

The
LOFT @Macalester
College

**YOUNG WRITERS'
PROGRAM 2022**



JUN-AUG 2022 | GRADES 1-12

WELCOME TO THE LOFT'S 2022 YOUNG WRITERS' PROGRAM!

This is a year of new chapters for the Loft. We've welcomed a new Executive Director, Arleta Little, who is penning new plans for a more equitable vision of our community. And, we're happy to turn the page forward to in-person classes again, a much missed format for Summer Youth. There is a resounding "YES!" from our teaching artists, one summing it up perfectly: "You have no idea how much I've missed this!" And it's simply true—we've missed you! We can't wait to see you in our buzzing classrooms of Young Writers this summer!

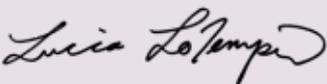
What makes this new chapter of Summer Youth especially momentous is a change of setting! We are excited to announce Summer Youth will take place **at Macalester College**. We're thrilled to be in the Arts buildings, and to take advantage of the welcoming green space of a city campus. Though we're sad to not be in Open Book for Summer Youth, we knew that COVID safety had to be a top priority for our participants—and we recognized that the spacious outdoor lawns and large classrooms come with the added bonus of exposing our Young Writers to a literary community pillar. I remember as a burgeoning writer feeling a sense of gravitas on a college campus when attending a summer program that took my writing seriously. I see this move to Macalester as another way that our programs affirm Young Writers as Writers with a capital W.

For this summer, we've organized most of our week-long classes to fill out a full day of creative writing fun. This is partly a result of your feedback! And we've broken our classes into grade levels (grades 1-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12) to best represent the reading and writing levels of each group. Each Young Writer should register for the grade level they are entering in the fall—a great summer preview for their upcoming new chapter in school!

We're excited to offer sessions with longtime teaching artists, like Kelsey Daly, who will offer engaging and ever-changing creative writing time for students, while offering a consistent homebase for Young Writers and parents alike. And we have specialized writing sessions—from writing about a zombie apocalypse to developing self-editing skills to learning how to perform poetry. The classes this season are sure to inspire and engage the imagination!

We have deep gratitude for our community of teaching artists, students, and parents for their flexibility and creativity. We welcome Young Writers whose imaginations are uncontainable, whose notebooks are bursting to the seams, whose unique voice deserves a mainstage! Whether you have plans of publishing your own book or are casual about creativity, we can't wait to have you join us this season for Summer Youth at Macalester College!

Cheers to new chapters!



Lucia LoTempio
Program Manager, Education

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| Classes for Grades 10-12 | 8 |
| Classes for Grades 7-9 | 15 |
| Classes for Grades 4-6 | 20 |
| Classes for Grades 1-3 | 25 |

Find full teaching artist bios, class descriptions, and more program details at loft.org:

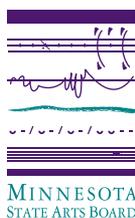
Refund and class policies: loft.org/policy

Scholarship offerings: loft.org/scholarship

Teaching at the Loft: loft.org/teach

THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS

The Loft's youth programming is made possible through the generous contributions of Loft members and by the voters of Minnesota through a Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support grant, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.



GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

Registration

Registration is open as long as there is space available in a class. You can register your child or teen online at **www.loft.org** or by calling **612-379-8999**. We are here to help. A detailed confirmation letter will be emailed once your registration has been processed. Please note that you will be asked to fill out a Health and Safety form after registering, which will be included as a link in your confirmation letter.

Grade Ranges and Writing Ability

The grade ranges listed for each class are suggested guidelines, but before registering your child for a class outside of their grade range, please consider that teaching artists propose classes based on age ranges they are comfortable teaching. Suggested grade ranges also consider socialization, as well as more mature class discussions; you may have an incredibly gifted child who excels at writing and learning, but please consider whether they would be comfortable in a class with children much older/younger, comfortable participating in more mature class discussions pertaining to writing for older audiences, and how it would affect the learning environment for the other students. Please note that grade levels reflect the grade the student will be entering in the fall. If you have questions please call **612-379-8999**.

Scholarships

The Loft is committed to addressing financial barriers for youth students and families. In 2022, the Loft will be entering into partnership with community organizations to provide financial assistance for youth students. More information and application instructions will be forthcoming soon on our website at loft.org/youth-programs. For assistance, please contact a Loft Program Associate at **612-379-8999** or **edu@loft.org**.

Parents With Children or Teens With Special Needs

Children and teens with special needs or disabilities are always welcome at the Loft! Please call us at **612-379-8999** if you would like to discuss how the Loft can accommodate the needs of your child or teen (hearing or sight impairments, children with PCAs, learning challenges, closed caption needs) in order for them to more fully participate in and enjoy Loft classes!

COVID Safety and Vaccination Status

Anyone attending a class with the Loft over the age of 5 must be fully vaccinated, and must provide proof that they are fully vaccinated, prior to or at the first class meeting. To be considered vaccinated, we require attendees to have had BOTH doses of their vaccine (or the ONE dose Johnson and Johnson vaccination). Valid forms of proof will include: a vaccine card, a picture of your vaccination card clearly showing your name and dates of the vaccination, a photocopy of your vaccine card, or proof of vaccination via a third-party medical verification app like Docket or MyChart. You can send proof of vaccination to **llotempio@loft.org**, or provide proof on the first day of class.

Masks are required while attending indoor in-person classes with the Loft. No eating will be permitted indoors. Students will be able to remove their masks when outdoors, and will eat lunch outdoors if attending all-day classes. We highly recommend that participants wear KN95 or N95 masks. Face shields may be worn in addition to a mask, but not in place of.

If the student is feeling ill or has a temperature over 100 degrees, please stay home. If the student or someone in their immediate household tests positive for COVID-19, they must stay home. In the event of a positive COVID-19 test, please notify the Loft if there is a chance that the student has exposed others attending Summer Youth at **612-379-8999**.

