

2026 Teen Writing Project (Fall Edition—Minneapolis)

Robert Voedisch

September 17, 2026- December 9, 2026 | Time
Thu, 09/17/2026 - 4:30pm - Wed, 12/09/2026 - 6:00pm | Youth

This semester-long advanced 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...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/2026-teen-writing-project-fall-edition-minneapolis\]](https://loft.org/classes/2026-teen-writing-project-fall-edition-minneapolis)

CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE

Writing Young Narrators

Jesaka Long

July 11, 2026 | Time
Sat, 07/11/2026 - 10:00am - Sat, 07/11/2026 - 1:00pm

Children's and Young Adult Literature | Adult

In this generative workshop we'll explore the craft of writing young narrators for memoir and fiction. These areas have a surprising overlap when writing from the point-of-view of a younger you or a teenage main character. We'll touch on the difference between writing in a teen voice for an adult...

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

Writing for Middle Grade and Young Adult

Tina Tocco

July 14, 2026- August 4, 2026 | Time
Tue, 07/14/2026 - 12:00pm - Tue, 08/04/2026 - 2:00pm

Children's and Young Adult Literature | Adult

Have you always wanted to write stories for kids, but never knew where to start? This class will let you get your feet wet in this fun genre. Don't be nervous about sparking your creativity! We'll use weekly in-class prompts — everything from starter sentences to images, magical objects to inanimate...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/writing-middle-grade-and-young-adult\]](https://loft.org/classes/writing-middle-grade-and-young-adult)

Tools and Techniques for Writing Middle Grade Fiction

Kristin Johnson

Time
July 23, 2026- August 13, 2026 | Thu, 07/23/2026 - 6:00pm - Thu, 08/13/2026 - 8:00pm
Children's and Young Adult Literature | Adult

This four-week workshop is designed for writers of all experience levels who want to explore the art and craft of middle grade fiction, which is typically intended for readers ages 8-12. Whether you are brand new to writing for children or actively working on a manuscript, this class offers a...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/tools-and-techniques-writing-middle-grade-fiction\]](https://loft.org/classes/tools-and-techniques-writing-middle-grade-fiction)

CREATIVE NONFICTION

Writing the Illness Memoir: A Diversifying Writers Class

Marianne Manzler

Time
June 15, 2026- August 3, 2026 | Mon, 06/15/2026 - 7:00pm - Mon, 08/03/2026 - 9:00pm
Creative Nonfiction | Adult

In this 8-session class, we will explore different methods of writing about our experiences with illness.

From science writing to historical fiction and diaries to essays, there are a multitude of approaches to writing about illness. Weekly readings will provide examples of these approaches...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/writing-illness-memoir-diversifying-writers-class\]](https://loft.org/classes/writing-illness-memoir-diversifying-writers-class)

Healing Through Writing

Shama Shams

Time
June 16, 2026- July 7, 2026 | Tue, 06/16/2026 - 4:00pm - Tue, 07/07/2026 - 6:00pm | Creative Nonfiction | Adult

This class is designed for writers, survivors, and truth-seekers who are ready to explore the stories that shaped them—especially the unspoken, hidden, or silenced parts of their family history. Through guided exercises, discussion, reflection, and trauma-informed writing practices, participants...

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

Immersive Creative Nonfiction Workshop

Andy Dehnart

Time

June 17, 2026- August 12, 2026 | Wed, 06/17/2026 - 12:00pm - Wed, 08/12/2026 - 2:00pm

Creative Nonfiction | Adult

Creative nonfiction is crafted from true stories, turning real-life human experience into vibrant literature. But just how do we transform real life into layered, engaging narratives? What techniques can help us unlock the strengths of this genre?

In this interactive, generative, online workshop...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/immersive-creative-nonfiction-workshop\]](https://loft.org/classes/immersive-creative-nonfiction-workshop)

Finding the Story Under the Story: Advanced Nonfiction Workshop

Lizzie Lawson

Time

June 17, 2026- July 29, 2026 | Wed, 06/17/2026 - 6:00pm - Wed, 07/29/2026 - 8:00pm

Creative Nonfiction | Adult

As creative nonfiction writers, our challenge is to uncover the deeper stories hidden beneath the surface of our everyday lives and experiences. How can we reach beyond the simple narratives we tell ourselves to find the more vulnerable truth?

This workshop is for writers of personal essays, memoir...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/finding-story-under-story-advanced-nonfiction-workshop\]](https://loft.org/classes/finding-story-under-story-advanced-nonfiction-workshop)

Writing Through Illness

Savannah Brooks

Time

June 18, 2026- August 13, 2026 | Thu, 06/18/2026 - 6:00pm - Thu, 08/13/2026 - 8:00pm

Creative Nonfiction | Adult

Living with illness, either short- or long-term, can drastically impact our ability to create. Whether we're too exhausted or in too much pain to physically write or in such mental distress that we can't focus, it can feel like our sickness strips away our identity as artists.

This 8-week class...

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

The Secret History of Things: A Memoir Essay Writing Workshop

Nora Murphy

Time

June 24, 2026- August 5, 2026 | Wed, 06/24/2026 - 6:00pm - Wed, 08/05/2026 - 8:00pm

Creative Nonfiction | Adult

“The secret histories of things deserve to linger, to belong again to the coil of your hair I found once as a child, dried out by shadows, in a shut-tight wooden box.” ? Eavan Boland

What secret history of things would you like to write about? In this six-part writing workshop, participants will...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/secret-history-things-memoir-essay-writing-workshop\]](https://loft.org/classes/secret-history-things-memoir-essay-writing-workshop)

Shimmering Images: A Journey of Moments

Roxanne Sadovsky

Time

June 25, 2026 | Thu, 06/25/2026 - 10:00am - Thu, 06/25/2026 - 2:00pm | Creative Nonfiction | Adult

Take a break from talking, working, doing, and gather round for an invigorating retreat of writing and lingering, writing and sharing, and going deeper. We'll warm up with our "shimmering images"—recurring snapshot/flash images that appear to us repeatedly on and off the page in waking, dreaming...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/shimmering-images-journey-moments-0\]](https://loft.org/classes/shimmering-images-journey-moments-0)

Writing Gen X: Voices from the Forgotten Generation

Roxanne Sadovsky

Time

July 9, 2026 | Thu, 07/09/2026 - 10:00am - Thu, 07/09/2026 - 2:00pm | Creative Nonfiction | Adult

Let's face it, Gen X: We have something to say, strong opinions, stories to write about neon nights, latchkey days, and our upbringing in the heart of New Wave, PacMan, and the New Age. Our words, however, feel stuck in some unreachable Land of the Lost within, buried beneath a narrative we've...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/writing-gen-x-voices-forgotten-generation\]](https://loft.org/classes/writing-gen-x-voices-forgotten-generation)

Discovering Your Memoir's Lead Character

John Moe

Time

July 15, 2026- August 5, 2026 | Wed, 07/15/2026 - 6:00pm - Wed, 08/05/2026 - 8:00pm

Creative Nonfiction | Adult

Wouldn't it be cool if you could write something terrific and also make a lot more sense of your life at the same time?

