

explore, dream, create, grow, connect

YOUNG
WRITERS'
PROGRAM
summer catalog 2011



OFFERING OVER 60 CLASSES with award-winning authors and professional writers who love working with youth and teens.

REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.LOFT.ORG»

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Can't find it? Have questions?

Contact our Education Team!

Reach the Loft education team Tuesday–Friday at 612-379-8999.



Brian Malloy



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Kelly Ceynowa



Venessa Fuentes



THE LOFT LITERARY CENTER

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YOUNG WRITERS' PROGRAM

summer catalog 2011

INTRODUCTION



It's a brand-new summer term at the Loft, and we have an all-new creative writing program ready to help you start—or finish—your literary endeavors. Yeah, we know you've been hitting the books all year and working incredibly hard. So, how about taking some time this summer to explore your passion for expressing yourself through the art of creative writing?

This year the Loft's Young Writers' Program is thrilled to introduce 20 new classes and plenty of returning favorites, including comic- and bookmaking collaborations with Minnesota Center for Book Arts, poetry classes on rebelling with rock and roll, writing lessons from Harry Potter, and even a playwriting collaboration with Stages Theatre Company, where your play is performed by real actors!

If you're new to the Loft, or to writing in general, and have questions about where to start, please feel free to call the Loft education office. We have something for everyone—from the youngster just learning to put pen to paper ("Use Your Imagination" or "Do YOU Want to be a Writer?") to the seasoned high school senior with a novel already under her belt ("Advanced Short Storytelling" or "The Write Stuff: Elements of Fiction").

We invite you into these pages to explore, dream, create, and deepen your connection to yourself and your creative talents. We invite you into the writing life this summer at the Loft—whether you join us for one 90-minute session or enroll for weeks on end, the Loft's Young Writers' Program is here to meet you on your writing journey and cheer you on to the next stop! We've got a pencil and notebook with your name on it, and they're waiting to take you anywhere your imagination can carry you.

MEMBERSHIP

Become Supporting Members at the Household level and immediately take advantage of member tuition discounts. For details on member benefits, visit our website at WWW.LOFT.ORG or call 612-379-8999.

GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

All individual classes are 90 minutes long (Monday–Friday) and are either one- or two- week offerings. Classes are offered to specific age groups: 6–8, 9–11, 12–14, and 15–17 years old. All age brackets are suggested, but if you and your child are comfortable signing up for a class with an older age group, please feel free to enroll him or her in the higher age bracket. Classes are open to all skill levels and are strictly enrichment only (no grades, no harsh critiques). Classes generally culminate in a group performance or reading at the end of the last meeting.

REGISTRATION

Registration is open as long as there is space available in a class. You can register your child or teen online at **WWW.LOFT.ORG**, by calling 612-379-8999, or by mail. A detailed confirmation letter will be sent to you via e-mail by the Loft education office once your registration has been processed. Please feel free to call or drop by our office Tuesday through Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. We are here to help you with registration and answer any questions you may have about classes.

PRICING

Tuition for each 90-minute class has a regular price, member discount price, and (self-selecting) low-income discount. These price tiers are printed next to each class description. Fees for Loft/MCBA combo classes, collaboration classes in association with other arts organizations, and half- or full-day, weeklong writing camps are specially priced and are also indicated in their class descriptions. Some classes may require a small additional fee to help the teaching artist cover material costs or copy services. This additional copy fee is listed in the individual class description. It should be paid directly to and collected by the teaching artist. Scholarships are available for most classes for students in need on a first-come, first-served basis. Please call 612-215-2595 for more information and for specific class scholarship availability. *Please: only one scholarship per family per summer.*

WHAT TO BRING

Please ensure your child or teen has snacks, beverages, lunch (if applicable), and anything else specified in the class description. The Loft will provide a notebook and pencil on the first day of class, but you should feel free to bring along any preferred writing utensils or beloved journals.

CANCELLATION POLICY

In the event the Loft has to cancel a class, you will be notified in advance and issued a 100 percent refund. If you need to cancel, notify the Loft education office BEFORE the start of the second class meeting to receive our standard 85 percent refund. Unless the Loft cancels a class, no 100 percent refunds can be given once registration has taken place, as there is a registration fee of 15 percent. No refunds will be given after the start of the second class meeting.



CLASSES FOR TEENS (15-17 YRS)

15-17



15-17 year-olds

imagery & words

a Loft/MCBA combo class



poetry /
collage

SY0005 | Imagery & Words | JUDE NUTTER

For young writers 15–17 years | July 11–15; 1–4:15 p.m.

Special Price: \$255; Loft and MCBA members: \$229.50

Why would we want to “illustrate” a poem?

How would we even “break up” a poem for illustration? What about size and format—do you create broadsides, a storyboard, a book, a scroll? What about technique: collage, abstract, pen and ink, paint? In this one-week class, we will tackle these questions by looking at and discussing many examples of graphic poems and creating and workshopping our own. The teaching artist will provide a collection of poems to work with, as well as collage materials. On the last day of class, please bring a poem of your own choosing (perhaps one you’ve written) to work with. The second half of the class will introduce you to Minnesota Center for Book Arts, where you will explore the infinite combinations of words and images with your poetry. You can put down your own ideas in your own hand-bound sketchbook, keep your final works in your handmade portfolio, and combine your own design with those of other students for a collaborative printed poster.

SY0001 | Personality Matters: Using Myers-Briggs Typology to Write Realistic Characters | CARISSA TOBIN

For young writers ages 15–17 | June 20–24; 1–2:30 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Are you an introvert or extrovert? Do you plan in advance or procrastinate? Make decisions with your head or with your heart? What are your preferences for taking in information and interacting with the world? In this class, we’ll learn about the differences between extroverts and introverts, sensors and intuitives, feelers and thinkers, and judgers and perceivers. Our focus will be

using the Myers-Briggs personality typology to create realistic interactions between characters in any genre of writing. You will become aware of characters' personality types in your writing . . . and in the world at large. Copy fee of \$5 payable to the teaching artist.

SY0002 | *Seize Your Story* | PATRICIA CUMBIE

For young writers ages 15–17 | June 27–July 1; 1–2:30 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Our favorite authors often make us feel as if they know exactly what we're going through or reflect our thinking. What they say feels true. That's why so many of us often look to writing for inspiration and to make sense of life. If you have a desire to express what you care most deeply about—for yourself and others in the real world—this workshop is designed for you. Whether you want to create fiction, opinion pieces, or tell your own story, we'll discover what it means to find your own voice, develop stories people can relate to, and find the courage to tell them. Through a series of activities and writing exercises, we'll consider book characters and real teens dealing with different life situations so that you can build on your talent for writing stories as only you can.

SY0003 | *Writing What Matters to You Most* | CHRISTINA LUNDBERG

For young writers 15–17 | July 11–15; 9–10:30 a.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Do you find yourself writing or wanting to write about pivotal moments in your life? Moments that mean something to you and have changed you or transformed you in some way? If so, this is the class for you! In this multigenre class, we'll discover how to go beyond merely attempting to “describe” these special moments to the reader. Going deeper we'll explore how to craft your writing so the reader can “experience” these magical transformations as well. Basically, we'll learn how to make your writing live and breathe on the page. Applying real-life experiences, we'll use a variety of creative catalysts (including storytelling, sensory activities, impromptu writing activities and drawings, music, examples of works from famous writers, one-on-one instruction, and editing direction) to inspire and help us focus. By the end of the week, this writing process will have you flowing with creative energy and skilled expression. We will celebrate with a reading of your favorite pieces.

SY0004 | *Journalism for the 21st Century* | HOLLY DAY

For young writers 15–17 | July 11–15; 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

In this fast-paced class, we'll cover all aspects of print and electronic journalism from learning to conduct interviews and building articles out of them to writing product reviews and on-site reports. We'll start out easy, dissecting various forms of journalism and discussing their applications, and work our way to setting up and conducting interviews and placing articles in magazines. We will also cover all the steps of turning an interview transcript into a traditional article-style interview, beginning with a straight transcript (warts and all) through to the finished published piece.

SYO006 | Indulging your Alter Ego/s | MERYL DEPASQUALE

For young writers 15–17 | July 11–15; 1–2:30 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Stories and persona poems ask writers to step outside themselves. Through a mixture of personal experience, observation, and imaginative invention they get to create villains, antiheroes, and unreliable narrators. In this class we will get in touch with our darker selves in order to create characters with distinctive personalities and (perhaps) nefarious intentions. If you are a fiction writer searching for characters ready-made for conflict or a poet looking to try out new voices, this class is for you! Copy fee of \$2 payable to the teaching artist.