Cancellation and Refund Policy

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

Become a Member and Support the Loft Community

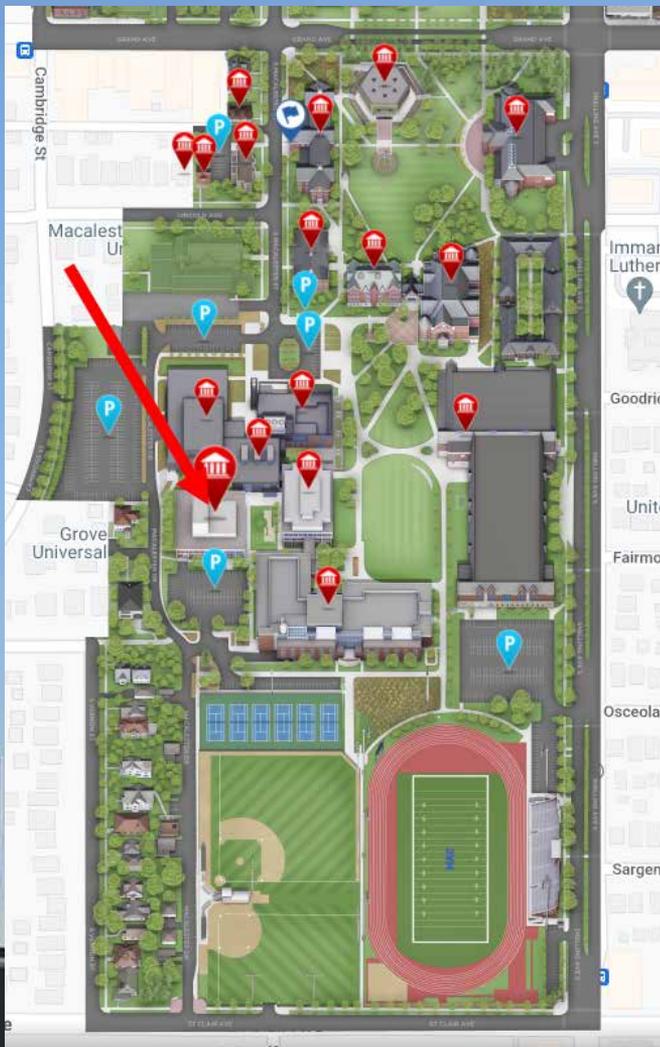
Your membership is the lifeblood of the Loft and contributes directly to the development of writers and the literary community. As a member, you receive benefits and discounts as well as the knowledge that your support ensures the future of the Loft programs you value. For details on membership, visit **www.loft.org/support** or call 612-215-2597.

Accessibility at the Loft

The Loft Literary Center strives to be accessible to all, without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, veteran status, economic status, sex, gender identity or expression, age, sexual orientation, or disability. As possible, we will remove barriers to participation in our programs to persons with disabilities.

To arrange for accessibility accommodation, please contact the Loft at 612-215-2575 or loft@loft.org three weeks in advance. Accessibility services are partly supported by the Rachel Vaughan Memorial Fund. For more information about accessibility see **loft.org/access**.





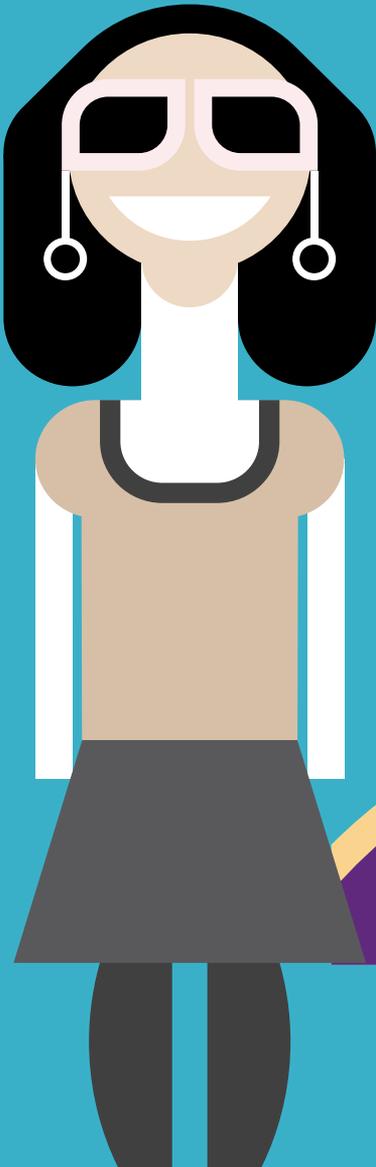
JANET WALLACE FINE ARTS CENTER

Our Summer Home for 2022!

130 Macalester St
Saint Paul, MN 55015



**Classes
for Teens
Grades 10-12**



POSSIBILITIES OF PACING: FINDING BREATH IN YOUR WRITING with Jack Harris

JUNE 20-24 | 9 a.m.-noon | MULTIGENRE | GRADES 10-12

Reg \$262.50 | Mem \$236.25 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

In this writing-intensive class, we'll ask, "What happens when we give our stories room to breathe?" This class will explore possibilities that slowing down—without losing energy—holds for enriching your writing, primarily in the realms of plot and conflict, character, and worldbuilding.



Jack Harris is an MFA candidate in Creative Writing at Minnesota State University, Mankato, where he serves as a fiction editor on *Blue Earth Review* and is an Outreach Graduate Assistant in Library Services. His work has appeared in *dead peasant* and *Wisconsin People & Ideas*.

