

CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE

4-Week: Writing Novels for Middle Grade

Kat Shepherd

	Time	
July 24, 2025- August 14, 2025	Thu, 07/24/2025 - 6:00pm - Thu, 08/14/2025 - 8:00pm	
Children's and Young Adult Literature		Adult

The world of middle grade is one of optimistic uncertainty. Middle graders, loosely defined as readers between the ages of 8 and 12, embrace their interests with unbridled intensity, even as those interests shift and change with a quickly evolving sense of self.

Writers of Middle Grade fiction must...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/4-week-writing-novels-middle-grade\]](https://loft.org/classes/4-week-writing-novels-middle-grade)

A Class for Writers of Color and Indigenous Writers: Writing Immersive Worlds and Authentic Cultural Representation in Children's Literature

Payal Doshi

	Time	
August 9, 2025	Sat, 08/09/2025 - 10:00am - Sat, 08/09/2025 - 2:00pm	Children's and Young Adult Literature
		Adult

Every writer needs to build the world their novel for children is set in, but how does one create a setting in which the reader can escape into and become fully immersed? One of the best methods is to weave details from lived experiences, including language, environment, and cultural background...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/class-writers-color-and-indigenous-writers-writing-immersive-worlds-and-authentic-cultural\]](https://loft.org/classes/class-writers-color-and-indigenous-writers-writing-immersive-worlds-and-authentic-cultural)

CREATIVE NONFICTION

Discovering the Lyric Essay: Writing Against the Norm in 4 Weeks

Alexis M. Wright

	Time	
July 23, 2025- August 13, 2025	Wed, 07/23/2025 - 6:00pm - Wed, 08/13/2025 - 8:00pm	Creative Nonfiction
		Adult

The essay, at its core, is an art form that resists strict definition—it is a space "to try," to explore, and to discover. The lyric essay takes this further, embracing a form that is often elusive, undefinable, and difficult to claim. But what if this elusiveness is a feature, not a flaw?

In this...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/discovering-lyric-essay-writing-against-norm-4-weeks\]](https://loft.org/classes/discovering-lyric-essay-writing-against-norm-4-weeks)

Flash Nonfiction Generator

Lizzie Lawson

	Time	
July 26, 2025	Sat, 07/26/2025 - 1:00pm - Sat, 07/26/2025 - 4:00pm	Creative Nonfiction
		Adult

Read and write tiny personal essays in this three-hour flash creative nonfiction generator. Writing in the short form (1,000 words or less) can be a great way to energize and focus your words. Learn to create lasting depth and impact in a small space with the help of craft techniques, flash...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/flash-nonfiction-generator\]](https://loft.org/classes/flash-nonfiction-generator)

Nonfiction Book Proposal Writing Intensive

Rachel Werner

July 31, 2025 | Time
Thu, 07/31/2025 - 10:00am - Thu, 07/31/2025 - 3:00pm | Creative Nonfiction | Adult

A nonfiction book proposal details how your book idea has market appeal. It acts as a business case or business plan for your book that persuades a publisher to make an investment in you and your project. If a publisher is convinced by your argument, it will then contract you and pay you to write...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/nonfiction-book-proposal-writing-intensive\]](https://loft.org/classes/nonfiction-book-proposal-writing-intensive)

Writing Birds

Greta Gaard

August 2, 2025 | Time
Sat, 08/02/2025 - 10:00am - Sat, 08/02/2025 - 1:00pm | Creative Nonfiction | Adult

If you are wild about birds or just want to refine your skills of observation, "Writing Birds" will help you! In this three-hour workshop, we will use writing prompts to articulate our curiosities, emotions, and observations of birds, then read and respond in small peer groups.

And your writing...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/writing-birds\]](https://loft.org/classes/writing-birds)

Experimentation with Hybrid Memoir

Marianne Manzler

August 9, 2025 | Time
Sat, 08/09/2025 - 1:00pm - Sat, 08/09/2025 - 4:00pm | Creative Nonfiction | Adult

In this generative and interactive course, you'll consider a fresh perspective on your stories. We will examine, and examples of innovative and hybrid memoirs by Jen Soriano, Lia Purpura and Roxane Gay, engage in exercises that explore characterization, voice, and the flash essay. These experiments...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/experimentation-hybrid-memoir-1\]](https://loft.org/classes/experimentation-hybrid-memoir-1)

(August) Writing "My Story:" The Personal Essay for Scholarship and College Applications (for ages 15 to 18)

Mitchell LeGrand

August 12, 2025- August 15, 2025 | Time
Tue, 08/12/2025 - 9:00am - Fri, 08/15/2025 - 12:00pm | Creative Nonfiction | Youth

Welcome to the Loft's Summer Youth program at Open Book! Join us for 4 days of writing and creativity!

