

BOWLLAN'S BLOG SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL

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[KidSpirit Magazine: Meet Rebecca and Susan](#)

In the center of this photo are two girls in blue, who are wearing HUGE smiles on their faces. Susan and Rebecca are two writers for the newly released **KidSpirit magazine**. They, along with their editorial board, seen here, have spent 2 years talking about **life's big questions**, and now they're sharing what they found in the first-ever **spirituality magazine** generated by youth. This Brooklyn based, non-profit, unaffiliated with any particular faith, and 100% ad-free, **KidSpirit Magazine** launched nationally earlier this year and features the work of kids from New York and around the country - as they focus on a broad range of issues they encounter in their daily lives. I chose dedicated student writers as my **Everyday People** you should know.

*Student writer, Rebecca, shares her story...*In sixth grade, my friend Catherine Hochman mentioned that her mother was thinking about starting a magazine called KidSpirit. I was very intrigued, and so when Catherine asked me if I would be interested in joining the KidSpirit editorial board, I immediately replied “**yes.**” Our first editorial board meeting confirmed that I was going to be part of a unique magazine. KidSpirit was to carry no advertisements, and it sounded like **Elizabeth Dabney Hochman** (the editor-in-chief) was really trying to start a very intellectual magazine. KidSpirit tackles issues that we kids on the editorial board consider thought-provocative and important, issues that other magazines focused on youth often don't take on. After enjoying the premiere of the magazine this spring, we are all working on completing our third issue on myths, legends, and their meanings. Some really interesting articles in that issue include an introduction to archetypes and how story telling has traditionally been kept alive by the older generation. We are also beginning work on our issue on science and how it relates to spirit. The Big Question for that issue is “Are there limits to what we can/should know?” Some other interesting topics we are considering are the ethical questions raised by genetic engineering and scientific research into meditation.

*Student writer, Susan, shares her story...*When **Elizabeth Dabney Hochman** first approached me about KidSpirit Magazine it appealed to me right away. It combined two of my favorite things: writing and thinking. I was enthralled by the way KidSpirit helped kids tackle very big questions, especially because I know that these questions are as interesting to kids as they are to adults. On the editorial board, we think of some questions that interest us and try and write articles (and a little poetry) that address what we believe kids think and worry the most about. Then, we read and edit the articles written by the editorial board, concerned kids, or knowledgeable adults. For instance, in our last meeting of the year, we read and edited seven articles. I think that KidSpirit is something that will interest most kids, because it provides a discussion that they really cannot get anywhere else.

People can subscribe online at **KidSpirit Magazines**. Subscriptions are always welcome by mail at: **KidSpirit Magazine; att'n Subscriptions**; 77 State Street; Brooklyn, NY, 11201 If you'd like to share your **Everyday People** story, please email me: amy.bowllan@reedbusiness.com