IN THE BEGINNING: AN ENTRANCE INTO CREATIVE NONFICTION with Judea DeMaris

JUNE 20-24 | 1-4 p.m. | CREATIVE NONFICTION | GRADES 10-12

Reg \$262.50 | Mem \$236.25 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

Join us for a week of writing! This creative nonfiction class will teach you to write the stories that feel unreachable. We will discuss various nonfiction readings; take what we have learned to create nonfiction poetry, imagery, and short stories.



Judea DeMaris is a creative writer with a focus on Nonfiction Magical Realism in poetry and short stories. She was an editor for the literary magazine *Upper Mississippi Harvest* and has been published a number of times in multiple genres of nonfiction writing.



JUN 27-JUL 1 @ MACALESTER

FINDING THE POET WITHIN with Holly Day

JUN 27-JUL 1 | 9 a.m.-noon | POETRY | GRADES 10-12

Reg \$262.50 | Mem \$236.25 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

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 develop stronger imagery in our writing, and how the structure of a poem affects its look and sound.



Holly Day's poetry and fiction has recently appeared in *Asimov's SF*, *Analog SF*, *Grain*, *The Harvard Review*, and *The Dalhousie Review*, and she has over a dozen poetry books published, most recently, *Book of Beasts* (Weasel Press) and *Bound in Ice* (Shanti Arts).

LYRIC WRITING: WHERE POETRY & MUSIC MELT with Jake Kirby

JUN 27-JUL 1 | 1-4 p.m. | CREATIVE NONFICTION | GRADES 10-12

Reg \$262.50 | Mem \$236.25 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

In this class, we will read and draw inspiration from the works of poets and musicians alike. What happens when we think of song lyrics as poetry? Is our favorite musician also a poet? Is there a difference between a song and a poem?



Jake Kirby is a writer from Western Massachusetts. They have previously worked with the Juniper Institute for Young Writers as a program assistant. Jake is an editor and reviewer for the online journal *Decolonial Passage*.

JUL 5-8 @ MACALESTER

THE PERSONAL ESSAY with Mitchell LeGrand

JUL 5-8 | 9 a.m.-noon | CREATIVE NONFICTION | GRADES 10-12

Reg \$210.00 | Mem \$189.00 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

In this class, we will be exploring the personal narrative, how to tell our stories in a compelling way. These lessons will prepare you for upcoming college applications and scholarship essays, as well as generally enhance your storytelling skills.



Mitchell LeGrand attended Century College and the University of Minnesota, where he received a degree in global studies and political economics. Although he doesn't work as a professional writer, he works as a nonprofit educator and spends a lot of time volunteering with students to improve their scholarship essay applications and personal statements.

NATURE WRITING IN CREATIVE NONFICTION with Anna Molenaar

JUL 5-8 | 1-4 p.m. | CREATIVE NONFICTION | GRADES 10-12

Reg \$210.00 | Mem \$189.00 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

In this class, students will examine essays that successfully use nature writing to elevate the piece's effectiveness, and work on writing essays of their own that connects nature to answering the question the essay asks.



Anna Molenaar is a Hamline MFA student working in creative nonfiction, with emphasis on the natural world and wildlife as it pertains to human connections. She has a passion for working with youth and fostering early literacy skills that foster lifelong readers and, hopefully, writers.

JUL 11-15 @ MACALESTER

SHORT STORY: A TO Z with Troy Wilderson

JUL 11-15 | 9 a.m.-noon | FICTION | GRADES 10-12

Reg \$262.50 | Mem \$236.25 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

Dive into the essentials of the short story: structure, point-of-view, plot, character, theme, and setting. Classes include instruction, generative exercises, in-class writing, and interaction. Students can draft up to a page of their story daily then read excerpts in-session for feedback.



Troy Wilderson is a New Orleans-born writer, senior prose feedback editor for *Typehouse Literary Magazine*, and a manuscript reader for a local independent publisher. She teaches the art of short story writing online. Her short fiction has appeared in numerous journals. Her teaching approach is hands-on, and she strives for inclusivity.

ELEMENTS OF FICTION with Robert Voedisch

JUL 11-15 | 1-4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 10-12

Reg \$262.50 | Mem \$236.25 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

In this class, we'll look at the big questions that drive every story—Who are these characters? What do they want?—but we'll also look at the smaller, more technical aspects of fiction, like point-of-view, voice, and time.



Robert Voedisch's fiction has appeared in *Third Coast*, *The Greensboro Review*, *North American Review*, *Five Chapters*, *One Teen Story*, *BULL*, *Paper Darts*, and in the anthology *Fiction on a Stick: Stories by Writers from Minnesota*. Visit robertvoedisch.com.

BECOMING A POET & BUILDING POETRY COMMUNITY with Zachary Czaia

JUL 11-15 | 1-4 p.m. | POETRY | GRADES 10-12

Reg \$262.50 | Mem \$236.25 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

This class will support you in reading, writing, and performing poetry—and building poetry community. We will use the spoken word documentary *Louder Than a Bomb* as a 'core text' for the class, studying poems in that film, and then creating our own work in those 'genres' of poems.



Zach Czaia is a poet and high school English teacher. His second collection of poems, *KNUCKLEHEAD*, was published in 2021 with Nodin Press. He currently teaches at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School in Minneapolis, MN.

JUL 18-22 @ MACALESTER

SWORDS & MYTHIC PROMISES: AN INTRO TO MAKING FRIENDS WITH DRAGONS with Alice Paige

JUL 18-22 | 9 a.m.-noon | FICTION | GRADES 10-12

Reg \$262.50 | Mem \$236.25 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

This class is an introduction to writing compelling fantasy through the use and subversion of common tropes and archetypes. Students will spend the week reading short stories, engaging in group discussion, and participating in writing exercises.



Alice Paige is a trans woman, essayist, and storyteller living in Saint Paul. Through teaching, she looks to guide students in a reclamation of narrative power and an exploration of the strange thresholds of writing. She is a Digital Pedagogical Lab Fellow and a recent graduate of Hamline University's MFA program.

