The LOFT

YOUNG WRITERS’ PROGRAM 2023

JUL 18–AUG 11 2023 | GRADES 1-12
WELCOME TO THE LOFT’S 2023 YOUNG WRITERS’ PROGRAM!

Welcome back to Summer Youth at Open Book! We are so excited for our summer programs to return to our center, and we are eager to create new memories with students. A hub for writers, Open Book will provide a meaningful setting for burgeoning writers and their huge imaginations. Summer Youth welcomes the young person wanting to discover their voice, and create writing that is meaningful to them and their community!

For 2023, we’ve split the summer into four themes to capture the imaginations of all young writers. The most asked-for genre last summer was horror, which was not a shock to me after last summer when many of our brilliant writers shared their positively creepy and skin-crawling stories. So for Week One, “Unreal! Sci-Fi, Fantasy, Horror” will offer outlets for the otherworldly. And because fantastical worldbuilding is so popular with Summer Youth students, Week Four “Spectacular Worlds” will round out our summer with even more expansive and magical creativity. For Week Two, “Young Novelists: Fiction Writing” will honor young writers as Writers—real participants in artmaking through serious (and seriously fun) fiction writing classes. Perhaps our most highly-anticipated and exciting theme will come in Week Three. “Express Yourself! Narrative Power” will bring young writers into the fold of our organization-wide theme of “Narrative Power.” This year, we’ve been exploring how writers exercise narrative power to lead and influence movements for social change. Who better to flex the muscles of movement-making than our Summer Youth students? We’re thrilled to offer classes that ask students to think about building futures, to cultivate joy, and to celebrate community, all while exploring power, problems, and possibilities in the personal, public, and planetary.

Like last summer, we’ve organized most of our week-long classes to fill out a full day of creative writing fun. 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 school year!

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 Open Book!

Cheers to new chapters!

Lucia LoTempio
Program Manager, Education

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.

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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.

Access Funds
In 2023, the Loft will continue a partnership with the Minnesota Afterschool Advance. MAA provides financial assistance for youth students. Please visit loft.org/access to apply for funds through MAA. For assistance, please contact a Loft Education 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
Masking is not required. 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.

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 612-379-8999 or edu@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/accessibility.
Summer youth is back at Open Book!

Minnesota’s outdoor, summertime celebration of readers, writers, and great books returns

**July 8, 2023**

- Children’s authors and activities
- Important conversations
- Leading authors and new discoveries
- Festival atmosphere
- Community connections
- Books, books, books!

loftwordplay.com
THRILL A MINUTE: TWISTED SCRIPTS
with Cristina Pippa
JULY 18–21 (Tu–Fr) | 9 a.m.–noon | SCREENWRITING | GRADES 10–12
Reg $222.00 | Mem $199.80 | The Loft at Open Book
In this fast-paced screenwriting class for teen writers at all levels, you will write an original Sci-Fi, fantasy or horror script. Using screenwriting format and structure as a guide, you will map the plot of your movie, pitch your ideas, and develop scenes in exciting locations with powerful characters.

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.

BEAUTIFUL MONSTER: WRITING HORROR AND SCIENCE FICTION/FANTASY POETRY
with Holly Day
JULY 18–21 (Tu–Fr) | 1–4 p.m. | POETRY | GRADES 10–12
Reg $222.00 | Mem $199.80 | The Loft at Open Book
In this class, we’ll read examples of horror, science fiction/fantasy, and adventure poetry, drawn from the pages of contemporary genre magazines and classic books, then put our pens to paper to bring forth our own strange and wonderful 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).
**BUILDING A NOVEL** with Debra Blake  
**JULY 25–28 (Tu–Fr) | 9 a.m.–noon | FICTION | GRADES 10–12**  
Reg $222.00 | Mem $199.80 | The Loft at Open Book  
Writing a novel can seem daunting, but this class 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.

**PARANORMAL ROMANCE NOVELS** with Dara Dokas  
**JULY 25–28 (Tu–Fr) | 9 a.m.–noon | FICTION | GRADES 10–12**  
Reg $222.00 | Mem $199.80 | The Loft at Open Book  
Romance is the bestselling fiction genre in America. In this class, we’ll look at paranormal romance, a popular sub-genre involving things like Vampires, Angels, and Dragons.  

Dara Dokas is a children’s author, teacher, and blogger. Her most recent picture book, *Muriel’s Red Sweater*, was a runner-up for the McKnight Award in Children’s Literature and was nominated for a Midwest Booksellers Choice Award. Dara is a former English and drama teacher with an MA in education.