We all have stories we want to share with others! In this class, we'll explore the personal narrative, and how to tell our own stories in a compelling way. This will prepare you for upcoming...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/august-writing-my-story-personal-essay-scholarship-and-college-applications-ages-15-18\]](https://loft.org/classes/august-writing-my-story-personal-essay-scholarship-and-college-applications-ages-15-18)

Creative Incubator: The College Application Personal Statement Essay For Ages 15 to 18

Katie Miller

October 16, 2025- October 18, 2025 | Time
Thu, 10/16/2025 - 9:00am - Sat, 10/18/2025 - 12:00pm | Creative Nonfiction | Youth

When it comes to college application essays, the most polished ideas aren't always the most successful. You've probably heard enough advice to fill a book on what you should and should not write about when it comes to your personal statement. But often, your unformed, unexpected ideas can make for...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/creative-incubator-college-application-personal-statement-essay-ages-15-18\]](https://loft.org/classes/creative-incubator-college-application-personal-statement-essay-ages-15-18)

Loft After School Online: Cracking the College Essay

Savannah Brooks

November 6, 2025- December 4, 2025 | Time
Thu, 11/06/2025 - 4:00pm - Thu, 12/04/2025 - 6:00pm | Creative Nonfiction | Youth

In this class, we'll not only take on the dreaded college entrance essay, we'll also find ways to actually enjoy it. It can be easy to lean into accomplishments as subject matter, but there are so many different topics to write about and so many ways to write them! Over four weeks, we'll generate a...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/loft-after-school-online-cracking-college-essay\]](https://loft.org/classes/loft-after-school-online-cracking-college-essay)

Writing for Social Justice for Ages 12 to 14

Marianne Manzler

February 14, 2026 | Time
Sat, 02/14/2026 - 1:00pm - Sat, 02/14/2026 - 4:00pm | Creative Nonfiction | Youth

In this workshop, we'll use our words as tools for change. We'll examine the ways writers and writing can impact communities, and the role that writers and literature play in effecting social change and justice. By the end of the session, we'll have several new pieces of writing that reflect the...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/writing-social-justice-ages-12-14\]](https://loft.org/classes/writing-social-justice-ages-12-14)

CREATIVE PROCESS

Get into Character: Acting 101 for Writers Ages 12 to 14

John Schaidler

October 18, 2025 | Time
Sat, 10/18/2025 - 9:00am - Sat, 10/18/2025 - 12:00pm | Creative Process | Youth

Drawing on fundamental techniques of Method Acting, students learn to build great characters piece by piece. Each session focuses on one of Stanislavski's key principles, guiding students to create authentic heroes from "the inside out." Step into your protagonist's shoes; walk away with a proven...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/get-character-acting-101-writers-ages-12-14\]](https://loft.org/classes/get-character-acting-101-writers-ages-12-14)

FICTION

6-Week: Introduction to Fiction

Holly Day

July 16, 2025- August 20, 2025 | Time
Wed, 07/16/2025 - 6:00pm - Wed, 08/20/2025 - 8:00pm | Fiction | Adult

Learn to write fiction in a non-intimidating environment with fellow beginners. We'll cover important aspects of craft, including plot, structure, and characterization, while reading work that epitomizes well crafted story. Writers such as Octavia Butler, Min Jin Lee, Jamaica Kincaid, Orhan Pamuk...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/6-week-introduction-fiction-01\]](https://loft.org/classes/6-week-introduction-fiction-01)

6-Week: Beneath the Surface-Exploring Subtext

Allison Wyss

July 17, 2025- August 21, 2025 | Time
Thu, 07/17/2025 - 6:00pm - Thu, 08/21/2025 - 8:00pm | Fiction | Adult

