messages. By producing original story ideas in a fun way, kids will be more likely to apply the messages they illustrate to their own lives.

With the help of board members and volunteers, Glanc launched a pilot program at Eastern Heights Middle School in Elyria themed "What if I Were a Superhero?" complete with eight after-school sessions, each designed to focus on topics that will guide the students. The students learned how to make complete story plots, break up paragraphs into separate comic bubbles, illustrate and ultimately turn their stories into finished products.

Glanc says it was amazing to see how the students reacted to the program. One of the middle school students, Cheyenne Grier, stood out as the epitome of his vision for the initiative. A talented artist and storyteller, Cheyenne

Every day in YourTown, we spotlight a different Lorain County community MONDAY: Avon/Avon Lake

TUESDAY: Amherst/Vermilion/South Amherst TODAY: Wellington/Oberlin THURSDAY: North Ridgeville

FRIDAY: Grafton/LaGrange/Columbia SATURDAY: Lorain/Sheffield/Sheffield Lake SUNDAY: Elyria/Elyria Township

Ken Glanc

including

teaches students

Cheyenne Grier,

important life

comic books.

lessons through

created a beautifully illustrated book from start to finish, with final graphic touches provided by Lorain County IVS students. Her story depicted the powers she would have if she were a superhero, such as transforming from a human into an animal. "She brought characters, bios, story lines, sketches ... she just needed an opportunity to sit down and just map if out."

For students like Cheyenne, the initiative can teach them lessons through making comics.

"[It can] teach them personal responsibility, it encourages creativity; it taps different skill sets that they maybe never employed before," Glanc says.

After the pilot's success, Glanc has planned three more programs for winter. He and his crew will return to Eastern Heights Middle School to do another comic book-making program with students about saving the environment. They will also be helping a group of Girl Scouts of North East Ohio make their own comics on the subjects of personal leadership and self-empowerment. They will also do a program to teach students about bike safety through creating comics with Sawe Our Children, a nonprofit that improves opportunities for at-risk kids. The program will be sponsored by Silver Wheels bicycle club, which is the first partnership the initiative has had in the community.

Glanc is pleased with the success of the Elyria Comic Book Initiative, and he has high hopes for the future. "I was blown away. ... I can't even imagine where this could go."

Christina Ipave

Lorain County JVS graphic arts students digitally formatted the original comic books.



Page

**D3** 



WELLINGTON& OBERLIN

WWW CHRONICLET COM

## **Creating 'The Unexpected' at JVS**

The Chronicle-Telegrar

PENFIELD TWP. — One by one, the characters in a comic book called "Unexpected" get super-

powers.

A girl named Faith can channel psychic powers with her hand, which has an eerie purple glow.

A boy named Chase has electricity coming from his fingertips. Other kids must learn how to deal with equally special — and very strange — powers.

powers.

The story was written by Elyria Eastern Heights
Middle School student Cheyenne Grier. And it
was turned into a comic book with the help of the
Elyria Comic Book Initiative and students at the
Lorain County Joint Vocational School.

"They're just normal kids who stumble upon this weird device and when they press a button, they unexpectedly get superpowers from a blast of radiation," said Cheyenne, the daughter of joe and Becky Grier of Elyria.

Cheyenne, 14, said she was really grateful for the help from the Comic Book Initiative and JVS



Ken Glanc, Elyria Cornic Book Initiative, works with JVS student Emerald Harrington of North Ridgeville,

design student Emerald Harrington.
"I expected it would turn out well, but I was still surprised," said Cheyenne. She worked six weeks on the project and someday wants to work for Disney or another animation studio.

for Disney or another animation studio.

The Elyria Comic Book Initiative is a nonprofit organization that works with students to teacyh them personal responsibility, creativity and liter-

acy timough the creation of comic cooks. It provided materials and inspiration to the students, said VS Web and Craphic Design Instructor Tina Krosse. The kids illustrated their comic books free hand, in colored pentil and gave them to Ken Glanc, who spearheads the initiative. Glanc then brought the students' creations to the IVS students to enhance and publish. Turning clever ideas into reality was fulfilling for the IVS students as well, Krosse said.

