Lighthouse Writers Workshop

Young Writers Program
2024 Summer Writing Camps & Intensives

June–August 2024 | Ages 8-18

3844 York Street, Denver, CO 80205
WELCOME TO WRITER CAMP, ASPIRING AUTHORS!

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PRICING

Full-Week, Half-Day Camps: $270
Full-Week, All-Day Camps: $520
Full-Week Intensives: $575

Sign up by February 1 for a 15% Discount!
Use code SummerEarlyBird at checkout.

Lighthouse gladly accepts MySpark funding.
For tuition assistance, please email us at info@lighthousewriters.org.

THE SPACE

Lighthouse Summer Camps will be held in our state-of-the-art literary center at 3844 York St., Denver, CO 80205. Our Young Writers have dedicated classroom space and are taught by published, award-winning authors.

*Classes and times are subject to change. Check lighthousewriters.org for the most up-to-date information.
JUNE 17-21

Half-Day Virtual and Offsite Camps—A soft launch of summer camps.

AGES 8-10

Nature Writing
with Kim O’Connor

Do you love being outdoors? In this camp, we'll use the natural world as our inspiration. Meet us at City Park and learn how to write about our world in a way that is both informative and engaging. We will learn how to observe nature closely, how to choose the right words to describe what you see, and how to craft essays, poems, and stories that will bring nature to life for your readers. Be sure to bring water, sunscreen, and wear comfy shoes!

$270
CLASS SIZE: 12 MAX

AGES 11-13

Creative Writing Exploration
with Azar Kohzadi

Stories, poems, plays, character portraits, movies & memoir: these are just a few of the ways creative ideas can take shape when wandering into the expansive territory of imaginative writing! Join us for an artful investigation into every major creative writing genre, from fiction and poetry to memoir and screenwriting, in this four-day summer camp. We’ll engage in artistic exercises within each genre to learn foundational concepts, while applying new techniques to make our writing more artistic, unique and imaginative.

$270
CLASS SIZE: 12 MAX

AGES 14-18

Short Story Studio
with Jesaka Long

Short Story Studio is a supportive environment to dig into your writing and get feedback on your work. Each writer will submit a short story without any identifying information. Our first day together, we’ll start with published short stories by established authors to learn from them and develop our workshop structure. Then, the following days, we’ll provide constructive feedback on your stories and engage in writing craft lessons. After providing feedback on short stories, we’ll reveal which pieces we each wrote and make time for revision. All fiction genres are welcome.

$270
CLASS SIZE: 12 MAX

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JUNE 24-28

Full-Day Writing Camps begin! With virtual options for out-of-state folks.

AGES 8-10

The CRAFT of Writing
with Kim O’Connor

Do you love to write, and also love to craft? In this camp, we’ll spend half our time writing and the other half crafting our words into pieces of art. We'll write a series of poems, and then compile them into zines or chapbooks using beautiful papers. We'll write short stories, then publish them by cutting out the sentences and forming them into a sculpture. We'll make snow globes, design our own puzzles, send messages in bottles, and more, all as a means of self-publishing our words—craftily!

$520
CLASS SIZE: 12 MAX

AGES 11-13

Inside Out: Improv for Writers
with Twanna LaTrice Hill

Step into the shoes of your favorite fictional character and discover the world through their eyes. With the help of some super-fun theater games and acting exercises, we’ll get to experience what it’s like to BE that character, SEE the world through their eyes, and FEEL what it’s like to be inside someone else’s brain. We’ll draw inspiration from characters we’re developing in our own stories or from those we’ve encountered in books we’ve read. We'll use the thrill of embodying our literary heroes, experiencing their emotions, motivations, and the world they inhabit to help us write well-rounded characters. Join us for a week of immersive character exploration and discover the limitless possibilities of creative expression.

$520
CLASS SIZE: 12 MAX

Social Justice Writing
with Christen Aldridge

In this empowering camp, we'll explore the intersection of social justice and creative writing. We'll examine how writers and their words can ignite change and inspire communities through zines, poems, songs, short stories, and more. By the end of this journey, we'll have crafted pieces that embody the change we envision for our communities and the world.