**ELEMENTS OF FICTION** with Robert Voedisch  
**JULY 25–28 (Tu–Fr) | 1–4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 10–12**  
Reg $222.00 | Mem $199.80 | The Loft at Open Book  
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. (Students will receive critique on up to 20 pages of their work)  


**SHORT STORY: A TO Z** with Troy Wilderson  
**JULY 25–28 (Tu–Fr) | 1–4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 10–12**  
Reg $222.00 | Mem $199.80 | The Loft at Open Book  
We’ll start by examining how some example stories succeed. Then we’ll move to in-class exercises to kick off students crafting their short story. As the week progresses, we will continue generative exercises, in-class writing, while leaving time to go over each other’s stories in a workshop model.  

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.

**PERSONAL NARRATIVE FOR COLLEGE APPS** with Mitchell LeGrand  
**AUG 1–4 (Tu–Fr) | 9 a.m.–noon | FICTION | GRADES 10–12**  
Reg $222.00 | Mem $199.80 | The Loft at Open Book  
We all have stories that we want to share with others! In this class, we will be exploring the personal narrative, how to tell our own stories in a compelling way. These lessons will prepare you for upcoming college applications and scholarship essays, as well as 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.

**QUEER LITERATURE** with Elizabeth Yost  
**AUG 1–4 (Tu–Fr) | 9 a.m.–noon | FICTION | GRADES 10–12**  
Reg $222.00 | Mem $199.80 | The Loft at Open Book  
How is queerness represented in the written word? How can we write queer characters and stories? In this reading and writing class, we will explore how queer literature has been written and received and how we can write complex, interesting, and strong queer works.  

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.
WRITING IN PLACE: EXPLORING THE CITY THROUGH WRITING with Jeanne Bain
AUG 1–4 (Tu–Fr) | 1–4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 10–12
Reg $222.00 | Mem $199.80 | The Loft at Open Book

The creative process can be fed in so many ways. Where you write can change your story! Explore the rich history of Minneapolis with on-site writing activities at the Stone Arch Bridge, The IDS Tower, Mill City Ruins, The Guthrie Theater, Minneapolis Central Library and City Hall.

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.

IN THE BEGINNING: AN INTRODUCTION TO CREATIVE NONFICTION with Judea DeMaris
AUG 1–4 (Tu–Fr) | 1–4 p.m. | NONFICTION | GRADES 10–12
Reg $222.00 | Mem $199.80 | The Loft at Open Book

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. We will discuss class readings in groups and peer review each other’s work throughout the class.

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.

POWER OF THE PEN with Lilly Keefe-Powers
AUG 8–11 (Tu–Fr) | 9 a.m.–noon | NONFICTION | GRADES 10–12
Reg $222.00 | Mem $199.80 | The Loft at Open Book

Convince your friends to watch your favorite TV show, your English teacher that you deserve an A on that paper, and your guardians to let you go to that exciting event. In this class, you’ll create a toolbox of persuasive skills that can be used in any situation!

By day, Lilly Keefe-Powers is an elementary school science teacher, but by night, she’s a freewheeling book cowboy. In the past, she’s helped teams of teens cut down trees with chainsaws, educated the public about mammoth facts, trained birds how to use computers, and scanned bird faces for science.

SCREENWRITING FOR TEENS with Michael Gorrie
AUG 8–11 (Tu–Fr) | 1–4 p.m. | SCREENWRITING | GRADES 10–12
Reg $222.00 | Mem $199.80 | The Loft at Open Book

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. Students will have the opportunity to receive feedback from their peers and teaching artist in class.

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.
WEEK 1: Unreal! Sci-Fi, Fantasy, Horror

FANTASY WRITING IMMERSION
with Aurora Whittet Best & Kelsey Daly
JUL 18–21 (Tu-Fr) | 9 a.m.–4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 7–9
Reg $518.00 | Mem $466.20 | The Loft at Open Book

Session 1 Fantasy Writing with Aurora Whittet Best: Ever wondered what it takes to create the page turning heroes and heroines of your favorite young adult novel? You will explore the details to create compelling characters, fantasy worlds, plot outlines, dialogue and more. We will work to overcome obstacles and fears.

Session 2 Build and Play Your Own Fantasy Character with Kelsey Daly: Create and role-play your very own fantasy character! We’ll dig into what makes your character and their villain tick and we’ll see them in action through a combination of improv, role-play, and writing exercises.

Aurora Whittet Best is a national award-winning author, illustrator, and designer.

Kelsey Daly is a young adult writer and photographer living in Minneapolis.