NS students scanned the drawings, enhancing the images using a graphic design software program to even out lines and make them colorful. She said Emerald, the JVS student who worked on Cheyenne's book, did a great Job. Emerald hopes to study Web design at Lorain County

Community College after graduation.

"Emerald is a true designer," Krosse said.

After the books are finished, IVS students in the
Accounting & Financial Services Program print
and assemble the books.

To find out more about the comic book initiative, go to elvriacomicbookinitiative.org.



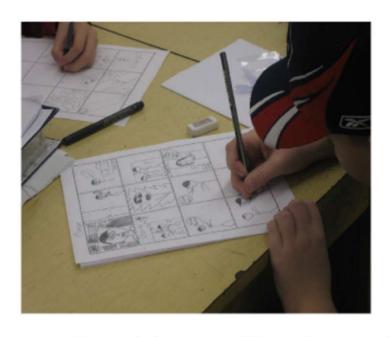
Comic book designed by Eastern Heights Junior High School student Cheyenne Grier and digitized by Lorain County JVS student Emerald Harrington.



### **Summer 2010**

## Let's Make Comic Books!





### Wondering what to do this summer?

The ECBI is offering a free program to Fairview Park youth grades 4-8 July 25-29th from 9:30-11:30am. Program will be held in meeting room A located in the lower level of Fairview Park Library.

All participants will recieve an illustrator kit, free comic books and a printed version of their final book. Space is limited to 20 participants. Please RSVP to ken@elyriacomicbookinitiative.org or call 440-821-5639.

### THERE IS NO COST!

The Elyria Comic Book Initiative is a 501c3 nonprofit organization. Its mission is to promote literacy through comic books. A primary focus of the ECBI is to engage students through the elements of story telling and have them make their own comics. Since 2009, over 200 students have participated and the ECBI has passed out over 4,000 comics within the community. For additional information please visit the ECBI website at





## Introducing....

Having trouble coming up with a character or story idea? Create a Captain Comic Book story to solve a problem.

Imagine you've read a magic comic book and gained super abilities. How would you use your powers for good?

Spider-man's great popularity,, Stan Lee once boasted was that he could be anyone under that mask so every child could imagine themselves as the hero.

"What I like about the costume is that anybody reading Spider-Man in any part of the world can imagine that they themselves are under the costume. And that's a good thing." Lee said.





### What is Free Comic Book Day?

Free Comic Book Day is a single day - the first Saturday in May each year - when participating comic book shops across North America and around the world give away comic books absolutely FREE\* to anyone who comes into their stores. \*Check with your local shop for their participation and rules.







**Elyria Comic Book Initiative** 

Help us celebrate FCBD at the following stores:

<u>Astound Comics</u> – Westlake <u>Keith's Comics</u>- Downtown, Elyria

Infinite Monkey - Oberlin

Carol & John's Comics - Kamm's Corner, Cleveland

Our summer schedule of free programs will be announced on FCBD. Visit our website for a complete listing.

Pass out comics to community – get them excited about reading and reading comic books

Reinforce literacy by emphasizing the elements of story telling – we show how to make your own original comic book

Create educational and employment pathways while assembling a network of professionals, educators, parents and enthusiasts.

By 2012, established as a

# 501c3 promoting literacy & creativity through comic books





Have worked with schools – public & private

Have worked with libraries

Have worked with home school entities and partnerships with arts/education based mission statements

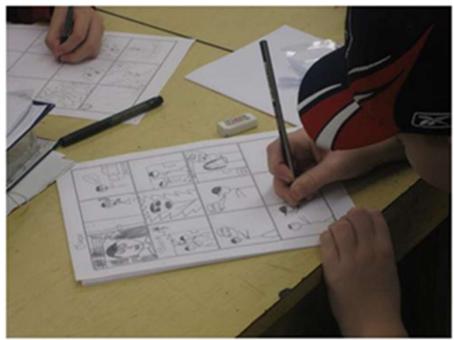
Lorain, Cuyahoga, Summit, Medina, Franklin Counties

### 2012 –Intellectual property

Copyrighted module system guides students through the creation process. Using the elements of story telling, students make their own original comic books.

Some are theme based like anti bullying, above the influence and empowerment

Over 1200 students have made books with us







To erase geographic barriers, our outreach program is now called **Operation Comic Book** 

The only way to become a better reader is to practice.