$270
CLASS SIZE: 12 MAX

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JUNE 24-28
Full-Day Writing Camps begin! With virtual options for out-of-state writers.

AGES 14-18

**Novel and Long-Form Fiction Deep Dive**  
with Jesaka Long  
9:00AM-3:30PM  
at Lighthouse  

This camp is designed for long-form writers! We’ll dig into developing ideas, solving plot problems, writing beginnings & endings, and planning for those dreaded middle slumps. You’ll have lots of writing time as well as skill-building exercises for key fiction elements like plot, setting, characters, scenes, and more. In addition, we’ll talk about overcoming writer’s block and reaching “the end” of your novel. Writers will leave with pages written for a new novel or lots of headway on a novel-in-progress—and, most importantly, plans to keep them writing all summer long. All genres of fiction welcome!

$520  
CLASS SIZE: 12 MAX

**Song and Lyric Writing**  
with Matthew Cook  
9:30AM-12:30PM  
virtual  

In this camp, we’ll explore the fundamentals of songwriting and lyric writing to find inspiration and develop powerful and evocative songs. We’ll use techniques for creating memorable melodies and harmonies while learning about effective songwriting structures and forms. This camp is not just about learning the technical aspects of songwriting; it’s about nurturing your creativity, fostering collaboration, and discovering your unique musical voice.

$270  
CLASS SIZE: 12 MAX

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July 8-12

Entering the dog days of summer. Stay cool inside at Lighthouse.

Ages 8-10

Treasure Hunts, Mysteries, and Clues
with Kim O’Connor

Do you love to solve puzzles, follow clues, and find hidden treasure? Join us to explore, read, and write different types of mysteries! We’ll go on treasure hunts, both indoors and outdoors, using maps, compasses, and other tools, and we’ll create our own scavenger hunts, too. We’ll play a variety of mystery games, learn about escape rooms, and make our own detective kits, treasure maps, and other mystery-themed crafts. By the end of camp, you’ll be a master detective with the skills to solve any mystery!

$520
CLASS SIZE: 12 MAX

Ages 11-13

Enchanted Stories
with Matthew Cook

Do you enjoy adding a sprinkle of magic to everyday life? In this camp, we’ll learn to seamlessly blend magic into our narratives to create spellbinding stories. We’ll participate in collaborative activities, storytelling games, and gain inspiration from the genre’s best authors to develop a toolkit for unlocking limitless imagination. By the end of the week, each young author will have a portfolio of magical realism tales to showcase. Beyond the written word, we’ll celebrate each other’s creations, offering support, encouragement, and constructive feedback that will help our worlds bloom!

$520
CLASS SIZE: 12 MAX

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JULY 8-12
Entering the dog days of summer. Stay cool inside at Lighthouse.

AGES 11-13

Wild, Weird, & Supernatural: Sci-Fi and Fantasy
with Sydney Fowler 9:30AM-12:30PM

Let’s see how far our imaginations can take us! This workshop is for writers interested in genres within the speculative fiction umbrella. Genres that ask “what if?” are all welcome including sci-fi, fantasy, supernatural, horror, dystopian fiction, and surrealism. We’ll play with prompts to help us build complex and atypical characters and invent fascinating new worlds. We’ll also read stories from skilled and diverse writers and apply what we learn from them to our own writing. By week’s end writers will complete one short story and/or multiple chapters of a novel-length piece in addition to some visual art.

$270
CLASS SIZE: 12 MAX

AGES 14-18

Tell Your Story
with Christen Aldridge 9:00AM-3:30PM

Embark on a journey of self-discovery as we explore the transformative power of creative nonfiction. We’ll embrace our history and past experiences to transform them into captivating narratives about the very subject we know best – ourselves! Through one-on-one mentoring sessions, we’ll gain personalized guidance and feedback on our writing, culminating in a collection of polished personal essays or the foundation for a larger memoir-in-progress.