SYO007 | Poems that Rock, Roll, React, and Rebel | MERYL DEPASQUALE

For young writers 15–17 | July 11–15; 2:45–4:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Contemporary poetry is a dissenter, often striking a chord or going against the grain. In this class we'll look at poems that interact musically or culturally with rock, pop, and hip-hop in order to stage their rebellions. We will also consider poems that speak out against literary conventions, social/political situations, and inner turmoil. Be prepared to write your own songs of personal protest. Our aim will be to rock so hard with our words and rhythms that musical accompaniment won't be necessary. Instruments could always come later! Copy fee of \$2 payable to the teaching artist.

youth playwrighting lab
in collaboration with Stages Theatre Company



SYO008 | Youth Playwriting Lab in Collaboration with Stages Theatre Company | KATIE LEO

For young playwrights ages 15–17 | July 18–29

Special Price: \$348.75; Loft Members: \$313.87; Low-Income Price: \$244.12

JULY 18–22; 1–2:30 P.M.

Students will have class at the FAIR School Downtown

Address and Directions to the FAIR School Downtown: 10 South 10th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55403. The FAIR School is located on the corner of 10th and Hennepin in downtown Minneapolis. It is best to mapquest or googlemap directions specific to where you are coming from.

JULY 25–27; 1–4 P.M.

Students will have class at the FAIR School

JULY 28–29; 1–4 P.M.

Students will meet at Open Book, to rehearse and perform in the Target Performance Hall



Playwriting is a wonderfully collaborative discipline. The playwright may write the words, but actors ultimately decide how to interpret them. In the Youth Playwriting Lab, youth actors and playwrights will come together for a unique two-week collaboration between the Loft and Stages

Theatre Company. For the first week, playwrights and actors will be trained separately in essential craft skills. In the second week, the two groups will join to form a theater company whose aim is to develop new scripts generated by the youth playwrights during the first week. The actors will read the in-progress plays so that the playwrights can hear their scripts aloud and receive feedback. This process is crucial for new writers, as the characters leap off the page for the first time, and it gives important information to the playwright for future development. On the final day of this two-week experience, the actors will conduct staged readings of the youth-written plays for an audience of family and friends. Join us in Open Book's Target Performance Hall for this one-of-a-kind opportunity! Copy fee of \$3 payable to the teaching artist.

Young actors can register for this workshop with Stages Theatre Company either online at www.stagestheatre.org or by calling the box office at 952-979-1111, Tuesday–Saturday, noon to 6 p.m. Registration will begin for actors February 15, 2011.

ABOUT THE FAIR SCHOOL: FAIR School Downtown (Fine Arts Interdisciplinary Resource), located in the heart of downtown Minneapolis, is a 500-student, K–12 Fine Arts Magnet School.

SY0009 | Writing with Artistic License | LINDA BACK MCKAY

For young writers ages 15–17 | July 25–29; 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Here is your chance to craft poetry from the heart—and have your artistic genius overflow into other art forms. We'll try a variety of writing prompts and art-making experiences to find what fits you best. Plan on dabbling in watercolors, collage writing, group poems, and many other writing and art activities. You'll be amazed at the wonderful works of art you'll create. Materials and copy fee of \$3 payable to the teaching artist.

SY0010 | Invented Realities: The Use of Fiction in Poetry | JEFF NEIDT

For young writers ages 15–17 | July 25–29; 1–2:30 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

This class will invite you to write about experiences you've never had and explore stories that exist outside the realm of your own life in order to develop your poetic writing. Parceling bits of fiction into your poetry allows a looser structure for your writing and affords a freedom reality constrains. Mixing fiction into your poems will move you away from banal realism into poetry that drips with newness. Students will be provided the opportunity to both write new poems, using fictional prompts, and revise their own poetry with the benefit of fictional elements. Copy fee of \$5 payable to the teaching artist.

SYO011 | Writing Love Poetry | CARRIE MESROBIAN

For young writers ages 15–17 | July 25–29; 2:45–4:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Why are love poems so enjoyable to read, but so difficult to write? In this class, we'll look at a wide variety of love poems describing the multitudinous ways in which we love and are loved in this world. Then, using some of our favorites, we'll practice drafting and reciting our own love poems in class. Students should come to this class ready to read, write, and fall in love anew every day.

SYO012 | Can You Hear Me Now? Creative Writing for Outsiders, Misfits, and the Counterculture | ROXANNE SADOVSKY

For young writers ages 15–17 | July 25–29; 2:45–4:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Inspired by the beloved 1967 novel *The Outsiders*, by S. E. Hinton (who was only 16 when she wrote it), “Can you Hear Me Now?” invites new and seasoned creative writers to explore what it means to be an “outsider” and how we define the term today. Through discussions, readings, writing exercises, and sharing our work we will begin to recognize the many faces and similarities among “outsiders” and how creative writing can bridge understanding. Copy fee of \$5 payable to the teaching artist.

SYO013 | The Write Stuff: Elements of Fiction | KATHRYN SAVAGE

For young writers ages 15–17 | August 8–12; 9–10:30 a.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

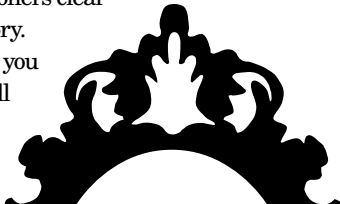
This course is designed for advanced writers who wish to explore the craft of fiction and learn techniques for creating even more compelling prose. This class will demystify “how” published writers use literary techniques to give readers an emotional experience, and writers will be able to easily identify a range of techniques that can make their fiction shine on the page. On the first day, students should bring copies of one 5- to 10-page polished work in progress (a novel excerpt or short story) they would like to get feedback on during in-class workshops. Each day, writing activities and prompts will help students generate ideas and try new techniques. At home, students will be assigned readings to deepen their understanding of craft. Ultimately students will have analyzed a range of successful published stories, workshopped their current writing, offered each other feedback, and discussed other literary nuts and bolts. Students are asked to obtain a copy of *Best American Nonrequired Reading*, 2010, edited by Dave Eggers (Mariner Books).

SYO014 | Writing Life: A Teen's Guide to Writing Memoir | KATE ST. VINCENT VOGL

For young writers ages 15–17 | August 8–12; 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Want to write your memoir but don't know where to start? Maybe you are having a hard time knowing what to put on the page. Maybe you've started but are overwhelmed, not knowing what to include or how to complete it. This class offers clear guidelines from start to finish on how to write your life story. Through writing exercises and engaging class discussions you will learn all you need to know when writing memoir. We'll cover how to get started, finish, revise, and sell your story.



SY0015 | Advanced Short Storytelling | KATHRYN SAVAGE

For young writers ages 15–17 | August 8–12; 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

The writing process demands a willingness to brave unknown territories, write freely, edit valiantly, and trust your instincts. Short stories present immense challenges; in a matter of mere pages writers are asked to present a complex web of emotions, convictions, compelling characters, and believable plots. What a lot to do!

This course is designed advanced young short story writers who wish to deepen their understanding of craft techniques. Through in-class readings of published works, we will identify a full range of literary techniques that will make your stories shine on the page. On the first day of class, students should bring copies of one 5- to 10-page short story, their most polished work in progress, on which they would like to get feedback. Each day, writing activities and prompts will help students generate ideas and try new techniques. At home, students will be assigned readings to deepen understanding. Ultimately students will have analyzed a range of successful published stories, workshopped their current writing, offered each other feedback, and discussed other literary nuts and bolts. Students are asked to obtain a copy of *Fiction on a Stick: New Stories by Minnesota Writers*, edited by Daniel Slager (Milkweed Editions).

SY0016 | Who Am I? Writing My Story | PETER BLAU

For young writers ages 15–17 | August 15–19; 9–10:30 a.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

This class will be all about you and your creative abilities. We will begin with a journal and learn to use it as an artist's sketchbook, a place to paint and create with words. You will be encouraged to explore and expand ideas as you record your thoughts and feelings. We will examine various writing formats—poetry, essay, fiction—working with prompts and exercises to help you discover your unique voice and style. The creative writing process opens your mind to imaginative thinking and develops the writer in you. Just bring your favorite pen and journal. Imagine the possibilities!

SY0018 | Essay Writing for the ACT/SAT and for Fun | RHEA DAVISON-EDWARDS

For young writers ages 15–17 | August 15–19; 1–2:30 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Are you planning to take the ACT or SAT? Would you like a little help getting your writing skills ready? If so, this class was created for you. We'll take an in-depth look at the essay as both art form and standardized test requirement and read examples ranging from funny to utterly academic. We'll also discuss how to write in a timed setting and polish your essay very quickly. You may be surprised at how much fun writing essays can be! Copy fee of \$5 payable to the teaching artist.





writing the personal essay

For College Applications and for Fun

SY0017 | Writing the Personal Essay for College Applications and for Fun | RHEA DAVISON-EDWARDS

For young writers ages 15–17 | August 15–19; 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

If you're ready to take your essay-writing skills to a new level, or looking for a break from the academic essay, this is the class for you. We'll closely examine the personal essay—by reading fun, informative, dramatic, and hilarious examples from popular contemporary authors. We will look at the techniques these authors use to create their own unique voices and learn to apply those practices to our own writing. We'll also discuss what a successful college admissions essay involves (don't worry, there will be alternative activities if you're not ready yet). You'll be astonished at how fun writing essays for school and college admissions can be with a refreshed and creative perspective! Copy fee of \$5 payable to the teaching artist.