Try reading something fun like Comic Books!



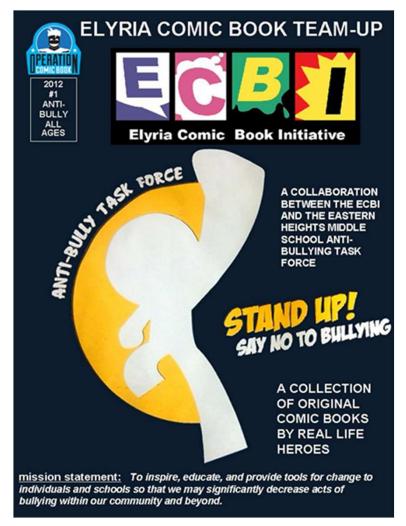
"I want you to make your own original comic book.

Together we make a difference.

Life-long learning. One comic book at a time".







Classroom programs can incorporate themes:

Anti-bullying, environmental awareness and financial literacy

# Big project with Rotary fall 2012

We worked with comic book pro, Chris Giarrusso, creator of G-MAN published by Image Comics.



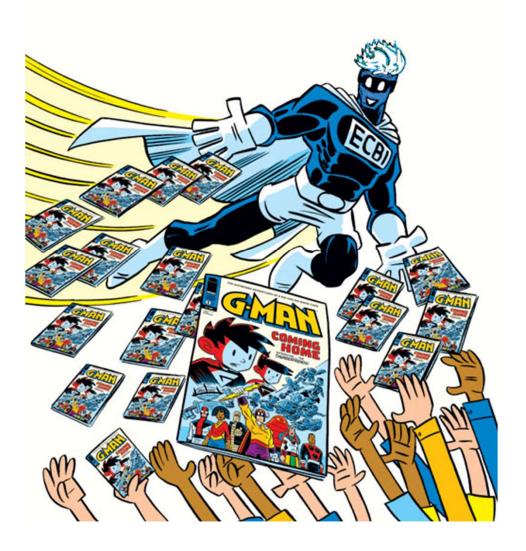


## FREE G-MAN COMICS FOR EVERYONE

## COURTESY OF THE ELYRIA COMIC BOOK INITIATIVE AND ELYRIA ROTARY CLUB

This free comic book is courtesy of the Elyria Comic Book Initiative and its literacy partner, the Elyria Rotary Club. Please visit the ECBI website to learn about upcoming events where students can make their own original comic book and participate in clubs highlighting new books and activities.

For more information contact the Elyria Comic Book Initiative and Elyria Rotary Club.



Every student in Elyria received a copy of the G-MAN comic book.

In addition, each school gave every student 15 minutes of reading time to read the comic.

Great win. Partnership with ECBI, ERC and E BoE



Have a news tip? If you see naws happening, call The Overrick newspoon at (445) 209-7150.









## Comic book learning



TOP LEFT! Ann Schloss of the Elyria Schools and Kan Glanc, president of Elyria Comic Book Inflightwa, pose with Superman, created by Clevelanders. MEDOLE: Eastern Heights Middle seventh-grader Mathew Vergo receives one of about 7,000 copies of "G-Man" from Glanc. RIGGHT: Eastern Heights Middle School teacher Healther Stellar dissues up as the Tiddler in for Eights Schools" "Comis Slook. Dep." BOTTOM: Eastern Heights seventh-grader Jason Thusal dives into his copy of "G-Man."

### Free book program encourages literacy

Lisa Roberson

S tudents who live comits books may get backy and find one or two teachers who allow them to include in the medium in

the superintendent to a physical education part of childhood literacy? Some would say that is unboard of in today's world of standardtood tests and riscrous curriculum.

and social studies were pushed adde at every Hyria school as students were handed a tree can road them fast and there are a lot of future comic book and lold to drive Into the life of G. other," Ignor said. Man, a superhero for all ages who gains the powers of super strength, super endurance. Chartle brown and fairman. and flight when he wears a magic cape. Students were allowed to read the story, titled I like this one," he said. "Coming Home," with no sideways glances

from tractions.