$520
CLASS SIZE: 12 MAX

Experimental Fiction
with Jesaka Long 10:00AM-1:00PM

In this generative workshop, writers will explore a range of styles and writing that push boundaries and break rules. Experimental fiction—also called fabulism tends to blur the lines between literary and genre fiction (including surrealism). It’s often used by marginalized writers to tell stories that don’t (and shouldn’t have to!) fit into traditional prose forms. We’ll explore published works as well as engaged in fun, even unusual, writing prompts to help you start new pieces. Along the way, we’ll play with point-of-view, retellings, story structure, and literalized metaphors. The later days of camp will be devoted to choosing a piece for further development, drafting, and receiving “first blush” feedback. Writers of all genres welcome.

$520
CLASS SIZE: 12 MAX

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SUMMER WRITING INTENSIVE
AGES 10-13

The Lighthouse Summer Writing Intensive is led by published and award-winning writers, and each workshop is designed to foster creativity, self-expression, and excitement about writing. During camp week, young writers will work at length with a number of published instructors in a variety of genres and will leave camp with new knowledge about the craft of writing, at least one completed piece of work, and enthusiasm about pieces to come. Campers will be invited, but not required, to share a piece of writing in a public reading at the end of the week. Writers of all experience are welcome to apply; we look for campers who are excited to write and spend a week as part of a writing community.

- Creative Non-Fiction with Kim O’Connor
- Poetry with Azar Kohzadi
- Screenwriting with Christen Aldridge
- Fiction with Franklin Cruz

$575
CLASS SIZE: 30 MAX

To apply, click here.

“I liked how I got to work with other people and learn new writing formats. I loved working with other writers that are better at writing than me. It really helped my writing improve.”

-Rising 5th Grader

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JULY 15-19
Summer Writing Intensives begin! With virtual options for outstanding ages.

AGES 8-10
Creative Writing Exploration
with Anna Zumbahlen
9:30AM-12:30PM
virtual
$270
CLASS SIZE: 12 MAX

Stories, poems, plays, character portraits, movies & memoir: these are just a few of the ways creative ideas can take shape when wandering into the expansive territory of imaginative writing! Join us for an artful investigation of every major creative writing genre, engaging in genre-specific exercises to master foundational concepts while applying innovative techniques to enhance your writing with artistry, uniqueness, and imagination.

AGES 14-18
Micro & Flash Fiction Sprints
with Jesaka Long
10:00AM-1:00PM
virtual
$270
CLASS SIZE: 12 MAX

This camp is for writers who know they like to write short pieces, those who are curious about telling a full story in less than 1,500 words, and those who have ever said they have trouble finishing their stories. We’ll explore the differences between micro and flash fiction (and short stories), then get ready to sprint. Try your hand at micro-horror, or write a piece of literary flash, or anything in between. We’ll write new pieces every day and you’ll leave with at least three completed, polished micro/flash stories. Writers of all genres welcome!

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SUMMER WRITING INTENSIVE
AGES 14-18

The Lighthouse Summer Writing Intensive is led by published and award-winning writers, and each workshop is designed to foster creativity, self-expression, and excitement about writing. During camp week, young writers will work at length with a number of published instructors in a variety of genres and will leave camp with new knowledge about the craft of writing, at least one completed piece of work, and enthusiasm about pieces to come. Campers will be invited, but not required, to share a piece of writing in a public reading at the end of the week. Writers of all experience are welcome to apply; we look for campers who are excited to write and spend a week as part of a writing community.

- Long-Form Fiction with Sydney Fowler
- Short-Form Fiction with Jesaka Long
- Creative Non-Fiction with Azar Kohzadi
- Poetry with Franklin Cruz

$575
CLASS SIZE: 30 MAX

To apply, click here.

“I enjoyed the discovery of new ways to write. Especially how the humanizing of characters was explained and the idea presented. I also enjoy the learning of screenplay and creative non-fiction because it helped show me that there are other ways to write.”

-Rising 7th Grader

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July 22-26
Summer Writing Intensives for teens. With virtual options for other ages.