13-17



CLASSES FOR TEENS (13-17 YRS)

discover your writer's voice: Journaling & Journal Making

SY0021 | Discover Your Writer's Voice: Journaling & Journal Making

JESSICA HARMAN | A LOFT/MCBA COMBO CLASS

For young writers ages 13-17 | June 20-24

Special Price: \$255; Loft and MCBA members: \$229.50

In this course we'll start an explorative journal, use words as a process of investigating our world and selves, and cultivate our writer's voice.

Through daily writings and by recording our own thoughts and impressions, we'll gain insight into the world, ourselves, and what we have to say. Exercises will focus on writing as a fun habit, emphasizing it as a creative process full of the beauty, struggle, and magic of self-expression. Whether these journals are for our own personal use or perhaps something to share, this course welcomes everyone who would like to create and keep a journal. Your journal can take many forms and serve many functions. When you've finished the creative writing portion of this combo class, you'll create your own hand-bound journal at Minnesota Center for Book Arts, and you will also learn unique marbled paper, printmaking, and many different visual journaling techniques to adorn your journal. Copy fee of \$1.50 payable to the teaching artist.

SY0019 | Children's Book Illustration for Teens | NANCY CARLSON

For young writers ages 13–17 | June 20–24; 9–10:30 a.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

In this class we'll discover what makes a successful picture book by first studying some of the best. We'll do imaginative drawing exercises while learning how to effectively use pictures. By creating our own unique characters we'll work on character development. We'll then study layout, beginning with thumbnails, story boards, and finally a "working dummy." This is a beginner class, but art experience or a passion for fine arts is required. This is an excellent choice for students interested in applying to art school! Copy fee of \$5 payable to the teaching artist.

SY0020 | The Alternate Universe: Creating Fictional Worlds | CARRIE MESROBIAN

For young writers ages 13–17 | June 20–24; 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

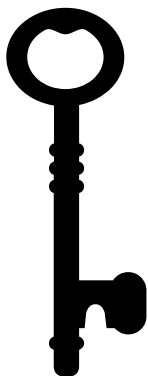
In Suzanne Collins's *Hunger Games* series, a dystopic future forces kids to fight to the death. Melissa Marr's *Wicked Lovely* series engages fairies in nasty tricks played upon humans. Rick Riordan's *Percy Jackson* series combines the myths of the Greek gods and our own reality, superimposing their explosive ancient laws and petty whims on young heroes. It seems like new renditions of the vampire and werewolf mythologies are popping up every week (Maggie Stiefvater's *Shiver*, Melissa de la Cruz's *Blue Bloods* series . . .). All these popular young adult books, many of which we will examine in this class, have successfully created vivid, engaging fictional universes readers love to enter and reenter. How do these authors do it? How can you learn to do it? Class time will involve literary analysis of several popular young adult fictional worlds, and students will spend time creating their own fictional universe or shaping one that they're already built. Students should expect to write every day, inside and outside class time.

SY0022 | Writing Mystery and Detective Fiction | CARRIE MESROBIAN

For young writers ages 13–17 years | June 20–24; 2:45–4:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Mystery stories and detective fiction are often described as "guilty pleasures" or "beach books," but these are hugely misleading terms. Good mystery stories are intricately constructed works that rigorously follow the same rules governing other literary fiction. They make excellent study narratives for students who want to understand the construction of a good plot. In this class, we will learn about the genre of mystery and detective fiction, its history, roots and influences, and distinctive features. Through in-class writing activities and group discussions, we will imagine lively detective/hero characters, create multiple innovative resolutions to various criminal scenarios, and practice crafting complex and juicy narratives that will keep readers turning pages until the wee hours of the night.



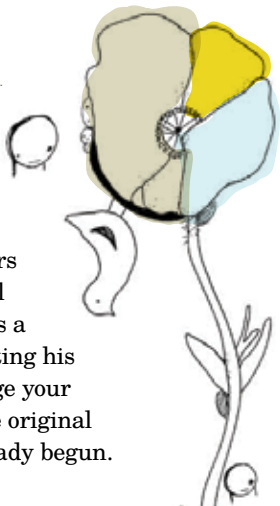
SY0023 | A Character-Building Experience | JOAN LINCK

For young writers ages 13–17 | June 27–July 1; 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63;

Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Sure, words sit on a page, but characters who do that, and classes where you do that all day, are boring. If that's not what you want for your characters or yourself, then come along as we learn how to build a character that grabs readers and pulls them into the story. Of course we'll write, but we'll also do lots of activities that give us insight into what makes a character come to life. Whether your main character is meeting his or her first love or battling space aliens, he or she will engage your readers from start to finish. During the week you can create original characters and short stories or develop the work you've already begun.

**SY0024 | Writing Song Lyrics** | BEN CONNELLY

For young writers ages 13–17 | June 27–July 1; 1–2:30 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

In this course for nonmusicians and musicians we'll take an interactive and improvisational approach to writing song lyrics, investigating the art and craft of song lyric writing. Writing both in groups and individually, we'll study how form and poetic technique affect the way a song feels, and learn methods for opening up and completing a creative process. Students should expect to write at least one complete song during the course.

SY0025 | Fantastic Fiction | PHILIP FULLER

For young writers ages 13–17 | June 27–July 1; 2:45–4:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Welcome to the wide world of fiction: you're invited to break the rules and let your imagination run wild. By experimenting with techniques from science fiction and horror, magic realism, and fantasy, we'll explore ways to make our fiction fantastic. In-class writing exercises and discussions are designed to free your imagination while honing your skills in elements of traditional storytelling (characterization, plot, setting, tone). Write a story that will make the unbelievable, believable!

SY0026 | Of Wizards and Words: The World of Harry Potter | CARRIE MESROBIAN

For young writers 13–17 | July 5–15 (No class Monday, July 4) 2:45–4:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$209.25; Member Price: \$188.32; Low-Income Price: \$146.47

J. K. Rowling's Harry Potter series is a perennial favorite for readers of all ages; in this class we'll explore the reasons why. Using character analyses, plot charting, and close examination of fiction's basic elements, we'll reenter the series with an eye for what makes good storytelling. We'll also take a look at the biography of J. K. Rowling, discuss the film adaptations, and debate the classic conundrums that continually puzzle fans (how does Dumbledore beat the unbeatable Elder Wand, anyway?). If you've always wanted to take an in-depth look at this wildly popular series, are a fan or writer of fantasy, or just can't get Harry Potter out of your system, this is the class for you. Students must have read all seven books in the series prior to first class.

SY0027 | Writing Rocks! | JACQUIE FULLER

For young writers ages 13–17 | July 25–29; 9–10:30 a.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Love music? Love to write? Does the music you love inspire and inform your writing? Songs can teach us an awful lot about character, plot, imagery, and other basics of the craft. In this beginning creative writing class, we'll take music-as-inspiration to the next level. Using songs as a platform for creative exploration, we'll write poems, short stories, creative nonfiction, and even an illustrated story based on rock and pop music!

SY0028 | Fabulous Fan Fiction | JEANNE BAIN

For young writers ages 13–17 | July 25–29; 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

What happens when Bella Swan, Artemis Fowl, and Buffy the Vampire Slayer team up to defeat Lord Voldemort? In fan fiction, anything goes. Will Bella and Buffy work together or fight each other to the death? Will Artemis Fowl use his criminal mind and knowledge of the Lower Elements to bring about a new order in the Wizarding World? Come with your favorite characters in mind and together we will write amazing fan fiction!

SY0029 | I Want to Be an Author! A Tour of the Publishing Industry

JACQUELYN FLETCHER | For young writers ages 13–17 | July 25–29; 2:45–4:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Do you want to write and have other people read your work now like young authors Christopher Paolini (published first novel at 17), Amelia Atwater-Rhodes (age 14), and Ned Vizzini (published essays in his teens that eventually became a novel)? Becoming a published author can seem an incredibly difficult task, but the industry is not so mysterious if you know what's what. In this class you'll learn how to find an agent, what an agent wants to see, what happens after a book is sold, the differences between traditional and self-publishing, and what's happening online. You'll also learn how to put on a stellar reading and build an audience for your work.