In this class, which isn't therapy, just a writing class, you'll learn how to identify significant events, moments, stories, and choices from stages of your life and then find...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/discovering-your-memoirs-lead-character-2\]](https://loft.org/classes/discovering-your-memoirs-lead-character-2)

Resisting the Border: A Creative Nonfiction Class for Writers of Color and Indigenous Writers

Victoria Blanco

July 22, 2026- July 29, 2026 | Time
Wed, 07/22/2026 - 6:00pm - Wed, 07/29/2026 - 8:00pm |
Creative Nonfiction | Adult

We tend to think of “the border” as a line drawn in the sand, a physical marker that parcels land and people into political territories. The concept of “the border” is taught to children from an early age, and we accept it as a reality of our lives. But what if the border didn’t exist? What if...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/resisting-border-creative-nonfiction-class-writers-color-and-indigenous-writers-0\]](https://loft.org/classes/resisting-border-creative-nonfiction-class-writers-color-and-indigenous-writers-0)

Nostalgia, Memory, and Confession—Writing Your Memoir

Holly Day

July 23, 2026- August 13, 2026 | Time
Thu, 07/23/2026 - 6:00pm - Thu, 08/13/2026 - 8:00pm |
Creative Nonfiction | Adult

Everybody has a story—what’s yours? In this class, we’ll go over some of the different ways you can tell your story, through creative journaling, travel writing, coming-of-age and childhood recollections and reflections, poetry, and narrative essays, and explore these forms through generative in...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/nostalgia-memory-and-confession-writing-your-memoir-0\]](https://loft.org/classes/nostalgia-memory-and-confession-writing-your-memoir-0)

Writing “My Story:” The Personal Essay for Scholarship and College Applications (for Ages 15 to 18)

Mitchell LeGrand

August 4, 2026- August 7, 2026 | Time
Tue, 08/04/2026 - 1:00pm - Fri, 08/07/2026 - 4:00pm |
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 that we want to share with others!

In this class, we will be exploring the personal narrative, and how to tell our own stories in a compelling way. These lessons will prepare...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/writing-my-story-personal-essay-scholarship-and-college-applications-ages-15-18-0\]](https://loft.org/classes/writing-my-story-personal-essay-scholarship-and-college-applications-ages-15-18-0)

CREATIVE PROCESS

Notebook to Manuscript

Morgan Grayce Willow

Time

June 16, 2026- August 11, 2026 | Tue, 06/16/2026 - 6:00pm - Tue, 08/11/2026 - 8:00pm

Creative Process | Adult

In times of crisis, journals and notebooks can be a place of solace for us as writers. They have intrinsic value as a vehicle for documenting the impact of historic events in our lives, as well as for creative expression when living lives in extremis. As time passes, those same journals and...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/notebook-manuscript-2\]](https://loft.org/classes/notebook-manuscript-2)

Tarot for Creative Writing Generation, Structure, and Process

Cassandra Snow

Time

June 18, 2026- July 16, 2026 | Thu, 06/18/2026 - 6:00pm - Thu, 07/16/2026 - 8:00pm | Creative Process

Adult

Tarot For Creative Writing is a class where students will learn how to combine tarot reading with their writing process, focusing on the expansive creativity that is richly embedded in a tarot deck.

This class will help students learn a new tool to help them from start (brainstorming) to finish...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/tarot-creative-writing-generation-structure-and-process\]](https://loft.org/classes/tarot-creative-writing-generation-structure-and-process)

"Break the Block": How to Actually Overcome Writer's Block and Start Writing Again

Sruthi Narayanan

Time

June 18, 2026- August 13, 2026 | Thu, 06/18/2026 - 6:00pm - Thu, 08/13/2026 - 8:00pm

Creative Process | Adult

This class is for writers who, for any number of reasons, are struggling to actually write. Maybe you're feeling uninspired or burned out; maybe it's been a long time since you've written; maybe you're trying to explore subject matter that is sensitive or traumatic, and are (understandably) having...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/break-block-how-actually-overcome-writers-block-and-start-writing-again\]](https://loft.org/classes/break-block-how-actually-overcome-writers-block-and-start-writing-again)

Expressive Writing Practices for Serenity, Creativity, and Joy

Kimberly Lee

Time

June 20, 2026 | Sat, 06/20/2026 - 9:00am - Sat, 06/20/2026 - 12:00pm | Creative Process | Adult

Expressive writing practices can be a highly accessible, effective tool for enhancing creativity, professional development, and shifting our mood during challenging times. In this workshop, we'll engage with several structured journaling techniques to help clarify and organize thoughts, while...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/expressive-writing-practices-serenity-creativity-and-joy-0\]](https://loft.org/classes/expressive-writing-practices-serenity-creativity-and-joy-0)

Night Owls Writing Group

JR Dawson

Time

July 7, 2026- August 11, 2026 | Tue, 07/07/2026 - 9:00pm - Tue, 08/11/2026 - 11:00pm | Creative Process |

Adult

Looking for a group of people who write at weird hours like you? This is a generative group that meets at 9:00 pm! Come meet community, create new work, and discover how YOU best write. Each session begins with a check in, with a focus on building a supportive cohort. Then we'll dive into creative...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/night-owls-writing-group-0\]](https://loft.org/classes/night-owls-writing-group-0)

The Writing Process, Identity & Technique: How to Unlock Your Creative Potential

David Mura

Time

July 22, 2026 | Wed, 07/22/2026 - 6:00pm - Wed, 07/22/2026 - 9:00pm | Creative Process | Adult

"Why can't I finish this book? How can I maximize my own creativity? How do I sustain my writing over the long haul?" There is one answer to these questions: we are not taught the principles and practices of creativity in school or even in writing classes.

Using these principles and practices, this...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/writing-process-identity-technique-how-unlock-your-creative-potential\]](https://loft.org/classes/writing-process-identity-technique-how-unlock-your-creative-potential)

Developing a Daily Creative Writing Practice

Heidi Newbauer

Time

August 8, 2026- August 15, 2026 | Sat, 08/08/2026 - 10:00am - Sat, 08/15/2026 - 12:00pm

Creative Process | Adult

Have you wanted to start a daily creative writing practice? Are you a seasoned writer ready to refresh your daily creative toolbox? Are you a bit in between? If so, this class is for you!

We will "flesh out" what a daily practice means and how that is different than going through the stages of a...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/developing-daily-creative-writing-practice-1\]](https://loft.org/classes/developing-daily-creative-writing-practice-1)

Creative Maps for Creative Writing

Heidi Newbauer

Time

August 13, 2026 | Thu, 08/13/2026 - 10:00am - Thu, 08/13/2026 - 1:00pm | Creative Process | Adult

The cartographer's map lures us into other worlds, but what about our own creative worlds and ideas? In this session, we'll explore how creative maps can transform ideas into visual aids that give more ease—and fun!—to our writing processes.

We will look at examples of writer's maps from other...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/creative-maps-creative-writing-2\]](https://loft.org/classes/creative-maps-creative-writing-2)

Echoes of Service: A Class for Veteran Servicemember Writers

LeJuane Bowens

Time

November 11, 2026 | Wed, 11/11/2026 - 1:00pm - Wed, 11/11/2026 - 4:00pm | Creative Process | Adult

Echoes of Service is a community-based creative writing workshop that brings veterans and non-veterans together to share, reflect, and connect through storytelling. Centered on themes of military life, identity, culture, and the lasting impact of service, this workshop invites participants to...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/echoes-service-class-veteran-servicemember-writers\]](https://loft.org/classes/echoes-service-class-veteran-servicemember-writers)

DIGITAL STORYTELLING

Writing Blogs and Newsletters

Nuria Sheehan

June 16, 2026- July 14, 2026 | Time
Tue, 06/16/2026 - 6:00pm - Tue, 07/14/2026 - 8:00pm | Digital Storytelling |
Adult

Launching a blog or newsletter can be one of the best ways to explore your voice as a writer and build momentum toward larger projects. But without feedback or community, it can be intimidating and leave you wondering if you're just yelling into the void.