Charles Baxter's The Art of Subtext: Beyond Plot examines those elements that propel readers beyond the plot of a novel or short story into the realm of what haunts the imagination: the implied, the half-visible, and the unspoken." It's an illuminating work on a tough subject. We'll pair each of...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/6-week-beneath-surface-exploring-subtext\]](https://loft.org/classes/6-week-beneath-surface-exploring-subtext)

4-Week: Start Writing Right Now

Tina Tocco

	Time	
July 29, 2025- August 19, 2025	Tue, 07/29/2025 - 6:00pm - Tue, 08/19/2025 - 8:00pm	Fiction Adult

Have you always wanted to try your hand at fiction writing, but never took the leap? Maybe you've put down your pen for a while and need a jumpstart. Come experiment in this low-stress, generative class! If you're thinking, "But I don't have any ideas," don't worry! We'll use fun prompts — music...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/4-week-start-writing-right-now\]](https://loft.org/classes/4-week-start-writing-right-now)

Revolution, Revelation, and Joy: A Class for Queer and Trans Writers

W.L. Bolm

	Time	
August 2, 2025	Sat, 08/02/2025 - 10:00am - Sat, 08/02/2025 - 2:00pm	Fiction Adult

This class explores creative non-fiction written by trans writers and containing themes that are underrepresented in traditional publishing and often written in unconventional forms. Students will discuss how to bring aspects of radical joy and vulnerability to their own writing.

The Loft's Queer...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/revolution-revelation-and-joy-class-queer-and-trans-writers\]](https://loft.org/classes/revolution-revelation-and-joy-class-queer-and-trans-writers)

Short Story: A to Z—Creative Short Story Writing for Ages 15 to 18

Troy Wilderson

	Time	
August 5, 2025- August 8, 2025	Tue, 08/05/2025 - 9:00am - Fri, 08/08/2025 - 12:00pm	Fiction Youth

Welcome back to Summer Youth at Open Book! We'll spend the week writing, reading, and building community.

At the start of the first class, there will be a discussion based on the pre-reading where we discuss what makes the story successful. Following will be a lecture about the essential components...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/short-story-z-creative-short-story-writing-ages-15-18\]](https://loft.org/classes/short-story-z-creative-short-story-writing-ages-15-18)

Elements of Fiction (for ages 15 to 18)

Alysandra Dutton

	Time	
August 5, 2025- August 8, 2025	Tue, 08/05/2025 - 1:00pm - Fri, 08/08/2025 - 4:00pm	Fiction Youth

Welcome to the Loft's Summer Youth program at Open Book! Join us for 4 days of writing and creativity!

You've got your story or novel idea. What's next?

You need to create detailed, interesting characters, and a plot that keeps the action moving!

Learn the ins and outs of writing fiction by...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/elements-fiction-ages-15-18\]](https://loft.org/classes/elements-fiction-ages-15-18)

Let's Write a Ghost Story (for ages 15 to 18)

Holly Day

	Time	
August 12, 2025- August 15, 2025	Tue, 08/12/2025 - 1:00pm - Fri, 08/15/2025 - 4:00pm	Fiction Youth

Welcome to the Loft's Summer Youth program at Open Book! Join us for 4 days of writing and creativity!

Do you like to tell scary stories? In this class, we'll discuss examples of ghost stories and talk about "real" haunted houses. Then we'll write our own stories based on our own haunted houses...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/lets-write-ghost-story-ages-15-18\]](https://loft.org/classes/lets-write-ghost-story-ages-15-18)

Nature Writing (for ages 15 to 18)

James Ellis

	Time	
August 12, 2025- August 15, 2025	Tue, 08/12/2025 - 1:00pm - Fri, 08/15/2025 - 4:00pm	Fiction Youth

This multi-genre class will investigate the centuries-long connection between the word and the natural world. How do you interpret nature? How do you connect to it? Is there a connection between human nature and the natural world?

In an age that further isolates us from the natural world, we will...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/nature-writing-ages-15-18\]](https://loft.org/classes/nature-writing-ages-15-18)

(August) Elements of Fiction: Put the STORY in Your Story (for ages 15 to 18)

Robert Voedisch

	Time	
August 12, 2025- August 15, 2025	Tue, 08/12/2025 - 1:00pm - Fri, 08/15/2025 - 4:00pm	Fiction Youth

Welcome to the Loft's Summer Youth program at Open Book! Join us for 4 days of writing and creativity!