SY0030 | Doing the Time Warp: Using Modern Technology to Create Historical Fiction

JOAN LINCK | For young writers ages 13–17 | August 8–19; 1–2:30 p.m.

Regular Price: \$232.50; Member Price: \$209.25; Low-Income Price: \$162.75

Time is fleeting, but you can capture it in a story! Do you have a passion for writing or history? Want to get beyond the textbook? Then this is the class for you. You'll be provided photographs, articles, memoirs, and other writing pieces to jump-start your journey into the past. With the help of the Internet you'll find hidden gems that will make your historic fiction spring to life. Using the fiction basics of plot, description, character, and setting, you'll construct a completely original story. History will get you bursting with ideas and add spark and realism to your writing. A laptop computer with a wireless connection is helpful but not required. Copy fee of \$2 payable to the teaching artist.





advanced writing the dark

SY0031 | [Advanced Writing the Dark](#) | JEANNE BAIN

For young writers ages 13-17 | August 8-19; 1-2:30 p.m.
Regular Price: \$232.50; Member Price: \$209.25; Low-Income Price: \$162.75

Laurie Halse Anderson writes about the darkness of eating disorders. Neil Gaiman tells the story of a baby whose family is massacred during the night. Markus Zusak gives voice to the character of “Death” during the Holocaust. You? You love to read it all. Join this class to learn from other advanced writers who love all things Dark. Create or strengthen your own fiction, share support, and explore how contemporary authors and Gothic writers of the past captivate their readers.



CLASSES FOR YOUTH (12-14 YRS)

*Making Comics***SY0040 | Making Comics | TOM SPENCE | A LOFT/MCBA COMBO CLASS**

For young writers 12–14 years | July 18–22; 1–4:15 p.m.

Special Price: \$255; Loft and MCBA members: \$229.50

Do you enjoy reading comics? Have you ever thought of making one yourself? In this combo class, you will learn all about the building blocks of comics: panels, text, pacing, and so on, as well as how to conceptualize your characters and story. These combined efforts of form and content will result in a unique comic story of your own making. Meanwhile at Minnesota Center for Book Arts, you will construct a variety of books for sketching, portfolios, and assembling your original comic story into multiple copies of your own minicomic.

SY0032 | Write Your Head Off | PATRICIA CUMBIE

For young writers ages 12–14 | June 20–24; 9–10:30 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Whether your passion for writing is a towering flame or modest spark, this class will summon your engagement and get you writing about the things that matter the most to you. Through class interaction and writing exercises we'll release your store of words, engage your senses, connect with your emotions, and peel back the workings of the world to see its pulp. Writers rarely know a story's meaning ahead of time, and even if they did, the writing process often changes it. This class will help you dig deep inside your imagination; you'll find a secret inner world that writing can bring to the surface.

SY0033 | Writing the Dark | JEANNE BAIN

For young writers ages 12–14 | June 20–24; 1–2:30 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

As a reader, you are drawn to books with strong characters, disturbing situations and difficult themes. As a writer, you want to use your own work to explore the dark side of your own characters. In this supportive introduction, we will let contemporary authors who push the edge of literary darkness provide us the courage to explore the depths of our own writing.

SY0034 | Working on Your Short Story | JENNY SIMMONDS

For young writers ages 12–14 | June 20–July 1; 2:45–4:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$232.50; Member Price: \$209.25; Low-Income Price: \$162.75

For many writers, starting a short story is easy; seeing that story through to completion often presents the greater challenge. This class is ideal for those who are looking for motivation, peer/instructor feedback, and a fun environment. The class will be divided into small groups where you will be responsible for giving and receiving feedback about a specific short story. Please bring at least one page (typed) of your short story to the first day of class. All writing levels are welcome. Copy fee of \$3 payable to the teaching artist.

SY0035 | Beginning Playwriting | JOAN LINCK

For young writers ages 12–14 | June 27–July 1; 9–10:30 a.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; member price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Does the movie version of your writing play out in your head as you put words on paper? Do you long to see your characters come alive? They can when you write a play! This class will explore storytelling through playwriting. We'll read from published plays; discuss how theatrical elements such as music, lights, and props help tell the story; explore character development; and try our hand at writing short scenes. By week's end you will have a scene ready for your fellow playwrights to read and act out in class. Places! Cue the music. It's time to sit back and enjoy the show. Copy fee of \$2 payable to the teaching artist.

SY0036 | This Wild World: Writings on Nature | EMILY BRISSE

For young writers ages 12–14 | June 27–July 1; 1–2:30 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

If you see creatures in cumulus clouds, love watching both lightning and blizzards, or simply think being outside in any one of Minnesota's seasons is awesome, then here is your chance to bring that interest to the page. "This Wild World" invites new and experienced creative writers of all genres to follow the lead of many well-regarded authors and poets: to be inspired by nature. Through discussion, reading, writing exercises, short field trips, and sharing our work, we will allow our environment to teach us what to say and how to say it creatively. For the last class, each student will choose one story, poem, or essay to polish and present. Together, we will arrive at a class landscape shaped by our world and the words we use to describe it. Copy fee of \$5 payable to the teaching artist.

SY0037 | Journalism for the 21st Century | HOLLY DAY

For young writers 12–14 | July 11–15; 9–10:30 a.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

In this fast-paced class, we'll cover all aspects of print and electronic journalism from learning to conduct interviews and building articles out of them to writing product reviews and on-site reports. We'll start out easy, dissecting various forms of journalism and discussing their applications, and work our way to setting up and conducting interviews and placing articles in magazines. We will also cover all the steps of turning an interview transcript into a traditional article-style interview, beginning with a straight transcript (warts and all) through to the finished published piece.

SY0038 | Writing What Matters to You Most | CHRISTINA LUNDBERG

For young writers ages 12–14 | July 11–15; 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Do you find yourself writing or wanting to write about pivotal moments in your life? Moments that mean something to you and have changed you or transformed you in some way? If so, this is the class for you! In this multigenre class for 12- to 14-year-olds, we'll discover how to go beyond merely attempting to "describe" these special moments to the reader. Going deeper we'll explore how to craft your writing so the reader can "experience" these magical transformations as well. Basically, we'll learn how to make your writing live and breathe on the page. Applying real-life experiences, we'll use a variety of creative catalysts (including storytelling, sensory activities, impromptu writing activities and drawings, music, examples of works from famous writers, one-on-one instruction, and editing direction) to inspire and help us focus. By the end of the week, this writing process will have you flowing with creative energy and skilled expression. We will celebrate with a reading of your favorite pieces.

SY0039 | Intermediate Playwriting | KATIE LEO

For young writers ages 12–14 | July 18–29; 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$232.50; Member Price: \$209.25; Low-Income Price: \$162.75

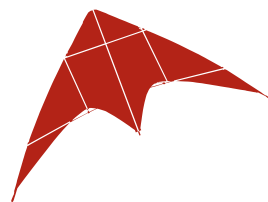
Do you love imagining fraught dialogue? Ever hear those voices in your head? Well, maybe you're a playwright waiting to be discovered! This course is for students who have had some experience writing plays and who would like to broaden their knowledge and skills. We will read and analyze dramatic excerpts, develop criteria for good playwriting, and write our own scenes. A portion of the final class will be devoted to reading from student plays for family and friends. Copy fee of \$3 payable to the teaching artist.

SY0041 | Adventures in Writing | EMILY SOHN

For young writers ages 12–14 | July 25–29; 9–10:30 a.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Do you like adventure and exploration? Then you'll love adventure writing! It's an exciting job that can include traveling the world, climbing mountains, diving to ocean bottoms, or digging into caves for clues about life's mysteries. Adventure writers meet fascinating people who push the limits of what we do and know. In this class, you'll learn the nuts and bolts of writing a solid and captivating story about real-life adventures, explorations, scientific mysteries, or groundbreaking discoveries. Through hands-on exercises and lessons, you'll learn how to dream up story ideas, interview experts about their findings, craft gripping articles, and maybe even sell them to magazines. Emily will share stories about her own career, which has taken her to Australia to write about koalas, to the Bahamas to write about coral reefs, and the Amazon to write about stingrays, deforestation, and more. At the end of the class, we'll compile everyone's completed stories to bring home. Copy fee of \$4 payable to the teaching artist.



SY0042 | Writing, Designing, and Distributing Your Own Zines | HOLLY DAY

For young writers ages 12–14 | July 25–29; 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Many professional magazines, including *Venus*, *Rolling Stone*, *Raygun*, and *XLR8R*, got their start as tiny homemade zines. In this class, students will have the opportunity to design and construct a “perzine” (personal zine), “fanzine” (magazine based on music or genre fandom), or “litzine” (literary magazine)—or all three. We’ll talk about zine distributors, literary festivals, university- and organization-based zine archives and collections, and other places you can get your zine on display. We’ll also look at zine culture on the Internet and discuss web-based publications. Copy fee of \$5 payable to the teaching artist.