SMALL STORIES; BIG SCI-FI, FANTASY, & HORROR
with Elizabeth Yost, Stephanie Surles, Madelyn Dietz
JUL 18–21 (Tu-Fr) | 9 a.m.–4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 7–9
Reg $518.00 | Mem $466.20 | The Loft at Open Book

Session 1 Imagining Futures: Dystopian Short Stories with Elizabeth Yost: How can reading and writing about horrible worlds help us to create a better one? In this class, we will not only explore works about terrible societies, we will write our own short stories in detailed dystopias that aim to make our real world more just.

Session 2 Genre Games: Sci-fi Sonnets, Fantasy Flash Fiction, and Horror Haikus with Stephanie Surles & Madelyn Dietz: Do you want to play with genre fiction in creative ways? Hone your skills while expanding your knowledge? This class is perfect for enthusiastic writers who are intrigued by sci-fi, fantasy, and horror!

Elizabeth Yost is studying English and sociology at the University of Minnesota.

Stephanie Surles & Madelyn Dietz are a mother-daughter writing team.
WEEK 1: Unreal! Sci-Fi, Fantasy, Horror

JUL 18–21 @ THE LOFT

DARK HAUNTINGS: BENDING BOUNDARIES IN WRITING with Jeanne Bain & Alice Paige

JUL 18–21 (Tu-Fr) | 9 a.m.–4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 7–9
Reg $518.00 | Mem $466.20 | The Loft at Open Book

Session 1 Writing the Dark with Jeanne Bain: 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 to explore the dark side.

Session 2 An American Haunting—A Guide to Ghosts with Alice Paige: Ghosts haunt our histories, our abandoned houses, our lives. The past returns over and over again to demand we face the forgotten. How do we tell these tales? Why do they stay with us? How do we write ghost stories that will haunt our readers?

Jeanne Bain has an affinity for fanfic, all things dark, and producing community radio.

Alice Paige is a trans woman, essayist, and storyteller living in Saint Paul.

SPY THRILLERS & WRITING REAL LIFE with Connie Kingrey Anderson & Olivia Fantini

JUL 25–28 (Tu-Fr) | 9 a.m.–4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 7–9
Reg $518.00 | Mem $466.20 | The Loft at Open Book

Session 1 Spy Thrillers with Connie Kingrey Anderson: Are you captivated by spy missions, double agents, and disguises? We’ll learn to write exciting action and suspense scenes, create unique characters, and use clever tools of the trade to spice up our plots.

Session 2 Spark to Story: Fiction From Real Life with Olivia Fantini: In this class we will use fact as a jumping off point for fiction. Students will be invited to use their magpie minds to select from the treasure trove of personal history, current events, and historical moments to fashion fiction.

Connie Kingrey Anderson is the author of the Creepers Mysteries series.

Olivia Fantini is currently an MFA candidate in fiction at the University of Minnesota where she was awarded the Gesell Fellowship.

WHERE TO BEGIN: JUMPSTART YOUR FICTION with Kaia Preus & Kelsey Daly

JUL 25–28 (Tu-Fr) | 9 a.m.–4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 7–9
Reg $518.00 | Mem $466.20 | The Loft at Open Book

Session 1 Fiction Writing Crash Course with Kaia Preus: Do you have an idea for a short story or a novel but 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.

Session 2 Spark New Ideas through Playful Prompts with Kelsey Daly: Do you love to write, but are sometimes daunted by a blank page? Our week together will be filled with creative writing prompts and activities that will help spark your imagination and get your words flowing.

Kaia Preus is the author of The War Requiem, finalist for a Minnesota Book Award.

Kelsey Daly is a young adult writer and photographer living in Minneapolis.
WEEK 3: Express Yourself! Narrative Power

NARRATIVE POWER: SCRIPTS & STORIES THAT MATTER with Cristina Pippa & Anna Molenaar
AUG 1–4 (Tu-Fr) | 9 a.m.–4 p.m. | MULTIGENRE | GRADES 7-9
Reg $518.00 | Mem $466.20 | The Loft at Open Book

Session 1 Scripting Social Justice with Cristina Pippa: A playwriting class for teens to write connected scenes and monologues exploring narrative power, self-expression, and community engagement.

Session 2 Power Through Your Pen: Social Issues in Writing with Anna Molenaar: Students will identify what issues of social justice they feel passionate enough to speak on through writing, read and discuss multi-genre pieces that tackle such issues, and learn how to broach such large topics in a way that is productive and constructive.

Cristina Pippa is an award-winning playwright, screenwriter, and novelist.
Anna Molenaar is a current student in the Hamline University MFA writing program.