The thre comics came to student's because of a partnership between the Elytia flotary Club, the IDyrta Comic Book Institutes and IByria Schools. Bolary funded the project through its literacy budget and also supported But to find an entire school district — from the Elysia Comic Book Initiative to provide get students involved in making both in school and for enjoyment out of schools." 13yrla students with programming throughout - that embraces the abort stories as a like year that lets them create their own combi-

For students-like 13-year-old lawn Truxall, a od lews and rigorous comouture.

Solventh-grader at Eastern Heights Moddle
Set for 15 mitiates Monday, math, science School, the 15 mitiates was time well speni.

"I like comics because they are short, you

Some of his favorities include those featuring

"And now! think I will road 'G-Man' because

"G-Man" was created by carloomist Chris

"Graphic newals are a very important genre that a lot of lods leve to read, and I think this this right toto that," said Ann Schloss, the disiricis director of academic services, "2 matches the new common-core standards. But for us, the mails point of this project is to

Monday's project was four yours in the mak ing, it started when Schloss was approached by Ken Clanc, prosident of the Ehria Comic Book Initiative. He saw comics as an excellent way to get excited about reading.

"they are simple, easy to read and engag-ing," Clanc said. "Comic books are a different media that offer an easy entry point to tier-

Prom that potest, Clanc said student's from the elements of storytelling in a way that is



# News Coverage

Elyria Chronicle Telegram

Radio Interview with Bruce VanDyke on WEOL am 930

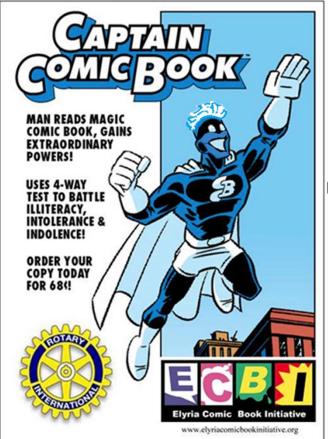
### Pass out books to schools



- Get kids excited about reading. Only way to become a better reader is by practicing
- Over 20,000 comics have been distributed by ECBI since 2009.



March 2014 - Join the Elyria Rotary Club and the Elyria Comic Book Initiative in their campaign to promote literacy through comic books. Presenting..



March is national literacy month

Distribute this original 4-Way Test comic book to schools near you

Pre-orders are being taken now. Fulfillment will be February 2014

.68

per copy

For orders and information, contact:

Project goal is to have every District 6600 club participate. Each club is being asked to purchase 500 copies @ .68 per copy. Total order would be \$340

### Of the things we THINK, SAY or DO:

- Is it the TRUTH?
- Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- Will it build GOODWILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

• Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

We are 1.2 million neighbors, friends, and community leaders who come together to create positive, lasting change in our communities and around the world. With you, we can accomplish even more.

Our differing occupations, cultures, and countries give us a unique perspective. Our shared passion for service helps us accomplish the remarkable.

### TAKE THE NEXT STEP WITH ROTARY

Contact a club. Volunteer or donate to a local project.

The heart of Rotary is our clubs -- dedicated people who share a passion for both community service and friendship.

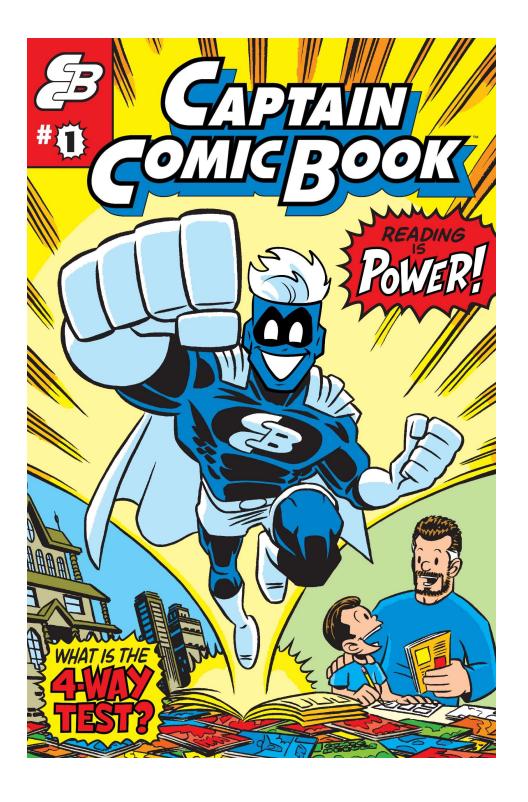
From college scholarships to our renowned Peace Fellowships, Rotary supports the educational aspirations of thousands of future leaders.