SY0043 | The Prada Pages | MECHELLE AVEY

For young writers ages 12–14 | July 25–29; 1–2:30 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Marc Jacobs. Vera Wang. Prada. More than just iconic brands, in high fashion they are the names behind the hottest labels; some of the most revered designers in the world. Yet, each of these celebrated designers trod the path to public awareness in the same way—through the gatekeepers of this exclusive world: fashion magazines. Writers for magazines like *Glamour*, *Vogue*, and *Style* are the first to identify and report prevailing and new trends in fashion. In this class, teen fashionistas will combine fashion imagery and writing, exploring cultural ideas of beauty in the process. By the end of the course, students will have a portfolio of fashion tear sheets and pages. Photos and writings will also be uploaded to Mustlovetofashion.com, the website for the “Prada Pages” class, along with publication on Kindle and iPad.

SY0044 | From Story to Script | JEFF NEIDT

For young writers ages 12–14 | August 8–19; 9–10:30 a.m.

Regular Price: \$232.50; Member Price: \$209.25; Low-Income Price: \$162.75

Have you always wanted to write a movie? Are you fascinated by the way stories transform on the screen or stage? Then this is the class for you! We will look at a variety of scripts and one-act plays to see how they use plot, characterization, and stage directions to make the stories you love. By the end of the class students will work on a treatment for a story and complete at least five pages of a script. The teaching artist requests that students bring their own laptops to class, when possible, with Celtix (free, downloadable scriptwriting software). Students who do not have access to a laptop are still welcome in the class. Copy fee \$5.

SY0045 | In the Blink of an Eye: Writing Flash Fiction | JEFF NEIDT

For young writers ages 12–14 | August 8–12; 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Do you love to play with language? Do you have story ideas but struggle to finish them? Flash fiction is the genre for you. Definitions of flash fiction vary, but most define it as stories between 100 and 500 words in length. In flash fiction, you get to use the immense freedoms of English to describe the wild imaginings of your mind. In this class we will look at professional examples of flash fiction as well as write from a variety of prompts to produce our own.

CLASSES FOR YOUTH (9-11 YRS)

fairy tales, myths, and bookmaking



9-11 years-olds

SY0048 | Fairy Tales, Myths, and Bookmaking | MARIE OLOFSDOTTER

A LOFT/MCBA COMBO CLASS

For young writers ages 9-12 | June 27–July 1; 9 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Special Price: \$255; Loft and MCBA members: \$229.50

In this workshop we will explore the timeless territory of fairy tales and myths. Students will record the hair-raising adventures of a main character, the hero, who sets out on a magical journey to save a troubled kingdom and encounters a myriad of animals, villains, and mystical beings in the process. Participants will invent their own setting, characters, and plot. Then, after a short break, students will work with Minnesota Center for Book Arts to bring their stories to life in a pop-up book.

Students will take both a creative writing and a bookmaking class. There will be a 15-minute break in between. The price includes the two classes, supervision during break, and any associated materials.

SY0046 | Behold the Senses! | LISA BOLT SIMONS

For young writers ages 9-11 | June 20–24; 9–10:30 a.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

The ability to describe touch, sight, sound, smell, and taste is a vital part of making any written work come to life. In this hands-on class, we'll explore the details of each sense and then put our discoveries into words. After jump-starting both our perceptions and our pencils, we'll use every sense in a piece of writing—short story, poem, or essay—the young writers create. (Not recommended for children with severe allergies.) Please bring a set of primary colored pencils, a pencil or two, and paper/a notebook. Copy fee of \$1 payable to the teaching artist.



**SY0047****Character Creations**

SALLY BORGEN

For young writers ages 9–11

June 20–24;

10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

In this class, the writer will begin by creating a simple character. This creation will stretch, grow, and strive to become one who gets up off the page and steps into our lives—maybe even into our class! Students will develop the public (accomplishments, biography, appearance) and private side (emotions, quirks, fears, strengths) of their new characters . . . the human link to the reader. They will flesh them out through in-class “flash writing” exercises, sharing their work with classmates, and by reading short stories from published writers. By the end of the class, students will have created a charismatic character that’ll be searching for a setting and a plot!

SY0049 | Writing Song Lyrics | BEN CONNELLY

For young writers ages 9–11 | June 27–July 1; 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

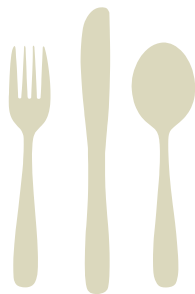
In this course for nonmusicians and musicians we’ll take an interactive and improvisational approach to writing song lyrics, investigating the art and craft of song lyric writing. Writing both in groups and individually, we’ll study how form and poetic technique affect the way a song feels, and learn methods for opening up and completing a creative process. Students should expect to write at least one complete song during the course.

SY0050 | Let’s Eat! Writing about Food | EMILY FREEMAN

A Loft/MCBA Combo Class | For young writers 9–11 | July 11–15; 9 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Special Price: \$255; Loft and MCBA members: \$229.50

This class is for burgeoning foodies, aspiring food bloggers, fans of *Top Chef*, or anyone with an interest in food and cooking. Students will learn basic creative nonfiction writing techniques as they write about their favorite dishes, memorable meals, or defining moments in their lives with food. After your yummy writing class, come down to Minnesota Center for Book Arts to create your handmade recipe book to keep track of your favorite foods! Your creativity will let you explore the joy of printmaking and food papermaking after making your recipe book.





SUMMER WRITING CAMP

SY0051 Summer Writing Camp for Kids Ages 9–11

Special fee for a full-day, week-long creative writing camp: \$420;

Member Price: \$378; Low-Income Price: \$294

Find Your Magic! | JANE SNELL COPES

July 18–22; 9–10:30 a.m.

You love to read *Harry Potter*, *Narnia*, *Inkheart*, *Artemis Fowl*, and so many more magical tales. Find your own magic in a writing class that celebrates your love of these great settings and characters. What makes them so popular? How do authors keep track of all the plot strands? Could you imagine a different ending? What if you could change one thing about a main character? You'll have a chance to start (or continue to work on) your own magical fantasy story or play, and we'll also look at a little "science magic" experiment every day. Join other readers and writers and feed your imagination!

Voices of the River | EMILY FREEMAN

July 18–22; 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

In this class, we will brainstorm and discuss the many elements—both natural and human-made—that make up the Mississippi River. Students will learn the fundamentals of fiction writing by completing a number of short writing exercises from the perspective of one or more of the river's elements (e.g., a tugboat operator, a Canada goose, the river itself). You will tell the story of the Mississippi through multiple voices. Class will include an investigative field trip to the river, where students will try to see the river with new eyes, taking notes or making sketches to help deepen their observations and creative process.

Lunch break and supervised free time

12:15–1:00 p.m.

(This can include a picnic, free play at Gold Medal Park, a walk along the riverfront on the cobblestoned pedestrian street near the Guthrie, and other outdoor group activities!)

Animal Songs and Stories | MERYL DEPASQUALE

July 18–22; 1–2:30 p.m.

If the finned, feathered, and furry world captures your imagination this class is for you! We will write stories and poems that draw on animal characters and the relationship between humans and animals. For inspiration we'll explore the behavior of our pets, memories and dreams, traditional folktales, and animal poems. In addition to writing about animals, we will also create arts and crafts projects that celebrate our pawed, clawed, hooved, and web-footed friends.

Experiments with Water, Paper, and Words | JANE SNELL COPES

July 18–22; 2:45–4:15 p.m.

You are already a writer and a scientist! Get your “writing feet” wet with watery science experiments and fun writing activities. We'll make paper and ink, look through a water-drop magnifier, use paper chromatography to investigate marker inks, and even try writing underwater. You'll practice writing step-by-step directions to illustrate a book or cartoon strip, expand a tiny idea into a whole poem or story, and experiment with writing in a group. In this class you can dip your toes into several styles of writing and illustrating. Your words will flow in endless streams!

SY0052 | Writing, Designing, and Distributing Your Own Zines | HOLLY DAY

For young writers ages 9–11 | July 25–29; 9–10:30 a.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Many professional magazines, including *Venus*, *Rolling Stone*, *Raygun*, and *XLR8R*, got their start as tiny homemade zines. In this class, students will have the opportunity to design and construct a “perzine” (personal zine), “fanzine” (magazine based on music or genre fandom), or “litazine” (literary magazine)—or all three. We'll talk about zine distributors, literary festivals, university- and organization-based zine archives and collections, and other places you can get your zine on display. We'll also look at zine culture on the Internet and discuss web-based publications. Copy fee of \$5 payable to the teaching artist.

