# THE YOUNG ARTISTS & WRITERS PROJECT 2016 SUMMER WORKSHOPS

Student writers in fiction, poetry, essay and scriptwriting discover new ways to explore their ideas and have them heard. By week's end, students have several pieces of completed work to submit or publish. On the final day, they participate in a reading of their work at the 2016 Summer Writing Conference. Student work is eligible for publication in the YAWP Ezine.

**CREATIVE WRITING** July 5-9, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**SCRIPTWRITING** July 11-15, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

YAWP CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP in MANHATTAN July 18-22, 2016, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Application deadline: June 15

Information and Applications:

www.stonybrook.edu/yawp

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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Follow us on Twitter: @YAWPwritersproj

Visit our Facebook page: YAWP - Young American Writers Project



### **SOUTHAMPTON GRADUATE ARTS**

Presents

# **YAWP**

#### THE YOUNG ARTISTS & WRITERS PROJECT

2016 Middle School Playwrights Performance



Five courageous, poignant and outrageous plays written by and starring middle school students from Bridgehampton School, Eastport South Manor, The Ross School and Shelter Island School

Saturday, May 14, 2016 – 7:00 PM Avram Theater, Fine Arts Building Stony Brook Southampton Southampton, NY

#### THE YOUNG ARTISTS & WRITERS PROJECT

The Young Artists and Writers Project (YAWP), created and sponsored 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 writing 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 middle and high school students to the principles of dramatic writing. Inspired by Aristotle's Poetics, teaching artists guide students through a curriculum designed to develop ideas, characters, themes and dialogue, and assist each student in the discovery of his or her unique perspective and creative voice.

Every student who participates in the program completes a short, one-act play. One play from each 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 YAWP Program staff and professional theatre artists for two public performances.

#### SHELTER ISLAND SCHOOL

Teaching Artists: Will Chandler, Tyler Penny

Classroom Teachers: Lynne Colligan, Devon Treharne

Principal/Superintendent: Len Skuggevik

#### Participating Students:

Liam Adipietro	Henry Binder	Maria Carbajal
Amelia Clark	Emma Gallagher	Lauren Gurney
Jonas Kinsey	Abigail Kotula	Nicholas Labrozzi
Kenneth Lewis	Luke Lowell-Liszanckie	Jennifer Lupo
Daniel Martin	Lucas Quigley-Dunning	Amelia Reiter
Mitchell Rice	Walter Richards	Keith Taplin

#### 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 encouraged to "write what they know," to create characters their own age, who deal 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 program. 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 are tentative about writing often feel liberated by this approach. 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 that this helps students to consider and define for themselves the best, most effective way to convey their message. We also emphasize that our policy of non-censorship is limited to the confines of the YAWP classroom, and does not advocate, violating a school or family code of conduct.

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

#### PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

#### **BRIDGEHAMPTON SCHOOL**

Teaching Artists: Tyler Penny, KD Williams

Classroom Teachers: Nancy Bagshaw, Biana Stepanian

Superintendent/Principal: Dr. Lois Favre

#### Participating Students:

Estefany Bonilla Gylia Dryden Jaeda Gant Jordan Gant Akayda Grizzle Zoe Lucas

Melissa Villa

#### **EASTPORT SOUTH MANOR JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL**

Teaching Artists: Will Chandler, Tyler Penny

ESMCA Reps: Kelly Dechene, Kim DeVito, Maria Hurd

Principal: Sal Alaimo

Superintendent: Joseph Steimel

#### Participating Students:

Katie Daugherty Maddie DeCesare Liv Dechene Amy Grosskopf Katherine Kimes Lauren Kimes Alexa Mack Jacob Murphy Bella Recine

Cristina Rocha Rebecca Runyan Gabrielle Schilling

Ava Sparacino Justino Tesoro Tyler Titmus

#### THE ROSS SCHOOL

Teaching Artists: Will Chandler, Taylor Hicks, Christian McLean,

Tyler Penny

Classroom Teachers: Mark Tompkins, Carol Crane

Head of School: Chris Angel

The Ross School's participation in YAWP was made possible

in part by the Estate of Spalding Grey

#### Participating Students:

Pearl Brosterman Ellie Damiecki Ana Paula Contreras Frias

Ally Friedman India Galesi-Grant Paulina Gonzalez
Ella Griffiths Vadim Karchemkin Chandler Littleford

Laina Lomont Mariajose Monroy Ian Morgan Orlando Narizzano Gianna Scala Ava Seccuro Josephine Smith Diego Vanegas Daisy Zhang

#### **SOUTHAMPTON GRADUATE ARTS**

#### OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

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

#### YAWP PRODUCTION STAFF

Executive Director – Emma Walton Hamilton

Program Director - Will Chandler Producer - Stephen Hamilton General Manager - Laura Lyons

Production Stage Manager - Holly Kristina Goldstein

Costumes and Props - Yuka Silvera Sound & Projections - Jordan Roberts

Lighting - Brian Clemente

YAWP Program & Production Assistant - William Ste. Marie

#### **CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT**

Playwriting – Will Chandler/Emma Walton Hamilton

Screenwriting – Annette Handley Chandler Fiction & Personal Essay – Lou Ann Walker

Poetry - Julie Sheehan

#### Backstage Running Crew

SI: Maria Carbajal, Amelia Reiter; ESM: Maddie DeCesare, Katie Kimes, Alexa Mack, Jacob Murphy, Justino Tesoro, BH: Jordan Gant, Akayda Grizzle, Jaeda Gant; Melissa Villa; RS: Diego Vanegas

The plays will be published in the YAWP Ezine: <a href="https://www.Yawpezine.com">www.Yawpezine.com</a>

Videos of each play will be featured @youtube.com/mfawriting

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

The National Endowment for the Arts, Joanna & Daniel Rose, May & Samuel Rudin Family Foundation, Assemblyman Fred Thiele, Alec Baldwin, Frank and Theresa Maglio, John Downing, Michael Avram, The Estate of Spalding Grey, Kathleen Russo, The ESM Community for the Arts, Jules Feiffer, Rich Ficara/Cedar Point Productions, Mike Gasparino, Peggy Grigonis, Hampton Ballet Theater School, Christian McLean, Joe Russell, East Hampton Society Mulford Farm Theater

# 1. DEMOCRAT OR REPUBLICAN? (A Debate to Remember)

Director: Valerie diLorenzo Assistant Director: Ella Griffiths

## 2. OBLIVIOUS

By Emma Gallagher - SHELTER ISLAND SCHOOL Paige.....Jennifer Lupo Milania.....Amelia Clark Directed by Tina Jones

Assistant Director: Abigail Kotula

# 3. COLOR BLIND

By Zoe Lucas - BRIDGEHAMPTON SCHOOL
Tinow......Zoe Lucas
Kanat......Gylia Dryden
Director: Carolann Di Pirro

# 4. THE HIJAB

By India Galesi-Grant - THE ROSS SCHOOL
Khalani.......Mariajose Monroy
Khera......Chandler Littleford
Student voices.....Maddie DeCesare, Cristina Rocha
Voice of Teacher.....Joe Minutillo
Director: Megan Minutillo
Assistant Director: India Galesi-Grant

# 5. THE MUSICAL

By Justino Tesoro - EASTPORT SOUTH MANOR
Tina......Bella Recine
Michelle....Liv Dechene
Director: Joe Minutillo
Assistant Director: Cristina Rocha

The plays will be performed without an intermission