

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

Stony Brook Southampton

239 Montauk Hwy

Southampton, NY 11968

Tel: 631-632-5030

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

Follow us on Twitter: @YAWPwritersproj

E-mail: william.chandler@stonybrook.edu



Southampton Graduate Arts presents

YAWP

THE YOUNG ARTISTS & WRITERS PROJECT

2016 High School Playwrights Performance



Six courageous, poignant and outrageous plays written by and starring high school students from Eastport South Manor, Harlem Educational Activities Fund (HEAF), Robert College of Istanbul, Sag Harbor’s Pierson, and the YAWP Summer Workshops.

Saturday, December 10, 2016 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.

ROBERT COLLEGE OF ISTANBUL, TURKEY (Retreat)

Robert College Chaperones: Caitlin Dunne and Koray Demirkapi
YAWP Teaching Artists: Will Chandler, Tyler Penny, Lindsay Camp

Participating Students:

Inci Anali	Nazdar Ayzit
Derya Degerli	Murat Diken
Leyla Dilman	Ismet Mert Kucuker
Etna Ozkara	Ruya Pakkan
Arda Poda	Onder Soydal

YAWP SUMMER SCRIPTWRITING WORKSHOP

Stony Brook Southampton Campus – July 2016

YAWP Teaching Artists: Will Chandler, Tyler Penny, Sophia Rubenstein

Participating Students:

Paige Beck	Autumn Benitez
Isabella Burke	Daniela Clejan
Galen Hopper	Alison Magnus
Rachel McKelvey	Gabrielle Topping
Lauren Wetterau	Scout Winer
Lief Wood	

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 YAWP Playwrights Performances.

Course Fee: \$525

Partial scholarships available.

For Dates, More Information and Applications, visit:

www.stonybrook.edu/yawp

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

EASTPORT SOUTH MANOR JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Superintendent: Peter C. Scordo
Principal: Salvatore Alaimo
Classroom Teacher: Yashira Perez
YAWP Teaching Artist: Will Chandler

Participating Students:

Elizabeth Arnold	Somer Bednar
Deanna Bernstein	Sarah Boncore
Erika Celano	Maggie D'Amaro
Kristine DeAngeles	Alex Gravina
Isabella Gurello	Shelby Henderson
Emma Horoszewski	Joe Mauro
Paul Mitchell	Shannon Moran
Avery Norris	Alivia Ruiz
Angelea Ruiz	Haley Schmich
Michael Schnall	Olivia Villano
Eryn Williams	Lacey Zeller

PIERSON HIGH SCHOOL

Classroom Teacher: Gary Schulman
Principal: Jeff Nichols
Assistant Principal: Michael Guinan
Superintendent: Katy Graves
Residency Teaching Artists: Christian McLean and Melanie Sooter
Retreat Teaching Artists: Will Chandler, Tyler Penny, Lindsay Camp

Residency - Participating Students:

Jacob Benbenek	Eleanor Byrne
Olivia Corish	Griffin Federico
Dylan Kaminski	Gabriella Knab
Anais Kuss	Allura Leggard
Daniella Lejarza	Gabriella Morris
Andrew Ozsú	Ariel Quiros

Retreat - Participating Students:

Jacob Benbenek	Victoria Dudek-Tipton
Nick Knab	Dylan Kruel
Daniella Lejarza	Andrew Oszu

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
Production Assistant: Christopher Cascio

2016 High School Playwriting Program Teaching Artists

Lindsay Camp	Will Chandler	Christian McLean
Tyler Penny	Sophia Rubenstein	Melanie Sooter

Scriptwriting Retreat Chaperones

Anthony DiPietro and Sophia Rubenstein

2016 Production Running Crew

Emma Horoszewski, Victoria Dudek-Tipton, Joe Mauro, Avery Norris

Special thanks to the following for their support of YAWP 2016:

Assemblyman Fred Thiele, Michael Avram, Joanna & Daniel Rose,
Frank and Theresa Maglio, The Alec Baldwin Foundation,
Jules Feiffer, Rich Ficara/Cedar Point Productions, Mike Gasparino,
Peggy Grigonis, Sam Hamilton, Laura Lyons,
Hampton Ballet Theater School, Lt. Tom Clark, John Waldron

ACT ONE

1.

MAKE AMERICA THINK AGAIN

By Daniella Lejarza

PIERSON HIGH SCHOOL (Retreat)

Directed by Tom Gustin

Jennifer..... Lola Lama

Jessica.....Eva Doyle

Assistant Director: Victoria Dudek-Tipton

2.

THE SOUND OF SILENCE

By Sydney Hendricks

HARLEM EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITES FUND
(HEAF)

Directed by Andrew Botsford

Nadia..... Sarah Boncore (ESM)

Conscience.....Maggie D'Amaro (ESM)

3.

MAGIC GARBAGE

By Avery Norris

EASTPORT SOUTH MANOR HIGH SCHOOL

Directed by Jenna Mate

Donna Pierson.....Lizzie Arnold (ESM)

Beast/Adam.....Kyle Rubio (ESM)

Asst. Directors: Avery Norris, Emma Horoszewski

- 10 Minute Intermission -

ACT TWO

4.

NO MAN THINKS ALONE

By Arda Poda

ROBERT COLLEGE of INSTANBUL, TURKEY

Directed by Joe Minutillo

S.....Angelea Ruiz (ESM)

I.....Bella Gurello (ESM)

Assistant Director: Sarah Boncore

5.

MEMORY OF THE NIGHT

By Allura Leggard

PIERSON HIGH SCHOOL (Residency)

Directed by Valerie diLorenzo

Jenna.....Anna Francesca Schiavoni

The Memory.....Dylan Kaminski

6.

THE MORE YOU GNOME

By Paige Beck

YAWP SUMMER WORKSHOPS

Directed by Megan Minutillo

Carter..... Lacey Zeller

Mia..... Alivia Ruiz

Asst. Director/Voice of Mrs. Speck: Maggie D'Amaro

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