Let's face it: Writing can be a frustrating—and frustratingly mysterious—process. What makes one story soar and another flop? Why do some characters leap off the page and into our hearts, while...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/august-elements-fiction-put-story-your-story-ages-15-18\]](https://loft.org/classes/august-elements-fiction-put-story-your-story-ages-15-18)

Imagining a Better World Through Speculative Fiction (September)

Cristeta Boarini

	Time	
September 20, 2025	Sat, 09/20/2025 - 10:00am - Sat, 09/20/2025 - 1:00pm	Fiction Adult

Speculative fiction pushes the students to imagine what could be. As the author Simon Sinek has said, "Before we build the world we want to live in, we have to imagine it."

This session will ask writers to push the boundaries of what they know to be possible by changing one small thing in our...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/imagining-better-world-through-speculative-fiction-september\]](https://loft.org/classes/imagining-better-world-through-speculative-fiction-september)

Loft After School Online: Introduction to Creative Writing for Teens

Savannah Brooks

	Time	
October 1, 2025- November 19, 2025	Wed, 10/01/2025 - 4:00pm - Wed, 11/19/2025 - 6:00pm	Fiction Youth

In this eight-week course, we'll break down four main areas of creative writing: articles, fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. We'll dedicate two classes to each one, spending the first class studying, reading, and discussing, and spending the second class generating, writing, and getting feedback. By...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/loft-after-school-online-introduction-creative-writing-teens\]](https://loft.org/classes/loft-after-school-online-introduction-creative-writing-teens)

Loft After School Online: Writing Hauntings & Horrors

Jesaka Long

	Time	
October 8, 2025- October 29, 2025	Wed, 10/08/2025 - 4:00pm - Wed, 10/29/2025 - 5:30pm	Fiction Youth

In this class, we'll use what haunts and horrifies us as the raw material to build our own ghosts, monsters, and unspeakable creatures on the page. We'll explore the differences between horror subgenres; how people around the globe develop and pass down their cultures' specific scary stories; and...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/loft-after-school-online-writing-hauntings-horrors\]](https://loft.org/classes/loft-after-school-online-writing-hauntings-horrors)

Loft After School Online: Write Because You Love It for Ages 15-18

Tina Tocco

	Time	
October 9, 2025- October 30, 2025	Thu, 10/09/2025 - 4:00pm - Thu, 10/30/2025 - 5:30pm	Fiction Youth

Do you love writing? Would you like to generate new work this fall, or maybe keep up with those projects you had so much time for over the summer? Are you looking for a community of other word-loving teens like yourself?

In this four-week workshop, you'll use prompts—objects, words, starter...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/loft-after-school-online-write-because-you-love-it-ages-15-18-0\]](https://loft.org/classes/loft-after-school-online-write-because-you-love-it-ages-15-18-0)

Loft After School Online: Writing the Perfect Haunted House Story for Ages 12-14 (Online)

Laura Walker

	Time	
October 11, 2025- November 1, 2025	Sat, 10/11/2025 - 1:00pm - Sat, 11/01/2025 - 3:00pm	Fiction Youth

It takes a lot of architectural know-how to build a house that people can actually live in—construction, plumbing, electricity, all sorts of expertise. In a similar way, it takes particular literary skill to build a haunted house where ghosts dwell and readers can lose themselves through creaky...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/loft-after-school-online-writing-perfect-haunted-house-story-ages-12-14-online\]](https://loft.org/classes/loft-after-school-online-writing-perfect-haunted-house-story-ages-12-14-online)

Character Design for Ages 9 to 11

Kelsey Daly

	Time	
October 16, 2025	Thu, 10/16/2025 - 1:00pm - Thu, 10/16/2025 - 4:00pm	Fiction Youth

"Come create your very own fantasy character alongside fellow fantasy and sci-fi writing peers!