We're committed to taking on some of the world's most pressing challenges. Change your community with us by volunteering on a local project.





A portion of the proceeds from each comic sold will be donated to Rotary International.



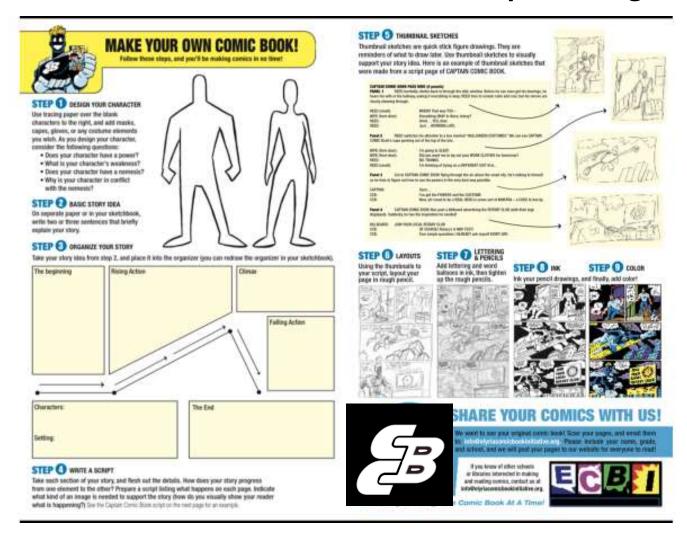
# March 2014 the first issue of Captain Comic Book debuts



The comic contains instructions on how to make your own comic book.

This book looks great. It even has tips on how to make your own comic.

The more comics I read the more powers I gain.



We encourage you to make your own comic book and send it to us

### From 2009-2019

Over 50,000 comics distributed. Over 2,000 comics created.

Programming conducted in Lorain, Cuyahoga, Lake, Medina, Summit, Portage and Franklin Counties

How can we continue to promote literacy through comic books?

Who else can we be working with?

What else can we do with the comic books after we make them?

What other platforms can we make comic books on?



And what's with the





Pass out free comic books and get excited about reading

Practice Sequential Art Storytelling by making your own comic book

Identify/Develop Educational & Career Pathways

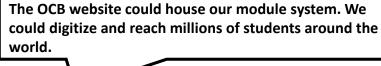


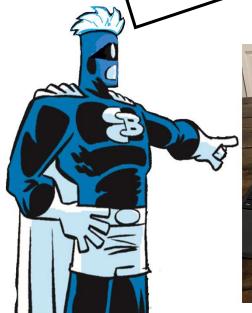
For more information contact - Board Member Ken Glanc Ken@operationcomicbook.org



Ironically, the appeal of this program is it gets kids away from screen time.

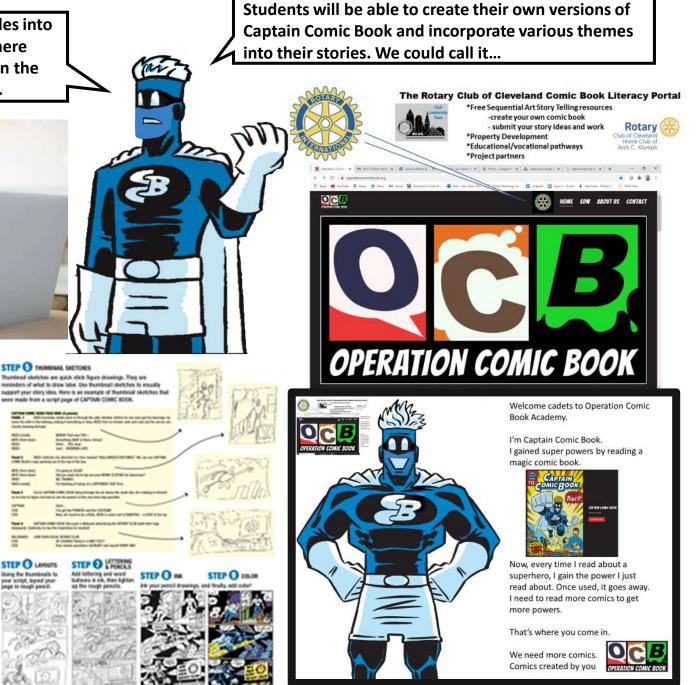
We built the program to be "pencil to paper" and "in person". How do we reach students?