WRITING THE DARK with Jeanne Bain

JUL 18-22 | 1-4 p.m. | MULTIGENRE | GRADES 10-12

Reg \$262.50 | Mem \$236.25 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

As a reader, you are drawn to books with strong characters, disturbing situations and difficult themes. As a writer, you want to explore the dark side in your own characters. In this supportive class, we will explore writing in community with peers who love all things dark.



Jeanne Bain has an affinity for fanfic, all things dark, producing community radio and singing Broadway show tunes out of tune while doing the dishes. As a teaching artist, she encourages people to allow the moments of their ordinary, everyday lives to inspire the extraordinary in their writing.

JUL 25-29 @ MACALESTER

SO YOU CAN WRITE—BUT CAN YOU EDIT?

with Cole Williams

JUL 25-29 | 9 a.m.–noon | POETRY | GRADES 10-12

Reg \$262.50 | Mem \$236.25 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

Begin to edit your own poems. This class will uncover ten categories of edits to look for in the poet's own writing including usage, punctuation, capitalization and more. Class time will be divided between sharing and editing, learning to reference inquiries, and reading poetry.



Cole W. Williams is the author of *Hear the River Dammed: Poems from the Edge of the Mississippi* as well as several books for children. She recently graduated from the MFA program at Augsburg University in Minneapolis and completed an internship with Copper Canyon Press in December 2021.

LOVE, ADVENTURE, CHANGE: WRITING YOUNG ADULT FICTION

with Natalie Martell

JUL 25-29 | 1-4 p.m. | YOUNG ADULT | GRADES 10-12

Reg \$262.50 | Mem \$236.25 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

This class explores different styles of young adult fiction and how to create meaningful stories for teens. We'll look at a range of examples to spark discussions and get inspired. You will gain the tools to craft complex and diverse characters, settings, and narratives that will get readers hooked.



Natalie Martell is a queer fiction writer and poet who works as Personal Care Assistant for an artist with different abilities. She has an MFA from Minnesota State University where she taught composition and creative writing. She is currently working on a young adult novel.

AUG 1-5 @ MACALESTER

COMEDY WRITING

with Holly Day

AUG 1-5 | 9 a.m.–noon | MULTIGENRE | GRADES 10-12

Reg \$262.50 | Mem \$236.25 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

In this class, we'll go over some of the techniques that professional comedy writers use to mine bits of comedic gold from the world around them and practice writing our own hilarious revelations about the world around us.



Holly Day's poetry and fiction has recently appeared in *Asimov's SF*, *Analog SF*, *Grain*, *The Harvard Review*, and *The Dalhousie Review*, and she has over a dozen poetry books published, most recently, *Book of Beasts* (Weasel Press) and *Bound in Ice* (Shanti Arts).

SCREENWRITING FOR TEENS

with Michael Gorrie

AUG 1-5 | 1-4 p.m. | SCREENWRITING | GRADES 10-12

Reg \$262.50 | Mem \$236.25 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

Are you a teenager and want to write your movie? Then this class is for you! Over the course of this class we will cover the fundamentals of screenwriting structure, formatting, and character development.



Michael Gorrie is an award winning screenwriter and filmmaker from the Twin Cities. His films have run at numerous film festivals across the US. In five of six years Michael has been a two-time McKnight finalist for directing and a three-time Knight Screenwriting Residency finalist.

AUG 8-12 @ MACALESTER

BUILDING A NOVEL with Debra Blake

AUG 8-12 | 9 a.m.-noon | FICTION | GRADES 10-12

Reg \$262.50 | Mem \$236.25 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

Writing a novel can seem daunting, but "Building a Novel" breaks it down into manageable steps. We will work on plot, characterization, point-of-view, and scene building. Classes include feedback on your writings and free-writing that helps jump-start and deepen your thinking.



Debra Blake is a Twin Cities' writer, editor, and educator, who mentors teens and adults in writing and edits manuscripts of all types. She has taught numerous literary and writing courses and is completing a historical novel about three sisters in an Iowa farm family.

WRITING HORROR, SCIENCE FICTION, & FANTASY POETRY with Holly Day

AUG 8-12 | 1-4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 10-12

Reg \$262.50 | Mem \$236.25 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

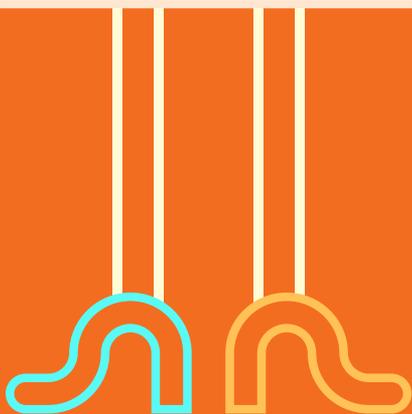
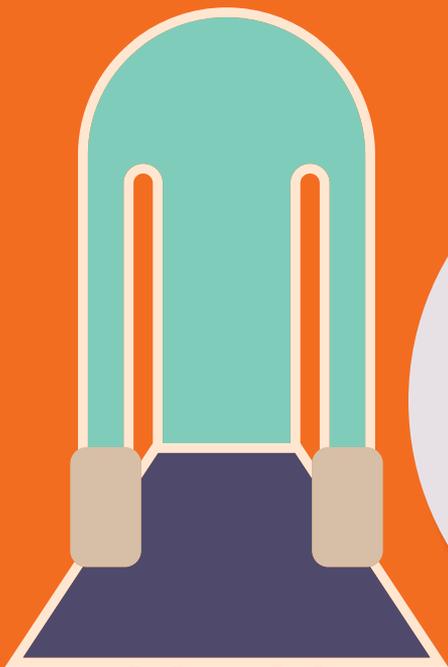
Are poems about love and nature just not your thing? Are you drawn more towards the writings of Poe, Lovecraft, and Tolkien? In this class, we'll bring forth our own strange and wonderful literary creations!