This class will help you start a new...

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

Storytelling with Sound: Intro to Audio Production

Clare Boyle

June 25, 2026- August 6, 2026 | Time
Thu, 06/25/2026 - 10:00am - Thu, 08/06/2026 - 12:00pm |
Digital Storytelling | Adult

What makes audio storytelling unique? How can sound convey the sensory and emotional aspects of our experiences? And how can the tools we already have as storytellers in our everyday lives lead to great audio stories?

This 6-week class will guide students through the audio story production process...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/storytelling-sound-intro-audio-production\]](https://loft.org/classes/storytelling-sound-intro-audio-production)

FICTION

2026 Year-Long Fiction Writing Project with Junauda Petrus—June Online Cohort

Junauda Petrus

June 6, 2026- April 8, 2027 | Time
Sat, 06/06/2026 - 6:00pm - Thu, 04/08/2027 - 9:00pm | Fiction | Adult

Your novel is a journey of self discovery, creative research, story channeling and communing with the souls of the realm you are bringing into tangible, literary existence. It is written while living and being present to your life and the ways that the novel is singing through your existence...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/2026-year-long-fiction-writing-project-junauda-petrus-june-online-cohort\]](https://loft.org/classes/2026-year-long-fiction-writing-project-junauda-petrus-june-online-cohort)

Novel Writing

Jeneé Skinner

June 15, 2026- August 10, 2026 | Time
Mon, 06/15/2026 - 6:00pm - Mon, 08/10/2026 - 8:00pm | Fiction | Adult

We love to sit with characters long enough to know them, navigate adversity with them, and ultimately to be transported by their story. While it's easy to come up with interesting concepts, honing in on those concepts enough to fill a novel is where the work begins. The world, relationships...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/novel-writing-3\]](https://loft.org/classes/novel-writing-3)

Short Story Nitty Gritty

Troy Wilderson

June 16, 2026- August 11, 2026 | Time
Tue, 06/16/2026 - 6:00pm - Tue, 08/11/2026 - 9:00pm | Fiction | Adult

In this 8-week class, we'll explore all the basic elements needed to craft a short story. Each week we'll dive into the essential aspects of the short story form such as character, plot, point of view, theme, and setting.

Students will pre-read a short story by Viet Thanh Nguyen. At the first class...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/short-story-nitty-gritty-3\]](https://loft.org/classes/short-story-nitty-gritty-3)

Introduction to Fiction

Holly Day

June 17, 2026- August 12, 2026 | Time
Wed, 06/17/2026 - 6:00pm - Wed, 08/12/2026 - 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 \[https://loft.org/classes/introduction-fiction-7\]](https://loft.org/classes/introduction-fiction-7)

Short Story Builder

James Ellis

June 18, 2026- July 30, 2026 | Time
Thu, 06/18/2026 - 6:00pm - Thu, 07/30/2026 - 8:00pm | Fiction | Adult

In this 6-week workshop, writers can expect to do the following:

- Get a crash-course review of the essential elements of fiction.
- Read and examine these elements via a variety of authors and excerpts.
- Compose a short story (3000 - 8000 words)
- Workshop your short story.
- Revise and prepare your...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/short-story-builder\]](https://loft.org/classes/short-story-builder)

The Craft of Fiction: Tell, Don't Show

Allison Wyss

Time

June 20, 2026 | Sat, 06/20/2026 - 10:00am - Sat, 06/20/2026 - 1:00pm | Fiction | Adult

"Show, don't tell" is such standard writing advice that it's become cliché. But is it good writing advice? Well, it depends. Sometimes it's best to show. This class is about the other times. We'll look at ways telling can help you pace a story and better manage the movement of time. We'll study...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/craft-fiction-tell-dont-show\]](https://loft.org/classes/craft-fiction-tell-dont-show)

Fascination and Fiction

Jessica Alexander

Time

June 27, 2026 | Sat, 06/27/2026 - 10:00am - Sat, 06/27/2026 - 1:00pm | Fiction | Adult

Mystery is at the heart of all narrative, its pulse is the fine tension between question and perception, wonder and suspense. For the purposes of this workshop our prose need not hinge on a crime, a culprit, or a private eye. We'll build inquiry into fictional ecosystems and discuss how the...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/fascination-and-fiction\]](https://loft.org/classes/fascination-and-fiction)

Short Fiction Writing and Story Submission for Novices

Jenn Bouchard

Time

June 27, 2026 | Sat, 06/27/2026 - 10:00am - Sat, 06/27/2026 - 1:00pm | Fiction | Adult

Maybe you've only written long-form fiction and are curious about the short story. Perhaps you are looking to build up your author résumé with some short pieces. If you are searching for a place to start, start here! Jenn Bouchard has written several award-winning novels as well as published six...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/short-fiction-writing-and-story-submission-novices\]](https://loft.org/classes/short-fiction-writing-and-story-submission-novices)

The Craft of Fiction: Subtext and Subversion

Allison Wyss

Time

June 27, 2026 | Sat, 06/27/2026 - 10:00am - Sat, 06/27/2026 - 1:00pm | Fiction | Adult

Subtext can be used to subvert oppressive tropes—it can also be used to reinforce them. So when should a writer use subtext? And how do we make sure it's a force for good? There are no easy answers, but there are some good tools and strategies for thinking through these issues.

Through in-depth...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/craft-fiction-subtext-and-subversion\]](https://loft.org/classes/craft-fiction-subtext-and-subversion)

Building a Novel (for Ages 15 to 18)

Debra Blake

July 7, 2026- July 10, 2026 | ^{Time} Tue, 07/07/2026 - 9:00am - Fri, 07/10/2026 - 12:00pm | Fiction | Youth

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

Writing a novel can seem daunting, but "Building a Novel" breaks it down into manageable steps!

You writing your novel throughout class, first by generating a plot summary and then a story arc...