You'll do writing exercise that make your character pop off the page and into your reader's heart. What are their motivations, surprising backstories, dreams, worries, and noteworthy fashion choices...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/character-design-ages-9-11\]](https://loft.org/classes/character-design-ages-9-11)

Creating Magical Worlds for Ages 15 to 18

Craig Noles

	Time	
October 18, 2025	Sat, 10/18/2025 - 9:00am - Sat, 10/18/2025 - 12:00pm	Fiction Youth

Do you want to be a writer? Learn how to create magical, fictional worlds that capture the imagination of your readers and keep them glued to the pages of your stories! This class will explore what magic is, the things you have to think through and explore when you create a fictional world, and how...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/creating-magical-worlds-ages-15-18-1\]](https://loft.org/classes/creating-magical-worlds-ages-15-18-1)

The Magic of a Fairy Tale: Write Your Own Story for Ages 9 to 11

Marie Olofsdotter

Time
October 18, 2025 | Sat, 10/18/2025 - 9:00am - Sat, 10/18/2025 - 12:00pm | Fiction | Youth

Students will record the hair-raising adventures of a main character, who sets out on a journey to save a troubled world, and along the way, encounters menacing villains and mystical beings. This class is perfect for anyone who loves to write and loves magic. Students discover the adventures as they...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/magic-fairy-tale-write-your-own-story-ages-9-11\]](https://loft.org/classes/magic-fairy-tale-write-your-own-story-ages-9-11)

Help! I Don't Know What to Write! for Ages 9 to 11

Holly Day

Time
October 18, 2025 | Sat, 10/18/2025 - 1:00pm - Sat, 10/18/2025 - 4:00pm | Fiction | Youth

Have you ever sat down to write a story and realized you have no idea how or where to start? In this class, we'll go over dozens of ways writers get their creative engines revved up and moving, from exercises in basic character formation and development to creating vivid scenes and scenarios for...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/help-i-dont-know-what-write-ages-9-11\]](https://loft.org/classes/help-i-dont-know-what-write-ages-9-11)

Goblins, Ghosts & Ghouls: A Spooky Story Workshop for Ages 9 to 11

Kat Shepherd

Time
October 25, 2025 | Sat, 10/25/2025 - 9:00am - Sat, 10/25/2025 - 12:00pm | Fiction | Youth

What makes a spooky story give us those spine-tingling thrills and chills? In this workshop we'll use games and activities to explore the building blocks of horror: atmospheric settings, compelling monsters and villains, high stakes, and flawed protagonists that drive the story forward. Writers will...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/goblins-ghosts-ghouls-spooky-story-workshop-ages-9-11\]](https://loft.org/classes/goblins-ghosts-ghouls-spooky-story-workshop-ages-9-11)

Pick-a-Path Story Workshop for Ages 9 to 11

Kat Shepherd

Time
October 25, 2025 | Sat, 10/25/2025 - 1:00pm - Sat, 10/25/2025 - 4:00pm | Fiction | Youth

Interactive book series keep readers turning the pages because the story changes every time. Every decision the reader makes takes the plot through unexpected twists and turns that lead to a host of exciting new endings. And writing them is even more fun than reading them! This workshop offers the...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/pick-path-story-workshop-ages-9-11-01\]](https://loft.org/classes/pick-path-story-workshop-ages-9-11-01)

Creating Magical Worlds for Ages 15 to 18

Craig Noles

Time
February 14, 2026 | Sat, 02/14/2026 - 9:00am - Sat, 02/14/2026 - 12:00pm | Fiction | Youth

Do you want to be a writer? Learn how to create magical, fictional worlds that capture the imagination of your readers and keep them glued to the pages of your stories! This class will explore what magic is, the things you have to think through and explore when you create a fictional world, and how...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/creating-magical-worlds-ages-15-18-01\]](https://loft.org/classes/creating-magical-worlds-ages-15-18-01)

Pick-a-Path Story Workshop for Ages 9 to 11

Kat Shepherd

February 14, 2026 | Time
Sat, 02/14/2026 - 1:00pm - Sat, 02/14/2026 - 4:00pm | Fiction | Youth

Interactive book series keep readers turning the pages because the story changes every time. Every decision the reader makes takes the plot through unexpected twists and turns that lead to a host of exciting new endings. And writing them is even more fun than reading them! This workshop offers the...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/pick-path-story-workshop-ages-9-11\]](https://loft.org/classes/pick-path-story-workshop-ages-9-11)