Holly Day's poetry and fiction has recently appeared in *Asimov's SF*, *Analog SF*, *Grain*, *The Harvard Review*, and *The Dalhousie Review*, and she has over a dozen poetry books published, most recently, *Book of Beasts* (Weasel Press) and *Bound in Ice* (Shanti Arts).



**Classes
for Youth
Grades 7-9**



GROUP TEACHER

Welcome back to in-person writing with Summer Youth @ Mac! Join us for a week of writing and all-day creativity! We'll spend the week writing, reading, and having fun! In addition to class content, each day will involve interactive exercises and activities led by Kelsey Daly.



JUN 20-24 @ MACALESTER

NOT JUST THE ZOMBIE APOCALYPSE

with Lyda Morehouse & Kelsey Daly

JUN 20-24 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 7-9

Reg \$590.00 | Mem \$531.00 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

What do Hunger Games and Doctor Who have in common? They're both science fiction! In this one-week class, we'll learn how to build believable worlds and play story games. If writing stories with zombies, robots, vampires, fairies is your thing, this is the class for you. We'll break for lunch, and have some time to be outside. We'll finish each day with writing activities that will inspire us to express ourselves while having fun!



Lyda Morehouse leads a double life. By day she's a mild-mannered science fiction author of such works as the Shamus Award winner and Locus Award Nominated *Archangel Protocol*. By night, she dons her secret identity as Tate Hallaway, bestselling paranormal romance author.

JUN 27-JUL 1 @ MACALESTER

FLIP THE SCRIPT: SCREENWRITING

with Cristina Pippa & Kelsey Daly

JUN 27-JUL 1 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m. | SCREENWRITING | GRADES 7-9

Reg \$590.00 | Mem \$531.00 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

In this fast-paced and fun screenwriting class for teen and preteen writers at all levels, we will test out movie concepts and help you develop a script for a short film. You will map out the plot of your movie, pitch your ideas and write scenes in exciting locations with powerful characters. We'll break for lunch, and have some time to be outside. We'll finish each day with writing activities that will inspire us to express ourselves while having fun!



Cristina Pippa is an award-winning playwright, screenwriter, and novelist. She holds a BA from Columbia University, and an MFA from the University of Iowa Playwrights Workshop, where she received the Iowa Fellowship for the Arts, and the Norman Felton Fellowship. Visit www.cristinapippa.com.



Kelsey Daly is a writer and photographer living in Minneapolis. She has taught youth workshops in creative writing, nonfiction storytelling, and photography locally and abroad. Kelsey will serve as a group teacher this summer, leading interactive exercises and activities each day of the class.

JUL 5-8 @ MACALESTER

EXPRESSION ALOUD

with Laura Brandenburg & Kelsey Daly

JUL 5-8 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m. | MULTIGENRE | GRADES 7-9

Reg \$472.00 | Mem \$424.80 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

This class celebrates storytelling and poetry as performance. Students will develop their own spoken word pieces based on fantasy, feelings, memoir, or wherever their imagination takes them. Each class will devote time to body movement, vocal exercises, writing, and practice reading aloud from original work or favorite texts. We'll break for lunch, and have some time to be outside. We'll finish each day with writing activities that will inspire us to express ourselves while having fun!



Laura Brandenburg is a veteran of spoken word performance and poetry readings across the Twin Cities, including in the legendary First Avenue music club, the Turf Club Clown Lounge, and the "Morningside After Dark" performance series at Morningside Church in Edina.

JUL 11-15 @ MACALESTER

INTRODUCTION TO FANTASY WRITING

with Aurora Whittet Best & Kelsey Daly

JUL 11-15 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 7-9

Reg \$590.00 | Mem \$531.00 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

Ever wondered what it takes to create the page-turning heroes and heroines of your favorite young adult novel? In this class, you'll explore the details to create a compelling character, fantasy world building, plot outline, authentic dialogue, and more. We will work to overcome obstacles and fears. We'll break for lunch, and have some time to be outside. We'll finish each day with writing activities that will inspire us to express ourselves while having fun!



Aurora Whittet Best started out as a wild red-haired child in Minnesota dreaming up stories for her friends to read. Today, she has completed her first Young Adult series, the Bloodmark Saga and written and illustrated two children's picture books. She is a national award-winning author, illustrator, and designer.

GROUP TEACHER

Welcome back to in-person writing with Summer Youth @ Mac! Join us for a week of writing and all-day creativity! We'll spend the week writing, reading, and having fun! In addition to class content, each day will involve interactive exercises and activities led by Kelsey Daly.



JUL 18-22 @ MACALESTER

WE ARE PYRAMIDS: SPOKEN WORD & IDENTITY

with SEE MORE PERSPECTIVE & Kelsey Daly

JUL 18-22 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m. | SPOKEN WORD | GRADES 7-9

Reg \$590.00 | Mem \$531.00 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

Students will write, perform, and engage with the culture of Spoken Word, build community with their peers, and talk about things that matter to them. We'll break for lunch, and have some time to be outside. We'll finish each day with writing activities that will inspire us to express ourselves while having fun!



SEE MORE PERSPECTIVE is an award-winning MC, Producer/Composer, Spoken Word Poet, Visual Artist, Filmmaker, and Educator. His work explores identity, culture, social justice, mythology, science fiction, spirituality, and the paranormal. Learn more at www.seemoreperspective.com

JUL 25-29 @ MACALESTER

AN ADVENTURE IN COLLABORATIVE STORYTELLING

with Allison Wyss & Kelsey Daly

JUL 25-29 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 7-9

Reg \$590.00 | Mem \$531.00 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

Together, we'll invent and populate an entire town, its history, its mythology, its people, and certainly its drama—all for a rollicking adventure in teamwork, collaboration, and storytelling. Expect inspiration from your peers, solid storytelling strategies, and some drawing, acting, mapmaking, diagramming, and other artistic expression to complement the writing. We'll break for lunch, and have some time to be outside. We'll finish each day with writing activities!