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

The Beginner's Guide to Starting Your Novel in Six Weeks

Tamara Hogan

July 8, 2026- August 12, 2026 | ^{Time} Wed, 07/08/2026 - 6:00pm - Wed, 08/12/2026 - 8:30pm | Fiction | Adult

Do you have a 'novel' idea, but aren't quite sure what to do next? In this high-practicality, no-pressure class, learn how to use essential fiction craft elements such as character, setting, plot, and structure to discover your story, establish a starting point, and help get the right words on the...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/beginners-guide-starting-your-novel-six-weeks-2\]](https://loft.org/classes/beginners-guide-starting-your-novel-six-weeks-2)

Craft Seminar: Structure, Narrative, and the Novel

Katherine Packert Burke

July 11, 2026 | ^{Time} Sat, 07/11/2026 - 10:00am - Sat, 07/11/2026 - 12:00pm | Fiction | Adult

The structure of a narrative is almost invisible but impacts every choice you make as a writer and the experience of every reader. Does the story begin after a murder has taken place, or a hundred years before? Does it bounce between the brains of a dozen characters or is it trapped in the...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/craft-seminar-structure-narrative-and-novel\]](https://loft.org/classes/craft-seminar-structure-narrative-and-novel)

The Craft of Fiction: Sense(s) and Sensibility

Allison Wyss

July 11, 2026 | ^{Time} Sat, 07/11/2026 - 10:00am - Sat, 07/11/2026 - 1:00pm | Fiction | Adult

Sensibility is how character reflects through the point of view. It's the choices a voice makes about what to describe and how to describe it. In this class we'll look at some distinctive voices and try to figure out how character comes through just in the way they show us the world. (Hint: This...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/craft-fiction-senses-and-sensibility\]](https://loft.org/classes/craft-fiction-senses-and-sensibility)

The Magic of Outlines (for Ages 15 to 18)

Aurora Whittet Best

July 14, 2026- July 17, 2026 | Time
Tue, 07/14/2026 - 9:00am - Fri, 07/17/2026 - 12:00pm | Fiction | Youth

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

Learn the power of outlining and create a roadmap into your world!

Have you ever wondered how the central idea, the heart of the story or theme, profoundly changes story beats? Structure doesn...

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

Heroes, Villains, and Worlds: Fantasy Writing (for ages 12 to 14)

Elise Toedt Matthew Taber-Hanson

July 14, 2026- July 17, 2026 | Time
Tue, 07/14/2026 - 9:00am - Fri, 07/17/2026 - 4:00pm | Fiction | Youth

Welcome to the Loft's Summer Youth program at Open Book! Join us for a week of writing and all-day creativity!

SESSION 1:

Heroes in the Making: Building My Hero and Their World (for Ages 12 to 14) with Elise Toedt

In this class, we will create compelling heroes whose journey brings up topics of...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/heroes-villains-and-worlds-fantasy-writing-ages-12-14-0\]](https://loft.org/classes/heroes-villains-and-worlds-fantasy-writing-ages-12-14-0)

Fiction in a Flash

Alex Juffer

July 18, 2026 | Time
Sat, 07/18/2026 - 9:00am - Sat, 07/18/2026 - 1:00pm | Fiction | Adult

Is flash fiction, like Dippin' Dots, the future of fiction? Undoubtedly, yes, with much more staying power. Flash fiction has exploded in popularity within the past decade, as it lends itself well to online literary magazines (not to mention our waning attention spans). Are you slogging through a...

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

Speculative Fiction

Jeneé Skinner

July 18, 2026 | Time
Sat, 07/18/2026 - 1:00pm - Sat, 07/18/2026 - 4:00pm | Fiction | Adult

As our reality becomes more of a dystopia, you may wonder what counts as fantasy anymore. Years ago, when I first read Octavia Butler's Parable of the Sower, it felt like a violent reimagining of the future. But now that all manner of climates have changed, the line between dream and reality has...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/speculative-fiction-0\]](https://loft.org/classes/speculative-fiction-0)

Flash and Micro Fiction: Stories in 100 to 1000 Words

Jane Wageman

Time
July 25, 2026 | Sat, 07/25/2026 - 9:00am - Sat, 07/25/2026 - 1:00pm | Fiction | Adult

In spite of their brevity, flash and micro fiction can pack an emotional punch. This class will introduce participants to the basics of flash and micro fiction, focusing on two questions: How do writers contain a story to such a small space? And how do they give these stories emotional depth? Over...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/flash-and-micro-fiction-stories-100-1000-words\]](https://loft.org/classes/flash-and-micro-fiction-stories-100-1000-words)

Fiction for BIPOC Writers: A Class for Writers of Color and Indigenous Writers

Taiwana Shambley

Time
August 1, 2026- August 8, 2026 | Sat, 08/01/2026 - 1:00pm - Sat, 08/08/2026 - 3:00pm | Fiction | Adult

The goal of this class is to create space for Black, Indigenous, and POC writers to analyze and practice applying BIPOC cultural interpretations of fiction craft elements.

While it is true that more contemporary writers are featuring racially diverse characters in their stories, it's still the...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/fiction-bipoc-writers-class-writers-color-and-indigenous-writers\]](https://loft.org/classes/fiction-bipoc-writers-class-writers-color-and-indigenous-writers)

Fiction by Fury: Building Stories through Moments of Conflict (for Ages 15 to 18)

Alice Paige

Time
August 4, 2026- August 7, 2026 | Tue, 08/04/2026 - 9:00am - Fri, 08/07/2026 - 12:00pm | Fiction | Youth

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

Fiction unfolds moment by moment through emotional and physical conflict. The secret told, the duel lost, the prophecy foretold. Those moments define our stories and can make or break our...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/fiction-fury-building-stories-through-moments-conflict-ages-15-18\]](https://loft.org/classes/fiction-fury-building-stories-through-moments-conflict-ages-15-18)

Nature Writing (for Ages 15 to 18)

James Ellis

August 4, 2026- August 7, 2026 | Time
Tue, 08/04/2026 - 1:00pm - Fri, 08/07/2026 - 4:00pm | Fiction | Youth

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

Explore the centuries-long connection between the human and the natural world in "Nature Writing."

For ages, nature has been an access point for the writer. Never has there been a more...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/nature-writing-ages-15-18-1\]](https://loft.org/classes/nature-writing-ages-15-18-1)

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

Troy Wilderson

August 11, 2026- August 14, 2026 | Time
Tue, 08/11/2026 - 1:00pm - Fri, 08/14/2026 - 4:00pm | 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 \[https://loft.org/classes/short-story-z-creative-short-story-writing-ages-15-18-0\]](https://loft.org/classes/short-story-z-creative-short-story-writing-ages-15-18-0)

MULTIGENRE

Let's Talk: Dynamic Dialogue

Lillie Gardner

June 20, 2026 | Time
Sat, 06/20/2026 - 9:00am - Sat, 06/20/2026 - 1:00pm | Multigenre | Adult

Dialogue is so much more than characters talking. Dialogue can communicate a story's tone, dictate the energy of a scene, move the plot forward, express important information, provide background context, and make the world come to life—all while sounding like the authentic voice of a character. No...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/lets-talk-dynamic-dialogue\]](https://loft.org/classes/lets-talk-dynamic-dialogue)

Writing Family Stories

Aida Zilelian

Time

June 20, 2026 | Sat, 06/20/2026 - 10:00am - Sat, 06/20/2026 - 12:00pm | Multigenre | Adult

Betrayal, tough love, secrets, regrets—families are filled with conflict. Sometimes family stories are thinly veiled fiction or our real lives that are difficult to capture. How can we write stories that embody these moments? And why are these stories so important to us?

Whether you are writing...

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

Into the Unknown: The Mindful Writer's Journey

Benjamin Shalva

Time

June 20, 2026 | Sat, 06/20/2026 - 1:00pm - Sat, 06/20/2026 - 5:00pm | Multigenre | Adult

We sit down to write. And sometimes—when we are quiet enough, open enough, patient—words rise from beneath the ordinary mind and surprise us. An image we didn't know we carried. A truth we didn't know we held. A poem we didn't know was waiting. This is the territory we will explore together...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/unknown-mindful-writers-journey\]](https://loft.org/classes/unknown-mindful-writers-journey)

Hybrid Prose: Prose Poetry & Flash Creative Nonfiction

Courtney Harler

Time

June 20, 2026- June 27, 2026 | Sat, 06/20/2026 - 1:00pm - Sat, 06/27/2026 - 3:00pm | Multigenre | Adult

In this class, we'll delve into the exciting experimental spaces between poetry and prose. The first session will focus primarily on prose poetry, and the second on flash creative nonfiction, allowing time along the way to discuss how these versatile forms can blend into hybrid prose.