SY0053 | A Smart Girl's Guide to Writing Stories | KATE ST. VINCENT VOGL

For young writers ages 9–11 | August 8–12; 9–10:30 a.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Are you the kind of girl who can tell stories that keep your friends on the edge of their sleeping bags? Maybe you'd like to write newspaper stories like Kit; you've got an idea even better than the story about Percy or the one about Katniss, but you're just not sure about the best way to get all your ideas down on paper. This class will show you how, imagination required! First, we'll explore different ways to generate story ideas and write them down. Then we'll see how to shape those ideas into a story. Dissecting story starters, endings, and dialogue, we'll look at what makes a good character great and what keeps readers coming back for more. This “Smart Guide” offers the tricks of the trade you need to know. One thing is for sure: if Snoopy can, so can you!

SY0054 | Making Fiction Magical with Poetic Elements

MARION GOMEZ & CARY YANG | For young writers ages 9–11; August 8–12; 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Did you know that poems were invented to tell stories? The story's origins are oral; rhythm and rhyme were used in epic tales as memory aids. Today's great fiction writers still use poetic elements to make their writing come to life.

In this class we'll read and practice how writers use poetic elements such as sensory images, similes, metaphors, and dramatic monologues to create their fictional worlds and give their characters voice. Since this class will be cotaught, students will have access to one-on-one conferences and a collaborative teaching environment. Students' work will then be compiled into an anthology they can show the world, or just their closest friends. Copy fee of \$5 payable to the teaching artists.

SY0055 | Fairy Tales and Myths: Write Your Own Story | MARIE OLOFSDOTTER

For young writers ages 9–12 | August 8–12; 1–2:30 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; member price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

In this workshop we will explore the timeless territory of fairy tales and myths. Students will record the hair-raising adventures of a main character, the hero, who sets out on a magical journey to save a troubled kingdom and encounters a myriad of animals, villains, and mystical beings in the process. Participants will invent their own settings, characters, and plots.

SY0056 | The Story Beneath the Surface: Writing Your Way into the World of Visual Art | JUDE NUTTER | For young writers ages 9–11 | August 15–19;

9–10:30 a.m. | Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Have you ever wondered what it would feel like to step *inside* a painting or sculpture? What would you tell us if you were suddenly the color blue? What story would you tell if you were one of the water lilies in a picture by the artist Monet? During this class we will look at and talk about the ways in which writers (many of them your own age) use the visual arts to inspire their poetry. By using your observational and descriptive skills, shape-shifting into a color or character in a painting, or even becoming the artist telling the story behind the work, you will write poems that bring to life the world and the story you see in a variety of artworks. The options are endless: come and discover just some of the many ways you can use art to inspire stories and the poet within. Copy fee of \$2 payable to the teaching artist.

SY0057 | Do YOU Want to Be a Writer? | PETER BLAU

For young writers ages 9–11 | August 15–19; 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Have you ever wondered what a writer does all day? In this class you *will be* writers. You will begin by writing about yourselves in journals and discover how to turn your words into stories and poems. You will learn about writers and their work, and Peter will share his ideas about how writing can be exciting and fun. Exercises will expand creativity and open up the writer in you. Most of the class will be group activities, but there will also be time for individual help. Peter will bring the supplies; all you need to bring is your imagination.

6-8

CLASSES FOR KIDS (6-8 YRS)

let your
imagination soar!



SY0058 | Let Your Imagination Soar! | KATHY CLOCK
A LOFT/MCBA COMBO CLASS

For young writers 6-8 | June 20–24; 9 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Special Price: \$255.00; Loft and MCBA members: \$229.50

The Lake Creature is back! Like Bigfoot and the Loch Ness Monster, she's larger than life and only a stone's throw away! Her name is Minne, and she lives in the Minneapolis lakes. In this joint class, the Lake Creature will help us fire up our imaginations and create our own art. The first half of each class is devoted to story art, imagining things about Minne: Why is she here? Who are her friends? Does she have a family? What does she dream about? Using word play and games, we'll build our own larger-than-life vocabularies. We'll try out different story forms, and then create our own Lake Creature stories. But wait, there's more. At Minnesota Center for Book Arts, you can create your own long pop-up accordion book about your lake creature, express your vision with monster pressure prints, and enjoy creature-shaped handmade paper. This class is a collaboration between the Loft and The Minneapolis Parks Foundation.

SY0059 | Use Your Imagination | NANCY CARLSON

For young writers ages 6-8 | June 20–24; 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

In this fun filled class we'll create characters, get to know their inner workings, and put them in original stories. A perfect class for kids who love to draw and write. We will invent a character, introduce artwork, and the written word will bring it all to life! Once you know your character you will be ready to write a story! Come learn from an author who has published over 57 books and knows her characters (and imagination!). Copy fee of \$5 payable to the teaching artist.

SY0060 | Behold the Senses! | LISA BOLT SIMONS

For young writers ages 6–8 | June 27–July 1; 9–10:30 a.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

The ability to describe touch, sight, sound, smell, and taste is a vital part of making any written work come to life. In this hands-on class for young writers ages 6–8 years, we'll explore the details of each sense and then put our discoveries into words. After jump-starting both our perceptions and our pencils, we'll use every sense in a piece of writing—short story, poem, or essay—the young writers create. (Not recommended for children with severe allergies.) Please bring a set of primary colored pencils, a pencil or two, and paper or a notebook. Copy fee of \$1 payable to the teaching artist.

SY0061 | The Story Beneath the Surface: Writing Your Way into the World of Visual Art | JUDE NUTTER | For young writers 6–8 | July 11–15; 9–10:30 a.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; member price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Have you ever wondered what it would feel like to step *inside* a painting or sculpture? What would you tell us if you were suddenly the color blue? What story would you tell if you were one of the water lilies in a picture by the artist Monet, or if you were changed into the carving of a bird? During this class we will look at and talk about the ways in which writers (many of them your own age) use the visual arts to inspire their poetry. By using your observational and descriptive skills, shape-shifting into a color or character in a painting, or even becoming the artist telling the story behind the work, you will write poems that bring to life the world and the story you see in a variety of artworks. The options are endless: come and discover just some of the many ways you can use art to inspire stories and the poet within. Copy fee of \$2 payable to the teaching artist.

SY0063 | Poetry Party! | LINDA BACK MCKAY

For young writers ages 6–8 | July 25–29; 9–10:30 a.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

Who says poetry has to rhyme? Poetry is a wild pony, a mud puddle of words, a wide blue sky, a beautiful flower, a dancing pencil . . . and more! Poetry is all around us. This is a class for students who love to write and wish to discover more about poetry. We will study special poems and write our own, using the same tools that grown-up writers use. We'll act out a poem and maybe even sing! Bring sharp pencils and a spiral notebook to each class. Copy and materials fee of \$2 payable to the teaching artist.

SY0064 | Silly Stories | CARISSA TOBIN | A LOFT/MCBA COMBO CLASS

For young writers ages 6–8 | August 1–5; 1–4:15 p.m.

Special Price: \$255; Loft and MCBA members: \$229.50

Silly stories are fun to read and write. As a class, we'll read books like *No, David!* and *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus*, discuss how the authors make them funny, and then use them to model our own writing. We will focus on creativity and students will be encouraged to write and draw, with the support of the teacher, regardless of ability level. Our goal is to foster a love for writing while having fun with literature. Students will then continue the fun by taking their silly stories downstairs to Minnesota Center for Book Arts and turning them into real books. Join MCBA staff to explore pop-up bookmaking, creating silly prints, and paper pulp painting to create one-of-a-kind paper!



SUMMER WRITING CAMP

SY0062 | Summer Writing Camp for Kids Ages 6-8

For young writers ages 6–8 | Special fee for a half-day, week-long creative writing camp: \$240; Member Price: \$216; Low-Income Price: \$168

Silly Stories: Literary Mix-Ups and Mash-Ups | EMILY FREEMAN

July 18–22; 9–10:30 a.m.

What would happen if the Very Hungry Caterpillar had a toothache and couldn't eat? What if Little Red Riding Hood ran into the three little pigs on her way to her grandmother's house? How would it change the outcome of these stories? In this class, we'll stretch our imaginations to consider what might happen if our favorite stories were altered, amended, or just plain mixed-up. We'll read well-loved children's books both old and new, and then introduce plot or character elements to take the story in a whole new direction. Class meetings will consist of reading and writing, group brainstorming, and fun creative games meant to inspire and encourage a love of words in our little readers. All levels welcome, regardless of reading or writing skills. There will be something for everyone! Copy fee of \$2 payable to the teaching artist.