Allison Wyss's stories have recently appeared in numerous journals. Allison's short story collection, *Splendid Anatomies*, is now out from Veliz Books in 2022. Some of her ideas about the craft of fiction can be found in Reading Like a Writer, a monthly column she writes for the Loft's blog. More: www.allisonwyss.com



Kelsey Daly is a writer and photographer living in Minneapolis. She has taught youth workshops in creative writing, nonfiction storytelling, and photography locally and abroad. Kelsey will serve as a group teacher this summer, leading interactive exercises and activities each day of the class.

AUG 1-5 @ MACALESTER

FICTION WRITING CRASH COURSE

with Kaia Preus & Kelsey Daly

AUG 1-5 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m. | MULTIGENRE | GRADES 7-9

Reg \$590.00 | Mem \$531.00 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

What does justice mean to you? Do you have an idea for a short story or a novel but you don't know where to begin? This class is perfect for the beginning to intermediate fiction writer who wants to practice their skills and share their work in a fun and supportive environment. We'll break for lunch, and have some time to be outside. We'll finish each day with writing activities that will inspire us to express ourselves while having fun!

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Kaia Preus is the author of *The War Requiem* (Essay Press, 2020), a multigenre work that was a finalist for a Minnesota Book Award. She holds her MFA from Hollins University, was an Author Fellow at the Martha's Vineyard Institute of Creative Writing, and has had her essays and fiction published in a number of literary journals.

AUG 8-12 @ MACALESTER

SPARK STORIES

with Natalie Martell & Kelsey Daly

AUG 8-12 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 7-9

Reg \$590.00 | Mem \$531.00 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

This class is a place to invent, whether you have an idea or are starting from scratch. We'll imagine characters, map out worlds, and explore different styles and genres of storytelling. You'll gain the tools to start your story through brainstorming, activities to spark creativity, and writing prompts. We'll break for lunch, and have some time to be outside. We'll finish each day with writing activities that will inspire us to express ourselves while having fun!

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Natalie Martell is a queer fiction writer and poet who works as Personal Care Assistant for an artist with different abilities. She has an MFA from Minnesota State University where she taught composition and creative writing. She is currently working on a young adult novel.



**Classes
for Youth
Grades 4-6**



JUN 20-24 @ MACALESTER

FUN WITH FICTION

with Starrla Cray & Chichi Richards-Okorie

JUN 20-24 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 4-6

Reg \$590.00 | Mem \$531.00 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

In this class, we'll explore the basic elements of fiction and do some writing on our own. Participants will learn how to develop characters, setting, dialogue, narrative arc, and more. We'll also read excerpts from popular fiction stories, discuss the craft of writing, and participate in fun community-building activities. We'll break for lunch, and have some time to play outside. We'll finish each day with writing activities that will inspire us to express ourselves while having fun!



Starrla Cray is an English composition instructor and creative writing MFA candidate at Minnesota State University, Mankato. She has a BA in journalism and spent 10 years working as a reporter and editor. Her writing, photography, and artwork explore the natural world and the human experience.

JUN 27-JUL 1 @ MACALESTER

HOW TO WISH, CREATE, AND DREAM

with Jake Kirby & Chichi Richards-Okorie

JUN 27-JUL 1 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m. | POETRY | GRADES 4-6

Reg \$590.00 | Mem \$531.00 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

Participants will read poems and stories by children their own age, with Kenneth Koch's *Wishes, Lies, and Dreams* as a guide. This class is best suited for any child who might have a creative inclination! We will strengthen creative skills, and general reading and writing. We'll break for lunch, and have some time to play outside. We'll finish each day with writing activities that will inspire us to express ourselves while having fun!



Jake Kirby is a writer from Western Massachusetts. They have previously worked with the Juniper Institute for Young Writers as a program assistant. Jake is an editor and reviewer for the online journal *Decolonial Passage*.

GROUP TEACHERS

Welcome back to in-person writing with Summer Youth @ Mac! Join us for a week of writing and all day creativity! We'll spend the week writing, reading, and having fun! In addition to class content, each day will involve interactive exercises and activities led by Chichi Richards-Okorie or Rachel Guvenc.

GROUP TEACHER

Chizorom Richards-Okorie studies Elementary Education at the University of Wisconsin River Falls. Chichi loves reading, specifically fantasy or dystopian romance, and likes to write creatively. She's worked as a daycare teacher and for residential life at the University of Wisconsin River Falls.



JUL 5-8 @ MACALESTER

WRITING ABOUT PETS

with Blythe Baird & Chichi Richards-Okorie

JUL 5-8 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m. | CREATIVE NONFICTION | GRADES 4-6

Reg \$472.00 | Mem \$424.80 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

In this class, we will adopt charming “desk pets” to bring us inspiration throughout the week as we explore the art of writing from our imaginations about our cutest furry (and scaly!) friends. Bonus: learning tons of neat facts about the animal kingdom! We'll break for lunch, and have some time to play outside. We'll finish each day with writing activities that will inspire us to express ourselves while having fun!



Blythe Baird is an author, viral spoken word poet, and teaching artist. Her work has been featured by *The Huffington Post*, *VICE*, *Write Bloody*, *Button Poetry*, *Mic*, and *Everyday Feminism*. Her short film “When the Fat Girl Gets Skinny” won the 2017 ADCAN film award for the National Eating Disorder Association.