We'll begin...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/hybrid-prose-prose-poetry-flash-creative-nonfiction\]](https://loft.org/classes/hybrid-prose-prose-poetry-flash-creative-nonfiction)

Writing Power to the People

Heidi Newbauer

Time

June 27, 2026 | Sat, 06/27/2026 - 10:00am - Sat, 06/27/2026 - 1:00pm | Multigenre | Adult

This powerful session explores the idea of writing from the perspective of power to the people. We will discuss a short reading from Patricia Hill Collins on what it "means" to write "power to the people" in further understanding our awareness of narrative perspective. We will look at excerpts from...

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

Memory as Archive

Matt Isaia

June 27, 2026 | ^{Time} Sat, 06/27/2026 - 1:00pm - Sat, 06/27/2026 - 4:00pm | Multigenre | Adult

This course focuses on personal memory and personal history, using prompts to help generate writing about lived experiences. In this class, students will be encouraged to cull through their own memories in order to write vivid stories and sketches of people, places, and past events. Students will be...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/memory-archive\]](https://loft.org/classes/memory-archive)

Jumpstart Your Writing (for Ages 12 to 14)

Kelsey Daly Kat Shepherd

July 7, 2026- July 10, 2026 | ^{Time} Tue, 07/07/2026 - 9:00am - Fri, 07/10/2026 - 4:00pm | Multigenre | Youth

This full-day summer writing experience invites young writers to spend four creative days building skills, confidence, and imagination at the Loft. Mornings focus on practical writing tools students can use in school, afternoons open up space for creativity and collaboration, and a midday lunch...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/jumpstart-your-writing-ages-12-14-0\]](https://loft.org/classes/jumpstart-your-writing-ages-12-14-0)

From Memoir to Myth (for Ages 12 to 14)

Kelsey Daly Amy Sailer

July 7, 2026- July 10, 2026 | ^{Time} Tue, 07/07/2026 - 9:00am - Fri, 07/10/2026 - 4:00pm | Multigenre | Youth

This full-day summer writing experience invites young writers to spend four creative days building skills, confidence, and imagination at the Loft. Mornings focus on practical writing tools students can use in school, afternoons open up space for creativity and collaboration, and a midday lunch...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/memoir-myth-ages-12-14-0\]](https://loft.org/classes/memoir-myth-ages-12-14-0)

The First 10 Pages: A Revision Workshop

Miranda Schmidt

July 7, 2026- August 11, 2026 | ^{Time} Tue, 07/07/2026 - 6:00pm - Tue, 08/11/2026 - 8:00pm | Multigenre | Adult

The first pages of a book create the entryway into the story. They're what readers first encounter and, often, where they form their expectations of the book as a whole. These pages are also what you will initially send to agents and publishers once your novel is ready for submission.

In this...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/first-10-pages-revision-workshop\]](https://loft.org/classes/first-10-pages-revision-workshop)

Tell Me a Story

LeJuane Bowens

Time

July 11, 2026 | Sat, 07/11/2026 - 9:00am - Sat, 07/11/2026 - 1:00pm | Multigenre | Adult

Storytelling is one of the most powerful tools we have for connection, change, and understanding—and this workshop invites writers and artists of all levels to explore how to use it with intention. *Tell Me a Story* focuses on the fundamentals of effective storytelling while creating space for...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/tell-me-story\]](https://loft.org/classes/tell-me-story)

Imagination to Page (for Ages 9 to 11)

Marie Olofsdotter Holly Day

Time

July 14, 2026- July 17, 2026 | Tue, 07/14/2026 - 9:00am - Fri, 07/17/2026 - 4:00pm | Multigenre | Youth

This full-day summer writing experience invites young storytellers to spend four imaginative days creating magical worlds, memorable characters, and stories all their own. Mornings focus on fairy tales and bookmaking, guiding students through classic story structures while they write and build a...

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

Shadows and Sunshine: Writing and Reading about Grief

Lisa M. Bolt Simons

Time

July 18, 2026- July 25, 2026 | Sat, 07/18/2026 - 9:00am - Sat, 07/25/2026 - 12:00pm | Multigenre | Adult

If you've stumbled through a heartbreaking loss and feel it's time to write about your grief, or you'd like to write about it more, this is a class for you. We will work through various writing exercises to help you process what you haven't been able to speak. We'll also read excerpts of work from...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/shadows-and-sunshine-writing-and-reading-about-grief\]](https://loft.org/classes/shadows-and-sunshine-writing-and-reading-about-grief)

Narrative Healing Through Minnesota Resistance

JR Dawson

Time

July 18, 2026 | Sat, 07/18/2026 - 10:00am - Sat, 07/18/2026 - 2:00pm | Multigenre | Adult

When bad things happen, the feelings and memories that we hold inside of us can be overwhelming. Throughout history, those who live through "interesting times" have shared their stories, be it the Blitz Diaries or fiction such as Narnia and Lord of the Rings. After Operation Metro Surge, let us come...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/narrative-healing-through-minnesota-resistance\]](https://loft.org/classes/narrative-healing-through-minnesota-resistance)

2026 Loft Youth Writing Intensive: Ages 10 to 13

Kelsey Daly Dralandra Larkins Michael Gorrie Holly Day

Time
July 21, 2026- July 24, 2026 | Tue, 07/21/2026 - 9:30am - Fri, 07/24/2026 - 3:30pm | Multigenre | Youth

The Loft's Summer Youth Writing Intensive for Ages 10-13 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 \[https://loft.org/classes/2026-loft-youth-writing-intensive-ages-10-13\]](https://loft.org/classes/2026-loft-youth-writing-intensive-ages-10-13)

The Nature of Memory

Erin Sharkey

Time
July 23, 2026- August 13, 2026 | Thu, 07/23/2026 - 6:00pm - Thu, 08/13/2026 - 8:00pm | Multigenre |

Adult

Where does nature start and end? How natural are you? Observing natural patterns and phenomena can help us make meaning of our lives, even in urban spaces. In this writing workshop, we will consider the natural systems and patterns that ripple through our experiences, inscribing them. We'll look...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/nature-memory\]](https://loft.org/classes/nature-memory)

Mini But Mighty: Writing Micro

Kathryn Ganfield

Time
July 25, 2026- August 1, 2026 | Sat, 07/25/2026 - 9:00am - Sat, 08/01/2026 - 12:00pm | Multigenre | Adult

How much punch can you pack into a ? 250-word piece? You'll see in this two-session workshop on the short-short genre. Micro prose is among the flashiest of forms; you'll find it's both fulfilling and fun to write.

