



Novel Writing Project 2017 Student Testimonials

“I enrolled in the first offering of the Novel Writing Project with Peter Geye in 2017 and have found it to be the best course I have taken at the Loft. Peter does outstanding written and oral critiques, and the quality of his work inspires students to do their best. He has also proven to be the most supportive writer with whom I have ever worked at the Loft, and I have heard several students make the same comment. If you want to write a novel in a year, get excellent feedback, and learn about the quirks of the publishing world, the Novel Writing Project is an excellent choice.”

—Brian Duren

“Love this course! It is the best writing workshop I’ve attended. The weekly meetings provide the impetus for me to write, write, write, and get my novel done. The feedback from other participants is invaluable and Peter Geye is an amazing course facilitator and provides awesome encouragement and critiques.”

—Debra Blake

“Peter Geye is a terrific teacher. You will learn a lot, no matter how much you know now... Memorable experience! With Peter’s insights and a superb cohort offering thoughtful criticism, my writing improved beyond my hopes, in ways I did not know were needed.”

—Richard C.

“Thrilling experience—focus, depth and the exchange with peers has made my work what I hoped for. The NWP had exceeded all expectations. I’ve gained a writing community of amazing people whose feedback on my project has been indispensable. I would not be at the point where I am with this project close to completion, without this program.

A great experience. Peter and my classmates were strong motivations to complete my long-delayed novel. The project provided the tools and concepts necessary to finish a first novel.”

—Christopher Johnston



“Peter Geye’s novel writing project has helped to up-my-game in fiction writing. The interaction with fellow students all working toward the same goal moved me to understand my craft more and get to the next level. And Peter himself has great insight into what works. Finally, Peter brings to class heavy weights in the publishing field—access usually impossible. All-in-all the class is like a mini MFA in novel writing.”

—Kurt Johnson

“The NWP helped me to claim a space for writing in my life. In many ways, it gave the voice I was looking for to tell my truths. Was it worth the time and investment? Absolutely!

The NWP has succeeded largely because of Peter Geye’s commitment to his students. I have taken courses from many writers at the Loft, but no one has been as supportive of his students’ careers as Peter has.

A company of writers, a distinguished coach and writer, a goal both within reach and a stretch. NWP provides an opportunity—and requires a commitment—or disciplined amateur writers to accomplish a lifetime goal.

The Loft NWP gives you extended time to focus on your project with a committed group of writers. Longer projects require this work and this supportive environment. There is no other program that gives you this space, guidance, and feedback, or access to the writing process and publishing industry to finish your draft with this class.

I probably should have been able to do what the NWP class has been doing on my own, but the fact is that the commitment and focus required by the class caused me to live in the world of my novel completely for this year. Insights in the shower, while driving and in dreaming were possible in a way that I hadn’t experienced before. Peter’s genuine encouragement and talented feedback allowed me to see my work from a different perspective. He balanced on the fine line of kindness and truth.”

—Coralee Grebe



“A full year long class has many tangible benefits—the NWP, taught by Peter Geye has helped my writing unmeasurably. It’s a huge commitment, but if you put in the work, your work will improve. Peter is an extraordinary talent, not only as a writer and insight to a shadowed world of writing, but most importantly he is a terrific teacher and a great guy.

The NWP promises almost everything a serious, committed writer dreams of: a gifted, committed long-form teacher, a cohort of fellows working for eachothers benefit, and down-and-dirty practical insights into not just the process, but the realities of the business of writing. A novelist willing to work hard should come out of this program with a manuscript at fighting weight and the gloves to go with it.

The novel program has provided me with the structure and the inspiration I needed to finally make headway on my creative work. The teacher’s approach is unique, refreshing and supportive. Knowing that my classmates have read my work as it’s developed has been especially valuable. A year is just the right length.

Until the NWP, my self-identification as a writer was little more than wishful thinking, desperate hope. This class gave me the teacher, the peers, and the opportunity I needed to finally get my story onto the page, and well. From idea, to writing, to revision and finally to a strong draft that I Feel proud and confident to send out to publishers and agents. I recommend this class to every aspiring writer. It’s worth every penny, every second of time you spend in workshop and in the act of writing.”

—Amber James