POETRY & COMMUNITY: WHERE DO I FIT IN? with Elise Toedt & SEE MORE PERSPECTIVE
AUG 1–4 (Tu-Fr) | 9 a.m.–4 p.m. | POETRY | GRADES 7-9
Reg $518.00 | Mem $466.20 | The Loft at Open Book

Session 1 Can I Interview You?: Using Poetic Inquiry to Tell Community Stories with Elise Toedt: Have you ever wanted to write a story about an intriguing topic or event in your community? In this class, we will practice the basics of conducting effective interviews on a topic of social relevance.

Session 2 Spoken Word and Identity with SEE MORE PERSPECTIVE: 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.

Elise Toedt publishes scholarship on race, gender, and class, and also writes nonfiction and poetry.
SEE MORE PERSPECTIVE is an award-winning MC, Spoken Word Poet, Visual Artist, Filmmaker, and Educator.

BUILD YOUR OWN FANTASY WORLD with Alex Juffer & Kelsey Daly
AUG 8–11 (Tu-Fr) | 9 a.m.–4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 7-9
Reg $518.00 | Mem $466.20 | The Loft at Open Book

Session 1 From the Shire to Panem with Alex Juffer: District 13, Hogwarts, Abnegation, Wakanda. In fantasy and science fiction, world building is the anchor of our imagination. Learn how to replicate that in your own short story or novel!

Session 2 Design Your Own Fantasy World through Writing and Crafts with Kelsey Daly: Come build a spectacular fantasy world from the ground up! We’ll flesh out and craft some of your new world’s grounding details and walk away with a world strong enough to carry the heart of your novel.

Alex Juffer teaches literature, creative writing, and public speaking.
Kelsey Daly is a young adult writer and photographer living in Minneapolis.

CRAFT YOUR OWN WORLD: HISTORY-MAKING HEROES with Elise Toedt & Alysandra Dutton
AUG 8–11 (Tu-Fr) | 9 a.m.–4 p.m. | MULTIGENRE | GRADES 7-9
Reg $518.00 | Mem $466.20 | The Loft at Open Book

Session 1 Heroes in the Making: Building My Hero and Their World with Elise Toedt: Come create compelling heroes whose journey brings up topics of concern to fellow Gen Zers!

Session 2 History to Fantasy: Research a Made-Up World with Alysandra Dutton: What makes your favorite fictional world feel real? Learn how to find magic in the details, and expand on favorite settings, time periods, and events in history into speculative worlds.

Elise Toedt publishes scholarship on race, gender, and class, and also writes nonfiction and poetry.
Alysandra Dutton is a Twin Cities-based writer working on stories about art history and femininity.
Classes for Youth
Grades 4–6

WEEK 1: Unreal! Sci-Fi, Fantasy, & Horror

FANTASTICAL STORIES: HANDS-ON MAGIC, MYTH, & SCIENCE! with Marie Olofsdotter & Lilly Keefe-Powers

July 18–21 (Tu-Fr) | 9 a.m.–4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 4–6
Reg $518.00 | Mem $466.20 | The Loft at Open Book

Session 1 Fairy Tales, Myths, Magic, and Bookmaking with Marie Olofsdotter: Explore the timeless territory of magic and write your own fairy tale and create a hardcover accordion book to house your story!

Session 2 Mixing Magic and Science with Lilly Keefe-Powers: Learn to use the powers of real science to inspire fantastical writing! Students will perform hands-on experiments to inspire new heights of magical descriptive writing.

Marie Olofsdotter is an award-winning Swedish artist who lives in Minneapolis.

By day, Lilly Keefe-Powers is an elementary school science teacher, but by night, she’s a freewheeling book cowboy.

JUL 25–28 @ THE LOFT

WEEK 2: Young Novelists: Fiction Writing

FUN WITH FICTION! with Stephanie Surles, Madelyn Dietz, & Lisa M. Bolt Simons

July 25–28 (Tu-Fr) | 9 a.m.–4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 4–6
Reg $518.00 | Mem $466.20 | The Loft at Open Book

Session 1 Flashy Formations with Stephanie Surles & Madelyn Dietz: A class for the imaginative student who wants to practice new skills and learn how to turn short fiction into longer works.

Session 2 Get Out of Here! Writing “Out-of-This-World” Fiction with Lisa M. Bolt Simons: Do you want to write good stories about things that can't really happen? A world that opens up with a punch to a tree, antique spectacles that lead elsewhere? In this class, explore “out-of-this-world” fiction!

Stephanie Surles & Madelyn Dietz are a mother-daughter writing team.