Publishers might cap it at 500, 250 or 100 words (sometimes exactly 100). Others...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/mini-mighty-writing-micro-1\]](https://loft.org/classes/mini-mighty-writing-micro-1)

Crisis Creates Us: The Secret Heart of Story

Daniel José Older

Time
July 25, 2026 | Sat, 07/25/2026 - 10:00am - Sat, 07/25/2026 - 2:00pm | Multigenre | Adult

This class explores how crisis functions to unify narrative structure, worldbuilding, and character development. We will get into the nitty-gritty nuts and bolts of plot and touch on wider questions of art and politics in literature. Consider how crisis plays out across our daily newsfeeds—problems...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/crisis-creates-us-secret-heart-story\]](https://loft.org/classes/crisis-creates-us-secret-heart-story)

2026 Loft Youth Writing Intensive: Ages 14 To 18

Robert Voedisch Michael Gorrie Dralandra Larkins Shannon Gibney

Time
July 28, 2026- July 31, 2026 | Tue, 07/28/2026 - 9:30am - Fri, 07/31/2026 - 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 \[https://loft.org/classes/2026-loft-youth-writing-intensive-ages-14-18\]](https://loft.org/classes/2026-loft-youth-writing-intensive-ages-14-18)

Art and the Anecdote: Giving New Form to the Stories We Keep Telling

Jessica Alexander

Time
August 1, 2026 | Sat, 08/01/2026 - 10:00am - Sat, 08/01/2026 - 1:00pm | Multigenre | Adult

We all have style when it comes to narrativizing our lives. Even a dull day or a dreadful date can fuel a good story. But when faced with the blank page, our skill and delight might abandon us.

In this generative workshop, we'll turn the stories we tell friends into narrative poems, flash memoirs...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/art-and-anecdote-giving-new-form-stories-we-keep-telling\]](https://loft.org/classes/art-and-anecdote-giving-new-form-stories-we-keep-telling)

Be Your Own Developmental Editor

Jackie Cangro

Time
August 1, 2026 | Sat, 08/01/2026 - 10:00am - Sat, 08/01/2026 - 1:00pm | Multigenre | Adult

This class will provide the tools and techniques to help you see your manuscript the way an editor or agent might see it. We'll ask the tough questions to guide you in making your manuscript the best it can be. You'll use these tools to assess your story's strengths and weaknesses. Whether your goal...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/be-your-own-developmental-editor\]](https://loft.org/classes/be-your-own-developmental-editor)

Writing Immersion (for Ages 12 to 14)

Rachel Guvenc Craig Noles

Time
August 4, 2026- August 7, 2026 | Tue, 08/04/2026 - 9:00am - Fri, 08/07/2026 - 4:00pm | Multigenre | Youth

This full-day summer writing experience is designed especially for young writers to explore storytelling through animals, imagination, and play. In the morning, students will read and write stories about beloved pets—both real and imaginary—building confidence with basic story structure and sharing...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/writing-immersion-ages-12-14-0\]](https://loft.org/classes/writing-immersion-ages-12-14-0)

Writing What is Possible: Writing For a Better World (for Ages 15-18)

Mitchell LeGrand

August 4, 2026- August 7, 2026 | Time
Tue, 08/04/2026 - 9:00am - Fri, 08/07/2026 - 12:00pm | Multigenre | Youth

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

Young people are ready and eager to start changing the world, especially right now in the United States. Issues around climate, criminal injustice, global conflicts, etc. are all at the forefront...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/writing-what-possible-writing-better-world-ages-15-18\]](https://loft.org/classes/writing-what-possible-writing-better-world-ages-15-18)

After the Exquisite Corpse: the Surreal, the Collaborative, the Ekphrastic

Sara Mae

August 8, 2026 | Time
Sat, 08/08/2026 - 1:00pm - Sat, 08/08/2026 - 5:00pm | Multigenre | Adult

The Exquisite Corpse is a parlor game popularized by the Surrealists, in which a participant draws or writes a line in response to a line from another participant, rendering, as Simone Kahn wrote, “creatures unimaginable by one alone.”

In this class we will try a sampler platter of strategies of...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/after-exquisite-corpse-surreal-collaborative-ekphrastic\]](https://loft.org/classes/after-exquisite-corpse-surreal-collaborative-ekphrastic)

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

Kat Shepherd

August 11, 2026- August 14, 2026 | Time
Tue, 08/11/2026 - 9:00am - Fri, 08/14/2026 - 4:00pm | Multigenre | Youth

Youth

This full-day summer writing experience invites young writers to spend four days reading, writing, and sharpening their storytelling skills in a supportive community. Mornings focus on the craft of short fiction, with time to read great stories, experiment with structure, and draft and revise...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/dark-hauntings-bending-boundaries-writing-ages-12-14-0\]](https://loft.org/classes/dark-hauntings-bending-boundaries-writing-ages-12-14-0)

Creating Fantastical Worlds (for Ages 9 to 11)

Ellen Fee Holly Day

August 11, 2026- August 14, 2026 | Time
Tue, 08/11/2026 - 9:00am - Fri, 08/14/2026 - 4:00pm | Multigenre | Youth

Youth

This full-day summer writing experience invites young writers to explore language, imagination, and storytelling from around the world. Mornings focus on poetry as a creative passport—introducing students to poetic forms from different cultures through writing, art, and play—while afternoons expand...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/creating-fantastical-worlds-ages-9-11-0\]](https://loft.org/classes/creating-fantastical-worlds-ages-9-11-0)

Little Writers, Big Worlds (for Ages 6 to 8)

Holly Day Blythe Baird

Time

August 11, 2026- August 14, 2026 | Tue, 08/11/2026 - 9:00am - Fri, 08/14/2026 - 4:00pm | Multigenre |

Youth

This full-day summer writing experience is designed especially for young writers to explore storytelling through animals, imagination, and play. In the morning, students will read and write stories about beloved pets—both real and imaginary—building confidence with basic story structure and sharing...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/little-writers-big-worlds-ages-6-8-0\]](https://loft.org/classes/little-writers-big-worlds-ages-6-8-0)

PLAY- AND SCREENWRITING

Creating & Writing Your First TV Pilot (Comedy, Drama, Reality)

Bo Kaprall

Time

July 7, 2026- August 11, 2026 | Tue, 07/07/2026 - 6:00pm - Tue, 08/11/2026 - 8:00pm |

Play- and Screenwriting | Adult

Applicable to comedy, drama, and reality TV, this six-week class is designed for both new and experienced creative writers who hope to break into television writing. We'll study both short- and long-form screenwriting, including a look at the differences between writing scripted and unscripted shows...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/creating-writing-your-first-tv-pilot-comedy-drama-reality-1\]](https://loft.org/classes/creating-writing-your-first-tv-pilot-comedy-drama-reality-1)

Advanced Screenwriting Workshop

Lillie Gardner

Time

July 9, 2026- August 13, 2026 | Thu, 07/09/2026 - 6:00pm - Thu, 08/13/2026 - 8:00pm |

Play- and Screenwriting | Adult

Do you have a draft of your screenplay completed? It's workshop time! In this advanced workshop, we'll explore techniques to improve our craft by analyzing produced screenplays and giving feedback on each other's drafts. All formats are welcome: features, pilots, animation, shorts—you name it.

In...