JUL 11-15 @ MACALESTER

READY! SET! GO! GRAPHIC NOVELS

with Trisha Speed Shaskan & Chichi Richards-Okorie

JUL 11-15 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 4-6

Reg \$590.00 | Mem \$531.00 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

Do you like graphic novels? Drawing? Writing? Get ready! We'll give you tools to help you develop your own original character (OC). Get set! You'll plot and thumbnail a story based on your OC. Go! Lay out your own graphic novel using panels, splash pages, and so much more. We'll break for lunch, and have some time to play outside. We'll finish each day with writing activities that will inspire us to express ourselves while having fun!



Trisha Speed Shaskan has written more than 40 books for children, including the picture books *Punk Skunks* illustrated by her husband Stephen Shaskan and *The Itty-Bitty Witch* illustrated by Xindi Yan. For more than 20 years, Trisha has taught creative writing classes to students of all ages. trishaspeedshaskan.com

GROUP TEACHER



Rachel Guvenc has 13 years experience teaching English Language Learners. She is an MFA candidate at Hamline University, where she screened poetry for the *Water~Stone Review* and taught undergrads. She also teaches kids yoga and B.Y.O.B. (Bring Your Own Baby) yoga at Blooma.

JUL 18-22 @ MACALESTER

DO YOU WANT TO BE A WRITER?

with Peter Blau & Rachel Guvenc

JUL 18-22 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m. | MULTIGENRE | GRADES 4-6

Reg \$590.00 | Mem \$531.00 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

This class will give you the tools to shake your creativity loose and let the writer in you out to play. If you write, you are a writer. If you want to be a better writer, you should write more, and that's exactly what this class will be about. We'll break for lunch, and have some time to play outside. We'll finish each day with writing activities that will inspire us to express ourselves while having fun!



Peter Blau teaches adults and children in a variety of venues. He participates in Mayo Clinic's Creative Renewal Program and is a recipient of an award for his work at a women's correctional facility. Peter concentrates on building a strong, close group who share ideas that enhance and expand creative development.

JUL 25-29 @ MACALESTER

WRITING THE FANTASY WORLD

with Holly Day & Rachel Guvenc

JUL 25-29 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 4-6

Reg \$590.00 | Mem \$531.00 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

In this class, we'll learn how important geography is to our stories by building workable fantasy worlds for our characters to live in, with special attention given to geographical features such as waterways, mountains, and even nearby planetary bodies that can be incorporated into our stories. We'll break for lunch, and have some time to play outside. We'll finish each day with writing activities that will inspire us to express ourselves while having fun!



Holly Day's poetry and fiction has recently appeared in *Asimov's SF*, *Analog SF*, *Grain*, *The Harvard Review*, and *The Dalhousie Review*, and she has over a dozen poetry books published, most recently, *Book of Beasts* (Weasel Press) and *Bound in Ice* (Shanti Arts).

GROUP TEACHER



Rachel Guvenc has 13 years experience teaching English Language Learners. She is an MFA candidate at Hamline University, where she screened poetry for the *Water-Stone Review* and taught undergrads. She also teaches kids yoga and B.Y.O.B. (Bring Your Own Baby) yoga at Blooma.

AUG 1-5 @ MACALESTER

IMAGINING A BETTER WORLD

with Elizabeth Yost & Rachel Guvenc

AUG 1-5 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m. | CREATIVE NONFICTION | GRADES 4-6

Reg \$590.00 | Mem \$531.00 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

What does justice mean to you? We'll explore how we can make changes in our own community through our writing and creativity! We'll break for lunch, and have some time to play outside. We'll finish each day with writing activities that will inspire us to express ourselves while having fun!



Elizabeth Yost is studying English and sociology at the University of Minnesota with a focus on the intersection of education, the arts, and social justice. She has presented both her visual artwork and academic research on women's rights to the University of Minnesota community.

AUG 8-12 @ MACALESTER

WRITE UP! WRITE AWAY!

with Kate St. Vincent Vogl & Rachel Guvenc

AUG 8-12 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 4-6

Reg \$590.00 | Mem \$531.00 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

Have a bunch of story ideas and not sure which to write? Learn how real writers decide—and then strengthen the stories they've got. Get tips and techniques needed to make readers eager to turn the page. We'll write in class—and discover what comes next while writing stories UP! We'll break for lunch, and have some time to play outside. We'll finish each day with writing activities that will inspire us to express ourselves while having fun!



Kate St. Vincent Vogl is the author of *Lost & Found: A Memoir of Mothers*. National ABC news has featured her story, and *The Akron Beacon Journal* named it among the best of the year. She graduated from Cornell University, from the University of Michigan Law School, and from the Creative Writing Program at Hamline.



**Classes
for Kids
Grades 1-3**

JUN 27-JUL 1 @ MACALESTER

USE YOUR IMAGINATION

with Nancy Carlson

JUN 27-JUL 1 | 9 a.m.-noon | CREATIVE PROCESS | GRADES 1-3

Reg \$262.50 | Mem \$236.25 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

In this class, we will create characters, get to know them, and then put them in a story. We will use artwork and the written word to bring our characters to life! Along the way we will learn about character development, story boarding, and sequential art as it works in picture books. We will discuss ways to help our imaginations grow and grow by reading, day dreaming, and turning off all electronics once in a while. If your child loves to draw, write and use their imaginations, this class is for them. Come learn from an author who has published over 67 books, and knows her characters and her imagination very well.



Nancy Carlson is the author and illustrator of over 60 picture books including bestsellers *I Like Me* and *Look Out Kindergarten Here I Come*. Nancy graduated from The Minneapolis College of Art and Design with a degree in printmaking.