Lisa M. Bolt Simons is the award-winning writer of more than 50 children’s books, as well as an adult history.
WEEK 3: Express Yourself! Narrative Power

**POWERFUL POETRY** with Ellen Fee & Rachel Guvenc

August 1–4 (Tu–Fr) | 9 a.m.–4 p.m. | POETRY | GRADES 4–6

Reg $518.00 | Mem $466.20 | The Loft at Open Book

Session 1 Poems for Peace with Ellen Fee: In this class, we will use poetry to express our dreams for a different world. We will learn about poets and artists who used their voices for peace and justice and write our own poetry to share with our communities.

Session 2 Poetic Expression with Rachel Guvenc: Are you passionate about expressing yourself? Are you curious about writing poetry? In this class you will express your inner thoughts, memories, and emotions through poetry!

Ellen Fee teaches creative writing at an after-school program. Her poems have published widely.

Rachel Guvenc has 13 years experience teaching English Language Learners and is an MFA candidate at Hamline.

WEEK 4: Spectacular Worlds

**WRITING & MAKING SPECTACULAR WORLDS** with Starrla Cray & Anna Molenaar

August 8–11 (Tu–Fr) | 9 a.m.–4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 4–6

Reg $518.00 | Mem $466.20 | The Loft at Open Book

Session 1 World-building in 3D with Starrla Cray: Join us as we generate new stories and bring them to life by creating our own 3D replicas. Each session will include plenty of time to write and create our own worlds.

Session 2 Worms and Lizards: Capturing a love of nature in poetry! with Anna Molenaar: Walking through long grass, digging in wet dirt, staying up to watch fireflies. Students in this class will get the opportunity to explore through writing poetry the small wonders that make up our backyards and playgrounds.

Starrla Cray is a writer, teacher, journalist, and lifelong Minnesota resident.

Anna Molenaar is a current student in the Hamline University MFA writing program.

FANTASTICAL ME!: WRITING WORLDS with Ellen Fee & Holly Day

August 8–11 (Tu–Fr) | 9 a.m.–4 p.m. | FICTION | GRADES 4–6

Reg $518.00 | Mem $466.20 | The Loft at Open Book

Session 1 Welcome to My World with Ellen Fee: What other worlds might exist in our universe? Students will create a brand-new, imaginative planet and build all the details through a variety of writing and art projects.

Session 2 Writing the Fantasy World with Holly Day: We’ll learn how important geography is to our stories by building workable fantasy worlds for our characters to live in.

Ellen Fee teaches creative writing at an after-school program. Her poems have published widely.

Holly Day’s fiction and nonfiction have appeared widely. She has published more than a dozen poetry books.

Join Lonnie as he finds the transformative power of his voice through poetry.

Locomotion

Jan. 24–Mar. 5

Tickets start at $15 for kids and $25 for adults.

childrenstheatre.org/Locomotion

Photo of Junie Edwards by Kaitlin Randolph

Proudly Supported by

Best for Ages 9+
WRITE YOUR WORLD: IMAGINATION & EVERYTHING AROUND YOU!
with Nancy Carlson & Lisa M. Bolt Simons

JUL 18–21 (Tu-Fr) | 9 a.m.–4 p.m. | MULTIGENRE | GRADES 1–3
Reg $518.00 | Mem $466.20 | The Loft at Open Book

Session 1 Use Your Imagination with Nancy Carlson: A class for kids who like to draw, write and use their imaginations. We will create characters and bring them to life and maybe put them in an original story.

Session 2 Wow! Bumpy! Gross! with Lisa M. Bolt Simons: 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, we’ll discover each sense in detail, read about them, and write about them.

Nancy Carlson is the author and illustrator of more than 60 picture books.

Lisa M. Bolt Simons is the award-winning writer of more than 50 children’s books, as well as an adult history.
You, too!

The Loft has a full lineup of online classes for grown-ups! Treat yourself this summer—awaken that creative spirit.

join & support

LOFT.ORG/SUPPORT

Make unique literary moments possible as a Loft member!

LOFT.ORG/SUPPORT

bring the Loft to you

We love working with community partners to create custom writing classes just for your audience. We work with libraries, K-12 classrooms, after-school programs, nonprofits, museums, community festivals, and even workplaces.

Our classes harness the power of the written word to strengthen every student’s voice, and we’re happy to work with you to create content that fits your needs.

Want to bring the Loft to you?
Contact Lucia LoTempio: llotempio@loft.org

LOFT.ORG/BRING

LOFT.ORG/CLASSES

after-school slam poetry workshops for your students

copywriting workshops for your office

college essay coaching

personal or professional writing workshops for your conference

copywriting workshops for your office

personal or professional writing workshops for your conference

LOFT.ORG/BRING