Writing Short Stories for Ages 12 to 14

Kat Shepherd

March 21, 2026 | Time
Sat, 03/21/2026 - 9:00am - Sat, 03/21/2026 - 12:00pm | Fiction | Youth

Do you want to be a writer? Learn how to create magical, fictional worlds that capture the imagination of your readers and keep them glued to the pages of your stories! This class will explore what magic is, the things you have to think through and explore when you create a fictional world, and how...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/writing-short-stories-ages-12-14\]](https://loft.org/classes/writing-short-stories-ages-12-14)

MULTIGENRE

2025 Loft Youth Writing Intensive: Ages 14 To 18

Holly Day Shannon Gibney Dralandra Larkins Michael Gorrie

July 29, 2025- August 1, 2025 | Time
Tue, 07/29/2025 - 9:30am - Fri, 08/01/2025 - 3:30pm | Multigenre | Youth

The Loft's Summer Youth Writing Intensive for Ages 14-18 is led by acclaimed and published writers. These teaching artists are experts in their field! Over the course of four days, students will gain new insights into the craft of writing. (Application link is below.)

This class consists of...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/2025-loft-youth-writing-intensive-ages-14-18\]](https://loft.org/classes/2025-loft-youth-writing-intensive-ages-14-18)

Dark Hauntings: Bending Boundaries in Writing (for ages 12 to 14)

Kelsey Daly Amy Sailer

August 5, 2025- August 8, 2025 | Time
Tue, 08/05/2025 - 9:00am - Fri, 08/08/2025 - 4:00pm | Multigenre | Youth

Welcome to the Loft's Summer Youth program at Open Book! Join us for 4 days of writing and creativity!

SESSION 1:
CREATE YOUR OWN FANTASY OR SCI-FI WORLD USING CRAFTS
(for ages 12 to 14, with Kelsey Daly)

Build a unique and spectacular fantasy world from the ground up!

During our first 3...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/dark-hauntings-bending-boundaries-writing-ages-12-14\]](https://loft.org/classes/dark-hauntings-bending-boundaries-writing-ages-12-14)

Story Explorers for Ages 9 to 11

Holly Day Kat Shepherd

	Time	
August 12, 2025- August 15, 2025	Tue, 08/12/2025 - 9:00am - Fri, 08/15/2025 - 4:00pm	Multigenre Youth

Welcome back to Summer Youth at Open Book! Join us for a week of writing and all day creativity!

-Session 1: Help! I Don't Know What to Write! for Ages 9 to 11 with Holly Day

Have you ever sat down to write a story and realized you have no idea how or where to start? In this class, we'll go over...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/story-explorers-ages-9-11\]](https://loft.org/classes/story-explorers-ages-9-11)

Writing a Better World for Ages 12 to 14

Marianne Manzler Court Ludwick

	Time	
August 12, 2025- August 15, 2025	Tue, 08/12/2025 - 9:00am - Fri, 08/15/2025 - 4:00pm	Multigenre Youth

Welcome back to Summer Youth at Open Book! Join us for a week of writing and all day creativity!

-Session 1: Alternate Histories for Ages 12 to 14 with Marianne Manzler

In this workshop, the students will collaborate on a group novella that takes place in an alternate history. We will discuss...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/writing-better-world-ages-12-14\]](https://loft.org/classes/writing-better-world-ages-12-14)

2025 Teen Writing Project (September Start-Minneapolis)

Robert Voedisch

	Time	
September 18, 2025- December 11, 2025	Thu, 09/18/2025 - 4:30pm - Thu, 12/11/2025 - 6:00pm	Multigenre Youth

This semester-long class is for students who are serious about writing and are ready to take their fiction to the next level. Most of our time in class will be spent discussing your work, helping you make your fiction the best it can be.