JUL 5-8 @ MACALESTER

WOW! BUMPY! GROSS! THE SENSES IN WRITING

with Lisa M. Bolt Simons

JUL 5-8 | 9 a.m.-noon | CREATIVE PROCESS | GRADES 1-3

Reg \$210.00 | Mem \$189.00 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

The ability to describe touch, sight, sound, smell, and taste are vital parts of making any written work come alive. In this hands-on class for early writers, we'll discover each sense in detail and write about them. (Note to students with allergies: we'll be exploring smells and tastes. Please contact the teaching artist if you have questions.) After we jump-start our senses and pencils, we'll use all of the senses in a piece of writing—a short story, a poem, or an essay—that the writers create. We'll also explore published work for senses and how they lend themselves to description. Please bring a set of primary colored pencils, a pencil or two, and paper/a notebook.



Lisa M. Bolt Simons is the award-winning writer of 46 nonfiction children's books, four middle-grade "choose your path" sports novels, and the adult history book *Faribault Woolen Mill: Loomed in the Land of Lakes*. Lisa retired from education after 25 years; she worked with students ages 5 to 70 from around the world.

JUL 11-15 @ MACALESTER

FAIRY TALE FUN WITH THE FIVE SENSES

with Blythe Baird

JUL 11-15 | 9 a.m.–noon | FICTION | GRADES 1-3

Reg \$262.50 | Mem \$236.25 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

What if Cinderella's slipper smelled like moldy bread? What if pinocchio's nose was made of play-doh? What if the seven dwarves had musical notes instead of names? What if the pea under all those mattresses actually tasted exactly like an M&M? What if Little Red Riding Hood's cape was iridescent, or sewn with glitter? In this class, we will laugh, read together, and build stories based around the magic of specificity. We will draw on our five senses to bring color, depth, and detail to entertaining original characters and wacky stories. By the end of class, each child will leave as the proud author of a short story starring a character they created.

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Blythe Baird is an author, viral spoken word poet, and teaching artist. Her work has been featured by *The Huffington Post*, *VICE*, *Write Bloody*, *Button Poetry*, *Mic*, and *Everyday Feminism*. Her short film "When the Fat Girl Gets Skinny" won the 2017 ADCAN film award for the National Eating Disorder Association.

SUMMER YOUTH @ MAC



GROUP TEACHER

Welcome back to in-person writing with Summer Youth @ Mac! Join us for a week of writing and all-day creativity! We'll spend the week writing, reading, and having fun! In addition to class content, each day will involve interactive exercises and activities led by Chichi Richards-Okorie.



JUL 18-22 @ MACALESTER

STORIES ABOUT PETS

with Holly Day & Chichi Richards-Okorie

JUL 18-22 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 1-3

Reg \$590.00 | Mem \$531.00 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

A class for early writers, we'll read stories about companion animals as a group, then work on writing and sharing stories about our own pets. Basic short story structure will be discussed, with an emphasis on the joy of storytelling and how to convey each child's love of their subject. We'll finish each day with writing activities that will inspire us to express ourselves while having fun!



Holly Day's poetry and fiction has recently appeared in *Asimov's SF*, *Analog SF*, *Grain*, *The Harvard Review*, and *The Dalhousie Review*, and she has over a dozen poetry books published, most recently, *Book of Beasts* (Weasel Press) and *Bound in Ice* (Shanti Arts).

JUL 25-29 @ MACALESTER

WACKY WORDS

with Molly Biskupic & Chichi Richards-Okorie

JUL 25-29 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 1-3

Reg \$590.00 | Mem \$531.00 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

Wacky Words is for young writers who love sumptuous, pragmatic, and convivial words. Each meeting will center around a particular wacky word and a book or poem that relates to it. Young writers will collect their words and use them to tell stories for their classmates and themselves. We'll break for lunch, and have some time to play outside. We'll finish each day with writing activities that will inspire us to express ourselves while having fun!



Molly Biskupic is a writer, baker, and childcare worker living in Minneapolis. Her writing has appeared in the *2015 Harvard Summer Review*, *Illuminations*, and *Wisconsin's Best Emerging Poets*. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 2019 with a major in English-Creative Writing and a minor in French.



Chizorom Richards-Okorie studies Elementary Education at the University of Wisconsin River Falls. Chichi loves reading, specifically fantasy or dystopian romance, and likes to write creatively. She's worked as a daycare teacher and for residential life at the University of Wisconsin River Falls.

AUG 1-5 @ MACALESTER

THIS BOOK IS A MONSTER

with Ellen Fee & Chichi Richards-Okorie

AUG 1-5 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m. | MULTIGENRE | GRADES 1-3

Reg \$590.00 | Mem \$531.00 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

What if a book is more than a book? What if a book is really...a monster? Kids will craft monsters of their own making while learning the basics of creative writing. We'll bring our monsters to life as we shape them into real books filled with poems, stories, and illustrations. We'll break for lunch, and have some time to play outside. We'll finish each day with writing activities that will inspire us to express ourselves while having fun!



Ellen Fee has spent the past year teaching creative writing at an after-school program in Saint Paul. Before that, she graduated from the University of Minnesota, where she wrote an undergrad thesis on children's poetry and literacy development. Her poems have appeared in a variety of publications.

AUG 8-12 @ MACALESTER

IMAGINING A BETTER WORLD

with Elizabeth Yost & Chichi Richards-Okorie

AUG 8-12 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m. | CREATIVE NONFICTION | GRADES 1-3

Reg \$590.00 | Mem \$531.00 | Macalester Theater and Dance Building

What does justice mean to you? We'll explore how we can make changes in our own community through our writing and creativity! We'll break for lunch, and have some time to play outside. We'll finish each day with writing activities that will inspire us to express ourselves while having fun!



Elizabeth Yost is studying English and sociology at the University of Minnesota with a focus on the intersection of education, the arts, and social justice. She has presented both her visual artwork and academic research on women's rights to the University of Minnesota community.

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