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

Imagine Abolition: A Screenwriting Workshop For Crafting Stories of Justice, Freedom, and Radical Love

Jana Smith

Time
July 16, 2026- August 6, 2026 | Thu, 07/16/2026 - 6:00pm - Thu, 08/06/2026 - 8:00pm |
Play- and Screenwriting | Adult

In this screenwriting workshop, writers from all levels—from emerging to advanced—will learn how to incorporate abolitionist ideas, themes, and principles into their work to create narratives of justice, freedom, and radical love. Whether you're revisiting an old work or creating something entirely...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/imagine-abolition-screenwriting-workshop-crafting-stories-justice-freedom-and-radical-0\]](https://loft.org/classes/imagine-abolition-screenwriting-workshop-crafting-stories-justice-freedom-and-radical-0)

Write Your Screenplay

Michael Gorrie

Time
August 8, 2026 | Sat, 08/08/2026 - 9:00am - Sat, 08/08/2026 - 1:00pm | Play- and Screenwriting | Adult

Having trouble starting or following through with your screenplay? Need a structured environment to get you writing? Then this class is for you. Designed as both a workshop and instruction on craft as a focus, students will have an opportunity to learn the art form of screenwriting, generate work in...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/write-your-screenplay\]](https://loft.org/classes/write-your-screenplay)

POETRY

2026 Year-Long Poetry Collection Writing Project with Michael Kleber-Diggs—June Online Cohort

Michael Kleber-Diggs

Time
June 10, 2026- April 7, 2027 | Wed, 06/10/2026 - 6:00pm - Wed, 04/07/2027 - 9:00pm | Poetry | Adult

In this year-long poetry project, we'll focus on imagining, writing, completing, and seeking a home for poetry collections we'll build during the project. We'll begin by exploring how to assemble a collection, and, along the way, spend time reading, writing, workshopping, and refining the poems that...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/2026-year-long-poetry-collection-writing-project-michael-kleber-diggs-june-online-cohort\]](https://loft.org/classes/2026-year-long-poetry-collection-writing-project-michael-kleber-diggs-june-online-cohort)

Let's Write a Poem

Holly Day

June 16, 2026- July 28, 2026 | Time
Tue, 06/16/2026 - 6:00pm - Tue, 07/28/2026 - 8:00pm | Poetry | Adult

In this class, we'll discuss the many techniques poets use to find the strongest way to express their ideas through language and structure. We'll discuss how to pull a poem out of a piece of prose, developing stronger imagery in our writing, and how the structure of a poem effects how it looks on...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/lets-write-poem\]](https://loft.org/classes/lets-write-poem)

Poetry as Insurgent Art

Jamila Osman

June 18, 2026- July 30, 2026 | Time
Thu, 06/18/2026 - 12:00pm - Thu, 07/30/2026 - 2:00pm | Poetry | Adult

This poetry workshop for cultural workers, poets, and dreamers will be focused on the language of political struggle and the responsibility of artists in times of crisis. This workshop will explore the powerful role of poets and artists in revolutionary movements, using historic examples from...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/poetry-insurgent-art\]](https://loft.org/classes/poetry-insurgent-art)

poeTRYhealing

Cassie Premo Steele

June 27, 2026 | Time
Sat, 06/27/2026 - 9:00am - Sat, 06/27/2026 - 12:00pm | Poetry | Adult

poeTRYhealing is a three-hour class led by an award-winning poet and scholar of trauma that will introduce students to a diverse group of poets who use poetry as a way to heal from individual and collective trauma. During the class meeting, we will read selections from Gloria Anzaldúa, Ellen Bass...

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

A Summer of Poetic Forms: Sestinas

Halee Kirkwood

June 27, 2026 | Time
Sat, 06/27/2026 - 9:00am - Sat, 06/27/2026 - 11:00am | Poetry | Adult

How can the poetic form enliven our creative practice? Let's explore and gather for a summer of sonnets and sestinas, a harvest of haiku. All are welcome in this summer series: formal poetry can be a great entryway to folks who are new to poetry, as well as challenge the most seasoned poet to...

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

Translating Life Experience Into Poetry

Edward Sambrano III

July 7, 2026- July 28, 2026 | Time
Tue, 07/07/2026 - 6:00pm - Tue, 07/28/2026 - 8:00pm | Poetry | Adult

What do we do with what moves us to write a poem? Too frequently does something occur in our lives that seems, to us, profound—the start, the raw material, of a poem!—only for us struggle to communicate its significance when it comes time to write. The problem, as we will discuss in this class...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/translating-life-experience-poetry\]](https://loft.org/classes/translating-life-experience-poetry)

The Poetry of Preoccupation

Christopher Vaughan

July 8, 2026- July 29, 2026 | Time
Wed, 07/08/2026 - 6:00pm - Wed, 07/29/2026 - 8:00pm | Poetry | Adult

Preoccupations: They're the things that make us toss and turn at night. What we just can't let go off—or what won't let us go. In a lighter sense, a preoccupation might be an abiding delight, the item on the bucket list, that dream we can't stop reaching for. In a more difficult sense, the loss, or...

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

A Summer of Poetic Forms: Contrapuntals

Halee Kirkwood

July 11, 2026 | Time
Sat, 07/11/2026 - 9:00am - Sat, 07/11/2026 - 11:00am | Poetry | Adult

How can the poetic form enliven our creative practice? Let's explore and gather for a summer of sonnets and sestinas, a harvest of haiku. All are welcome in this summer series: formal poetry can be a great entryway to folks who are new to poetry, as well as challenge the most seasoned poet to...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/summer-poetic-forms-contrapuntals\]](https://loft.org/classes/summer-poetic-forms-contrapuntals)

Not a Love Poem, But Something Close

Asa Drake

July 11, 2026 | Time
Sat, 07/11/2026 - 10:00am - Sat, 07/11/2026 - 1:00pm | Poetry | Adult

How might we go about broadening the scope of the love poem to include the “not love” poem? What odes might we write to friends, pets, neighbors and gardens? What poems might include our lovers without being about romantic love? And what about all the negative feelings that come with misdirected...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/not-love-poem-something-close-0\]](https://loft.org/classes/not-love-poem-something-close-0)

Poetry: Writing Through Loss

Christopher Vaughan

July 11, 2026- July 18, 2026 | Time
Sat, 07/11/2026 - 10:00am - Sat, 07/18/2026 - 1:00pm | Poetry | Adult

Almost everyone's life is touched by loss. What's lost could be internal, external, or some combination of the two. Loss can be individual or collective, fleeting or permanent, isolated or recurring across through generations. Loss might imply a wound or trauma, an absence, a breaker-of-bonds, yet...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/poetry-writing-through-loss-0\]](https://loft.org/classes/poetry-writing-through-loss-0)

A Summer of Poetic Forms: Centos & Golden Shovels

Halee Kirkwood

July 18, 2026 | Time
Sat, 07/18/2026 - 9:00am - Sat, 07/18/2026 - 11:00am | Poetry | Adult

How can the poetic form enliven our creative practice? Let's explore and gather for a summer of sonnets and sestinas, a harvest of haiku. All are welcome in this summer series: formal poetry can be a great entryway to folks who are new to poetry, as well as challenge the most seasoned poet to...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/summer-poetic-forms-centos-golden-shovels\]](https://loft.org/classes/summer-poetic-forms-centos-golden-shovels)

Writing Poetry Under Traumatic Fascism

Cassie Premo Steele

July 25, 2026 | Time
Sat, 07/25/2026 - 9:00am - Sat, 07/25/2026 - 12:00pm | Poetry | Adult

