

A NOTE ON CONTENT

During the course of each YAWP program, there is much discussion with students about the content of their plays, from language to subject matter. Students are asked – encouraged – to “write what they know,” to create characters their own age, dealing with concerns they share, using their own words. They are also told that we will not censor their work.

Non-censorship is fundamental to the success of the YAWP programs. We believe that creativity cannot thrive in an environment of restriction, and that validation of voice promotes self-esteem. We therefore use an approach of “How?” and “Why?” with students, as opposed to “Can’t” or “Shouldn’t.” Students who have been tentative about writing often feel liberated by this approach – and the YAWP Programs thus become a forum for all students to safely explore the issues that affect their lives, as well as an opportunity for parents, educators and community members to increase their awareness of the concerns facing young people today.

We do discuss what is gratuitous versus what is earned when it comes to creative expression, a discussion that continues at every opportunity throughout the creative process. We find this helps students to consider and define for themselves the best, most effective way to convey their point or message. We also emphasize that our policy of non-censorship is limited to the confines of the YAWP classroom, and does not extend to, or advocate, violating a school or family code of conduct.

Finally, though, what ends up on the page - or the stage - is the playwright’s call, which often results in content that “raises a few eyebrows.” The important element is that these plays are a reflection of our young people’s voices today. We neither condone nor oppose the students’ creative choices, but we do believe they have a right to be expressed. Most importantly, we applaud their courage for taking the risk to be heard.

For more information about YAWP programs in the schools, as well as on our campus during the summer and school breaks, please visit

www.youngartistsandwriters.com

Young Artists and Writers Project

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Visit our Facebook page: YAWP - Young Artists & Writers Project

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STONY BROOK
SOUTHAMPTON

Southampton Graduate Arts presents

YAWP

THE YOUNG ARTISTS & WRITERS PROJECT

2015 High School Playwrights Performance



Five courageous, poignant and outrageous plays written by
and starring high school students from Bridgehampton,
Eastport South Manor, Sag Harbor’s Pierson,
and the
YAWP Summer Workshops.

Saturday, December 12, 2015 7 PM
Avram Theater, Fine Arts Building
Stony Brook Southampton
Southampton, NY

THE YOUNG ARTISTS & WRITERS PROJECT (YAWP)

The Young Artists and Writers Project (YAWP), created by Stony Brook Southampton/Southampton Arts' MFA in Creative Writing and Literature, is dedicated to mentoring middle and high school students in the development of creative expression and critical thinking through the writing, performing and visual arts..

The goals of YAWP include:

- To enhance critical thinking, collaboration and communication skills.
- To help each student find and develop his or her unique voice and point of view.
- To use creative expression as a way to solve problems and promote global awareness.
- To advance 21st century skills while supporting ELA requirements.
- To expose students to the unique creative programs and resources of Stony Brook Southampton, including the annual Writers Conferences.
- To develop and support the next generation of readers and writers.

The YAWP programs pair professional writers and artists with middle and high school students in a variety of innovative, interdisciplinary writing programs as represented by the MFA in Creative Writing and Literature, including playwriting, personal essay, poetry, screenwriting, fiction and printmaking. Programs conclude with special projects, presentations and exhibitions, as well as potential publication in the YAWP Ezine.

Workshops are offered to schools across Suffolk County in 1-, 3- and 7-session formats, as well as in 2-month residencies, retreats on the Stony Brook Southampton campus and school break and summer workshops.

The Young Artists and Writers Project provides Southampton Arts and the MFA in Creative Writing and Literature with important community outreach, provides a teaching practicum for the MFA's very talented graduate students, and helps to shape the next generation of American writers and artists.

YAWP PLAYWRITING

The YAWP Playwriting Program is a two-month school residency that introduces students to the principles of dramatic writing. It is also held as a separate five-day retreat program. Teaching artists guide students through a curriculum inspired by Aristotle's *Poetics*, exploring the elements of dramatic writing and assisting each student in the discovery of his or her unique perspective and creative voice.

Every student who participates in the program completes a one-act play. One play from each participating class is selected by committee for professional staging at Avram Theater, Stony Brook Southampton. Students then audition to perform in, assistant direct or stage manage the plays under the mentorship of the YAWP staff and professional theatre artists for two public performances.

PIERSON Participating Students, cont.

Fallon O'Brien
Shanti Escalante
Colin Taylor
Raymond Pettigrew
Mackenzie Pharaoh

Sheila Mackey
Hannah Jungck
Ryan Chisholm
Lincoln Woelk
Kara Richolt

YAWP SUMMER SCRIPTWRITING WORKSHOP

Stony Brook Southampton Campus – July 2015

YAWP Teaching Artists: Will Chandler and Tyler Penny

Participating Students:

Emmett Carnahan Chandler Littleford Rachel McKelvey

THE YOUNG ARTISTS & WRITERS PROJECT SPRING BREAK & SUMMER WORKSHOPS

Writing Workshops for students, ages 13 – 18, in fiction, essay, poetry, playwriting & screenwriting

Student writers develop and hone their fiction, poetry and personal essay skills in order to discover the most powerful ways to express their ideas and to have them heard. By week's end, each student has several pieces of completed work to submit or publish. Student work is eligible for publication in the YAWP Ezine and for presentation in the "Sounding Our YAWP" event in late April.