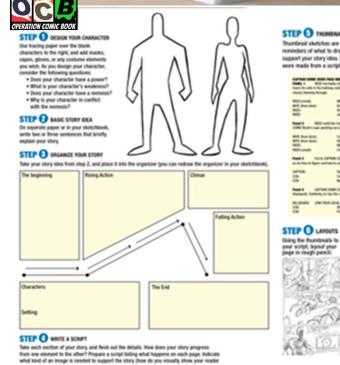


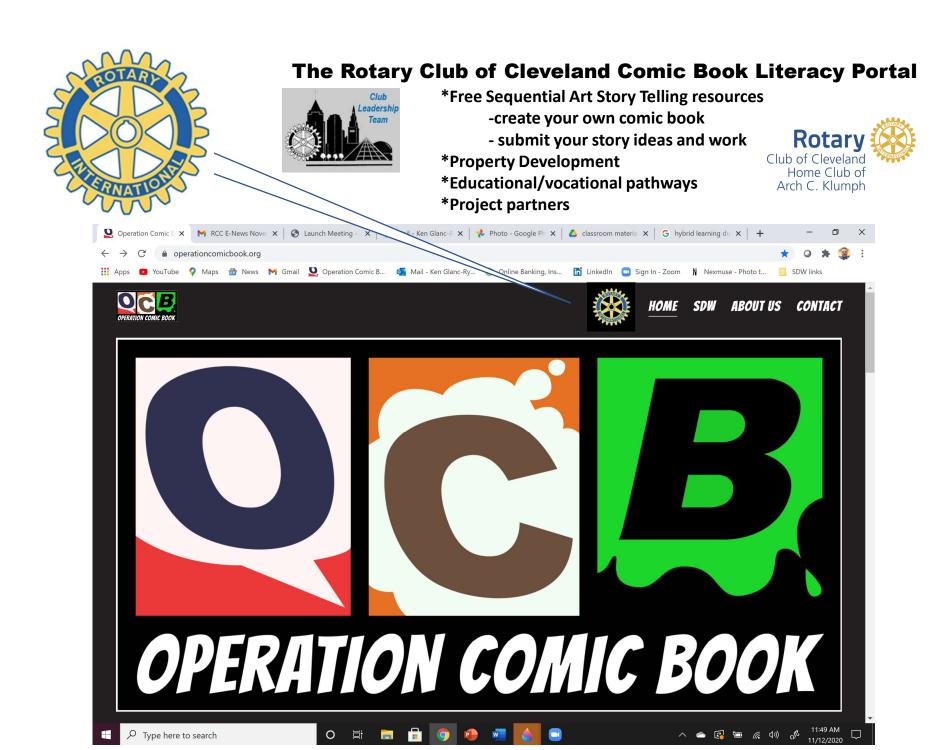




Professionally develop the modules into fun & interactive vignettes where students can build their books in the safety of their own homes.









Comic books and strips tell stories through: Sequential Art Story Telling.

Simply, a series of images which convey a story. A "visual narrative" –Eisner

The biggest difference between chapter books and comics, you ask?

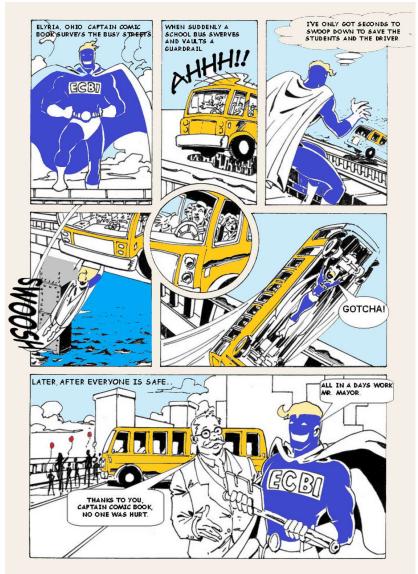


Chapter books tell the reader what is happening. Comics show the reader what is happening.