Writing Poetry Under Traumatic Fascism is a three-hour class led by an award-winning poet and scholar of trauma that will introduce students to an innovative method of using poetry as a way of witnessing to and healing from traumatic fascism. During the class meeting, we will read poems from the...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/writing-poetry-under-traumatic-fascism\]](https://loft.org/classes/writing-poetry-under-traumatic-fascism)

A Summer of Poetic Forms: Sonnets

Halee Kirkwood

July 25, 2026 | Time
Sat, 07/25/2026 - 9:00am - Sat, 07/25/2026 - 11:00am | Poetry | Adult

How can the poetic form enliven our creative practice? Let's explore and gather for a summer of sonnets and sestinas, a harvest of haiku. All are welcome in this summer series: formal poetry can be a great entryway to folks who are new to poetry, as well as challenge the most seasoned poet to...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/summer-poetic-forms-sonnets\]](https://loft.org/classes/summer-poetic-forms-sonnets)

The Poetics of Hope: Writing and Reading Poetry

Marlin M. Jenkins

Time

July 25, 2026 | Sat, 07/25/2026 - 1:00pm - Sat, 07/25/2026 - 4:00pm | Poetry | Adult

We'll examine poetry's power to confront and evoke feeling, to help us perceive, notice, and orient ourselves—with the specific lens of hopefulness. When hope feels unattainable, how can poems help us reach toward it? In desperate moments, what might poems offer to help keep us afloat?

We'll begin...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/poetics-hope-writing-and-reading-poetry-1\]](https://loft.org/classes/poetics-hope-writing-and-reading-poetry-1)

Rooted: Finding the Poem in Our Own Backyard

Benjamin Shalya

Time

August 1, 2026 | Sat, 08/01/2026 - 9:00am - Sat, 08/01/2026 - 1:00pm | Poetry | Adult

The greatest poets know a secret: the ordinary world is sacred. Not metaphorically. Not occasionally. Always.

In this class, we explore the work of poets for whom place—a snowy hillside, a country road, a patch of winter moss—is not merely backdrop but the very source of the poem. We will read and...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/rooted-finding-poem-our-own-backyard\]](https://loft.org/classes/rooted-finding-poem-our-own-backyard)

PUBLISHING AND CAREER

Pitch Perfect: Write a Query Letter That Gets Noticed

Jackie Cangro

Time

June 20, 2026 | Sat, 06/20/2026 - 10:00am - Sat, 06/20/2026 - 1:00pm | Publishing and Career | Adult

The query letter is your gateway to traditional publishing—the one-chance pitch that entices a literary agent to request your manuscript. To put your best foot forward, you need to write a query letter that stands out, follows a specific format, and impresses and intrigues an agent. (No small feat...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/pitch-perfect-write-query-letter-gets-noticed\]](https://loft.org/classes/pitch-perfect-write-query-letter-gets-noticed)

You've Finished Your Book—Now What?

Savannah Brooks

Time

July 11, 2026 | Sat, 07/11/2026 - 10:00am - Sat, 07/11/2026 - 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 \[https://loft.org/classes/youve-finished-your-book-now-what-3\]](https://loft.org/classes/youve-finished-your-book-now-what-3)

Submitting and Publishing Your Writing to Literary Magazines

Adrianna Jereb

Time

July 18, 2026 | Sat, 07/18/2026 - 10:00am - Sat, 07/18/2026 - 1:00pm | Publishing and Career | Adult

Ready to share your writing with the world? In this class you'll learn how to find homes for your stories, essays, and poems. We'll discuss the process from start to finish: finding literary magazines that are a good fit, formatting author bios and cover letters, staying organized and keeping track...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/submitting-and-publishing-your-writing-literary-magazines-1\]](https://loft.org/classes/submitting-and-publishing-your-writing-literary-magazines-1)

How to Get Your Work Accepted at Literary Conferences

Lyzette Wanzer

Time

July 18, 2026 | Sat, 07/18/2026 - 10:30am - Sat, 07/18/2026 - 2:30pm | Publishing and Career | Adult

Being invited to read your creative work at a conference is a huge feather in your literary cap. This class offers information, guidance, and strategies for writers wishing to have their work accepted at a writers' conference, whether virtual or in-person. This class is open to writers of all levels...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/how-get-your-work-accepted-literary-conferences\]](https://loft.org/classes/how-get-your-work-accepted-literary-conferences)

Publishing for Newbies

Rachel Werner

Time

July 22, 2026- July 29, 2026 | Wed, 07/22/2026 - 1:00pm - Wed, 07/29/2026 - 3:00pm |

Publishing and Career | Adult

If you are a writer working on a picture book, memoir, zine, art book or literary work, you may be unsure of how to get your current project published. You also may be struggling to figure out how to create or procure illustrations, cover art, photographs or archival materials. For each publishing...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/publishing-newbies\]](https://loft.org/classes/publishing-newbies)

Craft Seminar: Your Manuscript Feels Publication-Ready. Are You?

Courtney Maum

Time

July 22, 2026 | Wed, 07/22/2026 - 6:00pm - Wed, 07/22/2026 - 8:00pm | Publishing and Career | Adult

Whether you're aiming for traditional publication or are excited to self-publish, many writers understand how to prepare a manuscript for publication, but readying themselves to be their book's ambassadors is a trickier quest. In this energetic and uplifting class that will blend lecture with group...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/craft-seminar-your-manuscript-feels-publication-ready-are-you\]](https://loft.org/classes/craft-seminar-your-manuscript-feels-publication-ready-are-you)

Artist Statements for Creative Writers: A 21st Century Necessity

Lyzette Wanzer

Time

July 25, 2026 | Sat, 07/25/2026 - 10:30am - Sat, 07/25/2026 - 3:30pm | Publishing and Career | Adult

The artist statement is an opportunity to demonstrate that you are a thoughtful, deliberate writer who takes your literary career seriously. You'll need a version of this statement on your grant, fellowship, and residency applications, as well as your author web page. In this workshop, you'll learn...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/artist-statements-creative-writers-21st-century-necessity\]](https://loft.org/classes/artist-statements-creative-writers-21st-century-necessity)

What Agents Look For In Your Fantasy Novels

Sara Megibow, Matthew Valdez

Time

July 25, 2026 | Sat, 07/25/2026 - 1:00pm - Sat, 07/25/2026 - 4:00pm | Publishing and Career | Adult

We're living in an era filled with great fantasy stories! Fantasy novels for the adult market, fantasy novels for younger readers, "Romantasy", manga, graphic novels, fantasy on TV and in films...the list goes on and on and consumers are hungry!

Sara Megibow and Matthew Valdez - literary agents...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/what-agents-look-your-fantasy-novels\]](https://loft.org/classes/what-agents-look-your-fantasy-novels)

Take the Leap: Submit Your Writing to Magazines and Journals

Tina Tocco

Time

August 8, 2026 | Sat, 08/08/2026 - 10:00am - Sat, 08/08/2026 - 1:00pm | Publishing and Career | Adult

You've got a few pieces you're proud of, but how do you get started in the world of submissions? What are the mistakes you want to avoid? In this class, you'll learn where to find publications that are looking for work, proper manuscript format, and submission etiquette.

You'll also draft a cover...

[View Online \[https://loft.org/classes/take-leap-submit-your-writing-magazines-and-journals-1\]](https://loft.org/classes/take-leap-submit-your-writing-magazines-and-journals-1)