Course Fee: \$525
Partial scholarships available.

For Dates, More Information and Applications, visit:

www.stonybrook.edu/yawp

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

BRIDGEHAMPTON HIGH SCHOOL

Classroom Teacher: Lenore Wright
Principal/Superintendent: Dr. Lois R. Favre
YAWP Teaching Artists: Mitchell King and Tyler Penny

Participating Students:

Dylan Breault	Aries Cooks
Tylik Furman	Jamari Gant
Elizabeth Hochstedler	Joshua Lamison
Jhon Matute	Michael Smith

EASTPORT SOUTH MANOR JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Classroom Teacher: Toni Borkowski
Principal: Sal Alaimo
Superintendent: Mark A. Nocero
YAWP Teaching Artists: Will Chandler and John Stintzi

Participating Students:

Gabrielle Burns	Stephen Carella
Alexandra Casola	Noah de Weever
Brianna Giannizzero	Jessica Kelly
Ashley Kramer	Jacob Massari
Jacob Mortenson	Carissa Navarra
Richard Olson	Jessica Rera
Samuel Riley	Christiana Scaglione
Melanie Vetack	

PIERSON HIGH SCHOOL

Classroom Teacher: Gary Schulman
Principal: Jeff Nichols
Assistant Principal: Michael Guinan
Superintendent: Katy Graves
YAWP Teaching Artists: Taylor Hicks and Christian McLean

Participating Students:

Claire Kunzeman	Cassandra Spencer
Carmen Santiago	Denis Hartnett

YAWP FACULTY & STAFF

SOUTHAMPTON GRADUATE ARTS OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

Robert Reeves, Associate Provost
Carla Caglioti, Executive Director & Assistant Dean

YAWP PROGRAMMATIC STAFF

Executive Director – Emma Walton Hamilton
Program Director - Will Chandler
MFA Creative Writing Director/YAWP Poetry - Julie Sheehan
Playwriting – Will Chandler & Emma Walton Hamilton
Screenwriting – Annette Handley Chandler
Fiction & Personal Essay – Lou Ann Walker

YAWP PRODUCTION STAFF

Director – Emma Walton Hamilton
Associate Director - Will Chandler
Producer - Stephen Hamilton
Production Stage Manager - Holly Kristina Goldstein
Costumes and Props - Yuka Silvera
Tech Director/Sound - Jordan Roberts
Lighting - Brian Clemente

2015 High School Playwriting Program Teaching Artists

Will Chandler	Taylor Hicks	Mitchell King
Christian McLean	Tyler Penny	John Stintzi

2015 Production Running Crew

Gabrielle Burns	Will Chandler	Paul Hartman
Tyler Penny	John Stintzi	

Special thanks to the following for their support of YAWP 2015:

Assemblyman Fred Thiele, The National Endowment for the Arts,
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Frank and Theresa Maglio, The Alec Baldwin Foundation,
Carol Brown/Eastern Suffolk BOCES, Jules Feiffer,
Rich Ficara/Cedar Point Productions, Mike Gasparino,
Peggy Grigonis, Kathie Russo, Andrew Botsford, Laura Lyons,
Hampton Ballet Theater School, Lt. Tom Clark, John Waldron.

THE PLAYS

1.

UNTITLED PLAY

By Noah de Weever

EASTPORT SOUTH MANOR HIGH SCHOOL

Directed by Georgia Warner

Noelle..... Alex Casola

Bailey..... Brianna Giannizzero

2.

HOPING FOR CHANGE

By Dylan Breault

BRIDGEHAMPTON HIGH SCHOOL

Directed by Valerie DiLorenzo

Matt..... Dylan Breault

Kyle..... Milo Youngerman

3.

STREET KNIGHTS

By Shanti Escalante

PIERSON HIGH SCHOOL

Directed by Bill Burford

1Q..... Hope Brindle

2B..... Reilly Rose Schombs

Assistant Director: Claire Kunzeman

4.

HOLD ME CLOSER, WALK THE TALK

By Emmett Carnahan (Agura HS, CA.)

YAWP SUMMER WORKSHOPS

Directed by Brian Clemente

Casey..... Katie Morgan (Ross School)

Milo..... Brandon Vanegas (Southampton HS)

5.

WOMB MATES

By Gabrielle Burns

EASTPORT SOUTH MANOR HIGH SCHOOL

Directed by Joe Minutillo

Boy..... Stephen Carella

Girl..... Chrissy Scaglione

Assistant Director: Gabrielle Burns

The plays presented here tonight will be published
in the YAWP Ezine: @ www.yawpezine.com

Videos of each play will be featured on
The Southampton Arts You Tube Channel,
"Bob's Writing Shack" @ www.youtube.com/mfawriting