Here's a sample page of sequential art telling a story.

Ok, cadets. Let's get started making a comic.



What are comics made of? You can make comics on paper, computers and sidewalks.

You can use drawings, photos or paintings to illustrate your ideas.

Comic book pages are made of 2 simple things: Lines & Shapes

If you can draw a line, if you can draw a shape, you can make a comic.



## Basic Art: Comics are made of 2 things.

### 1. Can you draw a line?

In the space provided draw four lines: a straight line, a wavy line, a slanted line and a line that loops. "How can you make the lines thicker?"



### 4. Draw 2 more circles.

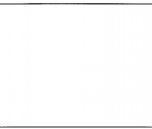
This time, using simple lines and shapes, convert the circles into faces. Make one face Happy and the other Sad/Angry. Notice how changing the line direction changes the mood.

### 2. Can you draw a shape?

In the space provided please draw four different shapes: IE, a square, a triangle, a rectangle and a circle.

\*can you shade your objects with a light source? Where does the light emanate from?

baseball, etc..



3.In the space below, convert your shapes into

objects. IE, a rectangle into a building, a circle into a

5. Symbols. In comics, we need to show our reader what is happening instead of telling them. Symbols can convey emotion, ideas, action and sound. In the space below, draw a

symbol for:

Idea

\_\_\_\_\_

Action

Emotion

Sound



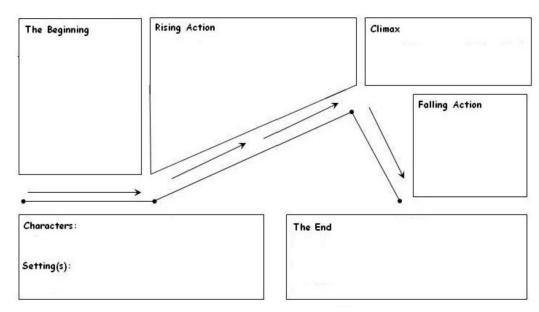


Now that we know we have the skills, let's address the elements of story telling.

What is your story/idea about? Summarize your story in 20 words or less:



Now, plug your idea into the organizer and identify the elements of your story.





Panel 1 -Hey kids. Captain Comic Book here. (no cape)
Ever wonder how a superhero flies?
Panel 2 -It's simple. Point your arm toward the sky
and say "blast off"!

Panel 3 -Picture of nothing happening. Surprised.

Panel 4 -Wait a second. (Surprised look & show snapping fingers)

Panel 5 -Putting cape on

Panel 6 -Flying away – happy flying. Remember when

flying with a cape, always fly responsibly!



Make sure your characters have a consistent look (Color, clothes, facial expression, size)

Don't forget to leave room for speech and thought bubbles.









Your finished work should be free of smudges and completely inked.

Inking will accentuates your best lines and makes them stand out to the reader.

Plus, as your work is scanned, the lines will represent fully.



A thumbnail sketch is a vital preparatory step. Without much emphasis on details, this is like a shorthand note of the image you are going to create. A thumbnail sketch is a great planning tool. It's a fun process that has nothing to do with perfection! Remember, you are just trying to figure your composition/design out

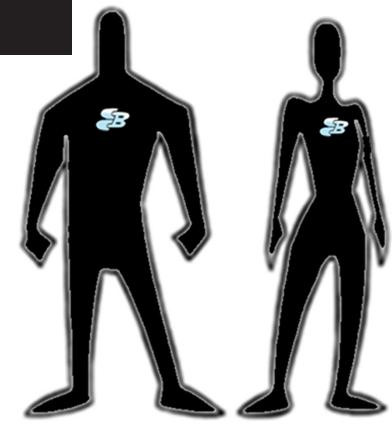
Ok cadets, **Now you get to be the Captain** 



You've read the magic comic book and gained extraordinary powers.



How will you make a difference in the world around you?







For more information contact - Board Member Ken Glanc Ken@operationcomicbook.org