The teaching artist will point out areas in your manuscript...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/2025-teen-writing-project-september-start-minneapolis\]](https://loft.org/classes/2025-teen-writing-project-september-start-minneapolis)

Loft After School Online: Genre Games-Sci-fi Sonnets, Fantasy Flash Fiction, and Horror Haikus

Madelyn Dietz

	Time	
October 2, 2025- October 23, 2025	Thu, 10/02/2025 - 4:00pm - Thu, 10/23/2025 - 5:30pm	Multigenre Youth

Do you have a yearning to write but aren't sure where to start or how to proceed? Are you filled with so many story ideas that you have trouble capturing them all? Do you want to expand your shorter stories into longer, more elaborate one? This class is perfect for the imaginative student who wants...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/loft-after-school-online-genre-games-sci-fi-sonnets-fantasy-flash-fiction-and-horror-haikus\]](https://loft.org/classes/loft-after-school-online-genre-games-sci-fi-sonnets-fantasy-flash-fiction-and-horror-haikus)

Scene Writing For Ages 12 to 14

Kat Shepherd

	Time	
February 14, 2026	Sat, 02/14/2026 - 9:00am - Sat, 02/14/2026 - 12:00pm	Multigenre Youth

A perfect choice for aspiring writer/actors, this collaborative workshop uses a combination of improv games and screenwriting techniques to create dynamic scenes for both scripts and novels. Participants will explore scene-based storytelling and learn how to rely solely on action and dialogue to...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/scene-writing-ages-12-14\]](https://loft.org/classes/scene-writing-ages-12-14)

PLAY- AND SCREENWRITING

Page and the Stage (for ages 12 to 14)

Rachel Guvenc John Schaidler

	Time	
August 12, 2025- August 15, 2025	Tue, 08/12/2025 - 9:00am - Fri, 08/15/2025 - 4:00pm	Play- and Screenwriting Youth

Welcome to the Loft's Summer Youth program at Open Book! Join us for 4 days of writing and creativity!

SESSION 1:

EXPRESS YOURSELF! WORD!

(for ages 12 to 14, with Rachel Guvenc)

Are you passionate about expressing yourself? Are you curious about writing poetry? In this class you will explore...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/page-and-stage-ages-12-14\]](https://loft.org/classes/page-and-stage-ages-12-14)

(August) Screenwriting for Teens (for ages 15 to 18)

Michael Gorrie

	Time	
August 12, 2025- August 15, 2025	Tue, 08/12/2025 - 1:00pm - Fri, 08/15/2025 - 4:00pm	Play- and Screenwriting Youth

Welcome to the Loft's Summer Youth program at Open Book! Join us for 4 days of writing and creativity!

Are you a teenager who wants to write your own movie, but you don't know how? This is the class for you!

Aimed at beginners, this class starts off with the fundamentals of screenwriting — how...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/august-screenwriting-teens-ages-15-18\]](https://loft.org/classes/august-screenwriting-teens-ages-15-18)

Screenwriting for Teens

Michael Gorrie

	Time	
October 16, 2025- October 18, 2025	Thu, 10/16/2025 - 9:00am - Sat, 10/18/2025 - 12:00pm	Play- and Screenwriting Youth

Welcome to the Loft's Summer program at Open Book! Join us for 3 days of writing and creativity!

Are you a teenager who wants to write your own movie, but you don't know how? This is the class for you!

Aimed at beginners, this class starts off with the fundamentals of screenwriting — how...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/screenwriting-teens\]](https://loft.org/classes/screenwriting-teens)

Let's Write a Play! for Ages 6-8

Marianne Manzler

	Time	
March 14, 2026	Sat, 03/14/2026 - 1:00pm - Sat, 03/14/2026 - 4:00pm	Play- and Screenwriting Youth

Join us for an afternoon of theater fun! We'll write our own plays, then create original scenery and costumes. At the end of class, we'll perform our plays in front of a small, invited audience.

Email edu@loft.org at least two to three weeks in advance if you have any accessibility requests for...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/lets-write-play-ages-6-8\]](https://loft.org/classes/lets-write-play-ages-6-8)

POETRY

Magical Worlds of Wonder (for ages 9 to 11)

Marie Olofsdotter Ellen Fee

	Time	
August 5, 2025- August 8, 2025	Tue, 08/05/2025 - 9:00am - Fri, 08/08/2025 - 4:00pm	Poetry Youth

Welcome to the Loft's Summer Youth program at Open Book! Join us for 4 days of writing and creativity!