Do It, Read It, Write It! | JANE SNELL COPES

July 18–22; 10:45 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Harold and the Purple Crayon and *Bartholomew and the Oobleck* are coming to our class! Do you like mixing colors? Would you like to learn to UN-mix colors? Do you like gooey stuff and changing colors? In this class, you get to try some artful science experiments, and then read a picture book related to the experiment. Then you'll get to draw, write, paint, and make something to take home to remind you of the fun.

Lunch and supervised playtime at Gold Medal Park

12:15–1:00 p.m. weather permitting; indoor story time if rainy); you can pick your child up at 1 p.m. at the Loft!

SY0065 | Superheroes! Dramatic Storytelling and Theater Games

KRISTIN FITZSIMMONS | For young writers ages 6–8; August 8–12

9–10:30 a.m. | Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

In this fun-filled active class, we'll play theater games to help us get into a story's drama and action. We'll talk about our favorite superheroes and the elements that go into creating a superhero character and story. Then we'll sit down and create some drama on the page. Our final project will be a collaborative storybook where the students will take the starring roles as authors, illustrators, and dramatic readers. Copy fee of \$5 payable to the teaching artist.

SY0066 | Use Your Imagination | NANCY CARLSON

For young writers ages 6–8 | August 15–19; 9–10:30 a.m.

Regular Price: \$116.25; Member Price: \$104.63; Low-Income Price: \$81.37

In this fun-filled class we'll create characters, get to know their inner workings, and put them in original stories. A perfect class for kids who love to draw and write. We will invent a character, introduce artwork, and the written word will bring it all to life! Once you know your character you will be ready to write a story! Come learn from an author who has published over 57 books and knows her characters (and imagination!). Copy fee of \$5 payable to the teaching artist.



your teaching artists

SEE WWW.LOFT.ORG for additional information about the following teaching artists, editors, and literary agents.

MECHELLE AVEY wrote her first story in junior high school. A fashionista at heart, she is the owner of Kidzperience, Incorporated, a company that provides educational enrichment programs for local schools and community education programs. Ms. Avey recently completed a five-year contract with the South Washington County School District during which she coordinated and administered a global arts program directed to fourth- through sixth- grade students. She is also the artist in residence for the As Written By Teen Writers Program. This is the fourth year of the youth writing program, which meets at both Apple Valley High School and the Loft.


LINDA BACK MCKAY is a poet, author, and teaching artist. She is a longtime instructor at the Loft as well as a roster artist with VSA Arts of Minnesota, the South Dakota Arts Council, and North Dakota Council on the Arts. *Choppers: Drive. Ride. Fly* and *Shadow Mothers: Stories of Adoption and Reunion* are two of her nonfiction books. *The Cockeyed Precision of Time* and *Ride That Full Tilt Boogie* are two of her poetry collections. A new poetry collection is forthcoming from Nodin Press. Linda loves working with young people and especially enjoys helping new writers blossom.

JEANNE BAIN has helped young people tell their stories in hospice programs, the juvenile justice system, and in school and group homeschool settings. Her *Car Free Family* blog was featured in *Mpls/St. Paul* magazine and named Editor's Choice by Best Green Blogs. Her work has also been featured in *Minnesota Women's Press*, *American Buddhist Net*, and on KFAI: Radio Without Boundaries.

PETER BLAU works with a diverse group of students in Twin Cities school districts. He enjoys opening up the writing process to beginning and reluctant writers and focuses on using writing as a pathway to creativity and imagination. Peter's primary teaching goal is to make writing approachable to all of his students.

LISA BOLT SIMONS has been a licensed teacher for almost 15 years, working with students from age five to 70. She has taught adult basic education and high school English but has worked as an elementary English as a Second Language (ESL) teacher the last eight years. She has lived in Mexico, Italy, and Japan. Her publications include four nonfiction children's books and various articles in journals and magazines, including *Minnesota Parent* and *Minnesota Monthly*. She speaks some Spanish, can recognize Japanese, and is trying to learn Somali.

SALLY BORGEN loves teaching and the opportunity to encourage adults and young people to "let the words roll from your head, down your arm and onto the paper." She has worked for the Minneapolis Public School System for many years as a librarian, technologist, administrator, and writing teacher and is now retired.



EMILY BRISSE has taught creative writing in high schools for seven years, and recently earned her MFA in fiction writing from Vermont College of Fine Arts. Her short fiction, poems, and essays have been published or are forthcoming in *Orion*, *New Plains Review*, *Third Wednesday*, *Dust and Fire*, *A View from the Loft*, and elsewhere. She enjoys all things outdoors (check out her blog for proof: www.landingoncloudywater.blogspot.com), and loves to share her passion for it and for the literary arts with both eager and reluctant writers. Her teaching goal is to make writing accessible to each of her students.

NANCY CARLSON has been writing and illustrating for children for over 30 years; she has 61 published books. Nancy is a guest author in schools and libraries all over the country. She has even spoken at schools in Saudi Arabia. This is Nancy's third year teaching at the Loft and she loves it. Nancy also teaches at Minneapolis College of Art and Design. When Nancy is not writing and illustrating books or teaching, she loves to ride her bike and eat cookies.

KATHY CLOCK is a freelance writer, Loft scholar, and teaching artist. A former Montessori teacher with a graduate degree in psychology, she has a passion for children, children's creative processes, and children's literature. Kathy's articles about children and youth have been featured in publications by the YMCA of Greater Saint Paul.

BEN CONNELLY is a singer-songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, producer, and educator with 10 years' teaching experience and seven CDs of his own songs. His songs have been internationally released and featured on commercial, public, and college radio nationwide, as well as in films and on television. In his work he brings a strong sense of the history of song together with a knowledge of new ideas to bear on making music that is true to both the mysteries of the internal world and the realities of the outer world. Educating, writing, and performing are all expressions of his desire to communicate and encourage communication on emotional, intellectual, and spiritual levels

PATRICIA CUMBIE'S short stories and essays for teens and adults have been published in numerous journals and anthologies. Her writing has been supported by The Loft Literary Center's Fiction Mentor Series, a SASE/Jerome Fellowship, a Loft Career Initiative grant, and a Minnesota State Arts Board Fellowship. She was also nominated for inclusion in *Best New American Voices* and recently received the Carol Bly Award for Nonfiction for her essay "Finishing School" from Bemidji State University. Her young adult novel, *Where People Like Us Live*, is her first book. The Children's Cooperative Book Center named it one of their "Choices" for their best-of YA fiction list for 2009. Booklist reviewer Michael Cort said, "[Cumbie's] characters have a dignity and innate courage that readers will not soon forget."

RHEA DAVISON-EDWARDS is in her second year of an MFA program at Minnesota State University, Mankato. Having taught freshmen composition at the college level for two years, she is familiar with the skills the ACT and SAT tests are designed to measure. She enjoys reading and writing nonfiction, fiction, and poetry. This is her second summer teaching at the Loft, and she is excited to return and meet more students and writers!

your teaching artists

HOLLY DAY has worked as a freelance writer, indexer, and editor for more than 20 years, with over 7,000 published articles, poems, and short stories and eight published books—most recently, *Walking Twin Cities* (Wilderness Press), *Music Theory for Dummies* (John Wiley & Sons), and *Music Composition for Dummies* (John Wiley & Sons). She has interviewed such subjects as Marvel Comics' Stan Lee, inventor Dr. Robert Moog, musician Iggy Pop, and poet Ed Sanders. Her work has been nominated for a National Magazine Award, an Isaac Asimov Award, and Dzanc Books' Best of the Web Award.

MERYL DEPASQUALE'S creative work and reviews have appeared or are forthcoming in *CT Review*, *Midway Journal*, and *American Poetry Journal*. Meryl holds an MFA from the University of Minnesota and received an Artist Initiative grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board. She is a participant in the MCBA/Jerome Foundation Book Arts Mentorship Program.

KRISTIN FITZSIMMONS is currently an MFA candidate at the University of Minnesota. She has worked as an AmeriCorps volunteer in a family literacy program in Chicago, teaching English as a Second Language for adults and in the summer. She has also worked as a preschool teacher for children ages 3–4, an English teacher to middle school students in France, and on a nature preserve as a guide for school groups.

JACQUELYN FLETCHER is a freelance writer and an award-winning author of nonfiction books and articles. She has written a trilogy for young readers that her agent will be shopping to publishers soon.

EMILY FREEMAN has an MFA in creative writing from the University of Minnesota. She's worked extensively with youth over the years as a teacher, camp counselor, and nanny. She's published both fiction and nonfiction, and written about food for *Edible Twin Cities*.

JACQUIE FULLER is a published poet and fiction writer, and creator of the website HowIFoundYou.com. She received her MFA in fiction from New Mexico State University, and taught Chicano studies at the University of Minnesota for three years. She currently works for Minnesota Public Radio and is the host of *Teenage Kicks*, the Saturday morning retro music show on 89.3 The Current.