SESSION 1:

FAIRY TALES, MAGIC, AND BOOKMAKING: WRITE YOUR OWN STORY
(for ages 9 to 11, with Marie Olofsdotter)

Explore the timeless territory of magic as you write your own myth-inspired fairy...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/magical-worlds-wonder-ages-9-11\]](https://loft.org/classes/magical-worlds-wonder-ages-9-11)

Finding the Poet Within (for ages 15 to 18)

Holly Day

	Time	
August 5, 2025- August 8, 2025	Tue, 08/05/2025 - 1:00pm - Fri, 08/08/2025 - 4:00pm	Poetry Youth

Welcome to the Loft's Summer Youth program at Open Book! Join us for multiple days of writing and creativity!

In this Poet Within class, we'll explore the many techniques poets use to express themselves. We'll discuss the ways they express their ideas through language and structure.

In this class...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/finding-poet-within-ages-15-18\]](https://loft.org/classes/finding-poet-within-ages-15-18)

Playing with Prose and Poetry

Lara Mimosa Montes

	Time	
August 9, 2025	Sat, 08/09/2025 - 1:00pm - Sat, 08/09/2025 - 4:00pm	Poetry Adult

In this generative and process-focused writing workshop, we'll read poems, prose, and poetic texts (e.g., dream-logs, lists, cut-ups) that invite the fledglings in us to take a seat at the table. We'll also collectively embark on writing activities that court naïveté and spontaneity in an attempt to...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/playing-prose-and-poetry\]](https://loft.org/classes/playing-prose-and-poetry)

Poetry Forms: Writing Sestinas

Melanie Figg

	Time	
August 16, 2025	Sat, 08/16/2025 - 9:00am - Sat, 08/16/2025 - 12:00pm	Poetry Adult

Take a crack at a sestina or learn how to write a better one. This poetic form can build your literary muscles with repetition, diction, description, and more. Sestinas often fail because writers don't pair the form with the right-sized story/idea, so we'll brainstorm ideas, go over the "rules" and...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/poetry-forms-writing-sestinas\]](https://loft.org/classes/poetry-forms-writing-sestinas)

PUBLISHING AND CAREER

From Page to Publication: Submitting Your Work to Publications and Journals

Lyndsey Ellis

Time
August 2, 2025 | Sat, 08/02/2025 - 9:00am - Sat, 08/02/2025 - 12:00pm | Publishing and Career | Adult

Writing takes time, care and concentration. Still, completing something you've worked hard on is only half the battle. After workshops, peer reviews and/or self-edits, it's time to send that blog/review/story/essay/article out into the world! Get the scoop on how, where, and when to submit your work...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/page-publication-submitting-your-work-publications-and-journals\]](https://loft.org/classes/page-publication-submitting-your-work-publications-and-journals)

You Finished Your Book—Now What?

Savannah Brooks

Time
August 16, 2025 | Sat, 08/16/2025 - 10:00am - Sat, 08/16/2025 - 4:00pm | Publishing and Career | Adult

The publishing process can be confusing and intimidating, but it doesn't have to be. Each published writer goes through the same process; somewhere along the way, they just asked for help. That's what this class aims to do: help you take the next step with your manuscript with confidence.

The day...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/you-finished-your-book-now-what-1\]](https://loft.org/classes/you-finished-your-book-now-what-1)

So You Want to Get Published for Ages 15 to 18

Kathleen Danielson

Time
October 16, 2025 | Thu, 10/16/2025 - 12:00pm - Thu, 10/16/2025 - 4:00pm | Publishing and Career | Youth

What do Christopher Paolini, S.E. Hinton, Mary Shelley, and Helen Oyeyemi have in common? They all had a published story under their belt before they turned 20. If you've ever dreamed of seeing your book on the shelves of your favorite bookstore or your name in the byline of a literary magazine...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/so-you-want-get-published-ages-15-18-0\]](https://loft.org/classes/so-you-want-get-published-ages-15-18-0)

So You Want to Get Published for Ages 15 to 18

Kathleen Danielson

Time
March 21, 2026 | Sat, 03/21/2026 - 9:00am - Sat, 03/21/2026 - 12:00pm | Publishing and Career | Youth

What do Christopher Paolini, S.E. Hinton, Mary Shelley, and Helen Oyeyemi have in common? They all had a published story under their belt before they turned 20. If you've ever dreamed of seeing your book on the shelves of your favorite bookstore or your name in the byline of a literary magazine...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/so-you-want-get-published-ages-15-18\]](https://loft.org/classes/so-you-want-get-published-ages-15-18)