PHILIP FULLER completed his MFA in creative writing at the University of Minnesota in 2008, where he taught courses in fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction. In addition to writing short stories and novels in conventional formats, he is using his training in drawing to explore illustrated forms.

MARION GOMEZ has served as an Americorps-Vista volunteer for America Reads, tutoring elementary schoolchildren, was a recipient of a Minnesota State Arts Board Cultural Community Partnership grant to mentor immigrant and Latino youth in poetry, and has organized youth poetry and spoken word events. She was a 2008 Loft Mentor Series participant in poetry as well as an Artist Intern for Intermedia Arts' Espejos Program for emerging Latino artists.

JESSICA HARMAN is an author who writes autobiographies, poetry, sudden fiction, and essays. Her poetry has appeared in *Nimrod*, *Spillway*, *Bellevue Literary Review*, *Tryst*, *Stand*, *Arion*, and other journals. Her essays on literature and writing, as well as her artwork, have appeared in publications in the U.K, Canada, and the United States. She has been journaling for a long time, and although she keeps her journals private, her personal writings influence the content of her other writing. She hopes always to keep the focus on the creative process, and not necessarily on the outcome or a finished product.

KATIE LEO earned her MFA in creative writing from the University of Minnesota. Her poetry, essays, and articles have appeared in *Water-Stone Review*, *Asian American Poetry & Writing*, and *Minnesota Women's Press*. Her plays have been produced by Stages Theatre, Mu Performing Arts, and MaMa mOsAiC, and her monologues have been published in anthologies by Smith & Kraus and Heinemann. As an actor she has worked with the Guthrie, the History Theater, and Theater Mu, among others. She currently teaches at St. Catherine University and MCTC.

JOAN LINCK started her career in the technology field where her published works include technical and marketing-oriented articles, user manuals, and web pages. She now writes for a number of arts-related nonprofits but has the most fun writing plays (and creating props) for middle schools, writing fiction and nonfiction for elementary and middle school students, and helping students find their inner writer. This is Joan's fifth year teaching at the Loft.

CHRISTINA LUNDBERG enjoys guiding and coaching students through poetry, fiction, and essay writing. She earned her MFA from Naropa University, where she dove into writing both poetry and fiction. Currently, she is a writing instructor at Hennepin Technical College and a private writing tutor. Nurturing creative expression, Christina realizes the importance of each moment as a brand-new and fleeting opportunity; therefore, she encourages writers to use the momentum of the moment—to write what comes up before second thoughts come along and hinder the process. This is her fifth year teaching Loft youth.

CARRIE MESROBIAN has worked as a teacher in both public and private schools; her work has appeared in the *Star Tribune*, *Brain*, *Child* magazine, *Calyx*, and other Web and print publications. She is a student at the Rainier Writing Workshop and lives in Columbia Heights with her husband and daughter.

JEFF NEIDT graduated with honors from St. Olaf College, obtaining degrees in English and political science with a concentration in creative writing. He is finishing his MEd at the University of Minnesota in English education. Currently, he is a tenure-track teacher at Forest Lake High School, teaching creative writing and college composition. In addition, he has taught creative writing at the University of Paderborn in Germany, North St. Paul High School, and Irondale High School. In two years he will pursue his MFA at the University of Alabama. His work has appeared in various publications, including *Alive* magazine, *Artist-At-Large*, the *Reed*, the *Hill*, *Manitou*, and *St. Olaf Review*. His first book, a collection of trivia on Minnesota, was published by Blue Bike Books.

your teaching artists


JUDE NUTTER was born in North Yorkshire, England, and grew up in northern Germany. Her poems have appeared in numerous national and international journals, and she is the recipient of several awards and grants. Her first book-length collection, *Pictures of the Afterlife* (Salmon Poetry, Ireland), was published in 2002. *The Curator of Silence* (University of Notre Dame Press), her second collection, won the Ernest Sandeen Prize from the University of Notre Dame and was awarded the 2007 Minnesota Book Award in Poetry. Her third collection, *I Wish I Had A Heart Like Yours, Walt Whitman* (University of Notre Dame Press), was awarded the 2010 Minnesota Book Award in Poetry and was voted Poetry Book of the Year by *ForeWord Reviews*. She has been living and teaching in Minnesota since 1998.

MARIE OLOFSDOTTER is an interdisciplinary artist and writer. Born and raised in Sweden, she has lived in Minneapolis since 1982. Marie has written and illustrated several children's books and is the recipient of a Mid-America Publishers Award and a Midwest Book Achievement Award. Other awards include a Minnesota Book Award and grants from the Minnesota State Arts Board and the Jerome Foundation. Marie's most recent title, *A Picture Book of Cesar Chavez*, was released by Holiday House, New York, in 2010. Marie has been working as a teaching artist and creative consultant for more than 20 years. For more information visit www.marieolofsdotter.com.

ROXANNE SADOVSKY is a Twin Cities freelance writer and teacher who facilitates creative workshops to foster personal and community wellness. She recently earned her MFA from the University of Minnesota. Before she became a writer, she lived in Seattle and worked as a family and adolescent psychotherapist; needless to say, Sadovsky loves the creativity, passion, and personal discovery found working with anyone who doesn't entirely fit into the mainstream!

KATHRYN SAVAGE is currently an MFA candidate at the Bennington College Creative Writing and Literature program. She has a BA in liberal arts/creative writing from New School University in New York and a background in independent film development and copy writing. In the Twin Cities area, she has worked with Intermedia Arts, teaching adolescent creative writing courses as a S.A.S.E. Wings Writing Mentor and cofacilitator of Young Writers, a bimonthly writing program for teens. She's been published in the *Village Voice*, the *Star Tribune*, *City Pages*, and *Evergreen Review*, among others. Current projects include a screenplay and a short story collection.

JENNY SIMMONDS has been a Loft instructor for over 7 years and looks forward to teaching every summer. She loves to write, read, play outdoors, and hang out with kids. Jenny is the program director at Youth Grief Services, a non-profit program that supports grieving children, youth and families. She is also an adjunct faculty at the University of Minnesota in the Youth Studies Department. She has written two books, *Children in Change* and *Keep the Peace*.



JANE SNELL COPES is a writer and scientist, a teacher and inventor. She is also very enthusiastic about writing with and for youth. She has written directions and explanations for Science Museum of Minnesota exhibits, a project book called *Let's Try It . . . and See What Happens!*, and articles about the science in the Harry Potter series. You may have met her teaching science/art/engineering classes at Leonardo's Basement, Minnesota Institute for Talented Youth, Urban Arts Academy, or the Science Museum. She is owner of Science Outside the Box, a tiny company that brings science FUN to YOU. Jane is working on a book called *Playing with Your Food*.

EMILY SOHN moved to the Twin Cities in 2001 to join a globe-trotting expedition team called the Quests. Along with a multimedia production crew, she filed reports, videos, and images from remote locations that included the Peruvian Amazon, Turkey, and Cuba. Hundreds of thousands of students in classrooms around the world followed the team's adventures online and helped direct their trips. As a freelance journalist, Emily has written hundreds of news and feature articles for *Science News* magazine's website for kids (sciencenewsforkids.org). She's written a bunch of science-themed books and graphic novels for young people. Her credits also include science and health articles for grown-up publications, such as *U.S. News & World Report*, *Smithsonian*, the *Los Angeles Times*, *Backpacker*, *Outside*, *Wildlife Conservation*, *Science News*, and *Minnesota Monthly*.

TOM SPENCE is a youth programs instructor at the Minnesota Center for Book Arts as well as a freelance illustrator. He graduated from the College of Visual Arts in 2005 with a BFA in illustration. He has produced his own minicomics since then and is currently at work on a full-length graphic novel.

KATE ST. VINCENT VOGL is the author of *Lost & Found: A Memoir of Mothers* and is shopping a collection of children's stories. Vogl has been honored as Distinguished Faculty at the University of Phoenix and as an Outstanding Girl Scout Leader for Minnesota's largest scout region. Her fiction has twice garnered an Honorable Mention in the Lorian Hemingway Short Story Competition. She graduated from Cornell University cum laude and from the University of Michigan Law School.

CARISSA TOBIN teaches bilingual kindergarten in Minneapolis and teaches youth and teen classes at the Loft. She aims to create an exploratory environment where students express their creativity through writing and feel comfortable sharing their work with others.

CARY YANG is a veteran classroom teacher of the Twin Cities area. She has worked in primary and intermediate grades for the past 10 years. Her interest in writing was sparked in her first years of teaching with St. Paul Public Schools and doing intense training for two years centered on Writer's Workshop. This has led her to develop and craft genre units for elementary students as well as take another look at her role as a writer.



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