Ages 8-10
Fairy Tales and Magic
with Twanna LaTrice Hill

Explore the rich history and diverse traditions of fairy tales from around the world to discover the secrets of crafting compelling characters, enchanting settings, and captivating plot-lines. Through a variety of engaging exercises and prompts, we’ll weave magic into our stories to create a sense of wonder and enchantment for our readers. By the end of our adventure into the realms of imagination and creativity, we’ll have a collection of fascinating stories to unveil.

9:30AM-12:30PM virtual

AGES 8-10
Fairy Tales and Magic
with Twanna LaTrice Hill

AGES 11-13
Poetry Meets Fiction
with Alison Preston

Do you love writing poems AND fiction? In this camp, poetry and fiction intertwine to create captivating prose poems and bite-sized flash fiction. We’ll examine the works of authors who masterfully blend these genres to weave tales that dance with lyrical beauty and narrative intrigue. We’ll transform our thoughts and emotions into captivating gems by sharing and refining our creations in a nurturing community of fellow writers. By the end of the week, we will have several new pieces of poetry and flash fiction to add to our writing portfolio.

9:30AM-12:30PM virtual

Ages 11-13
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with Alison Preston

$270
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$520
CLASS SIZE: 12 MAX

AGES 11-13

And Action— Screenwriting and Filmmaking
with Christen Aldridge

Do you want to bring the written word to life? Transform your imagination into captivating stories and master the art of cinematic storytelling by learning how to develop compelling characters, craft engaging plots, and structure screenplays for maximum impact. We'll step behind the camera and take the helm of our own short films, mastering the art of directing actors, setting scenes, and capturing the essence of our stories on screen. By the end of the week, we'll showcase our talent of screenwriting and filmmaking with our own short films.

$520
CLASS SIZE: 12 MAX

From Page to Stage
with Bianca Glinskas

Dive into the captivating world of spoken word poetry, where your voice becomes an instrument of storytelling and self-expression! In this camp, we'll discover the magic of spoken word poetry, a captivating blend of creative writing and performance. We'll explore how to ignite emotions and spark connections while learning some fundamentals of poetry along the way. At the end of the week, we'll have an opportunity to perform a piece in front of a small audience.

$270
CLASS SIZE: 12 MAX

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July 29-AUGUST 2
In the thick of it now, folks! Continue your writing journey.

**AGES 14-18**

**Inside Out: Improv for Writers**
with Twanna LaTrice Hill

Step into the shoes of your favorite fictional character and discover the world through their eyes. With the help of some super-fun theater games and acting exercises, we’ll get to experience what it’s like to BE that character, SEE the world through their eyes, and FEEL what it’s like to be inside someone else’s brain. We’ll draw inspiration from characters we’re developing in our own stories or from those we’ve encountered in books we’ve read. We’ll use the thrill of embodying our literary heroes, experiencing their emotions, motivations, and the world they inhabit to help us write well-rounded characters. Join us for a week of immersive character exploration and discover the limitless possibilities of creative expression.

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## AGES 11-16

### Roll to Attack—Writing and Playing Dungeons and Dragons

**for Advanced Players**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Class Size:</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00AM-3:30PM</td>
<td>August 5-9</td>
<td>at Lighthouse</td>
<td>$520</td>
<td>12 MAX</td>
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</tbody>
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Have you ever wanted to be a graceful elf, shooting an arrow at a mighty ancient dragon? Or maybe you’d rather be the dragon, breathing fire at the puny elf. In either case, Dungeons & Dragons might be for you. In this class, we’ll explore how Dungeons & Dragons is all about storytelling. We’ll learn the basics of D&D, build and write characters to play, and learn how to write a campaign for others to play. Then, on our last day of camp, we’ll play a group “one-shot,” a short 3-hour Dungeons & Dragons adventure to practice what we’ve learned during the week.

### for Intro/Intermediate

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## AGES 11-13

### Nature Writing

with Matthew Cook

Do you love being outdoors? In this camp, we’ll use the natural world as our inspiration. Meet us at City Park and learn how to write about our world in a way that is both informative and engaging. We will learn how to observe nature closely, how to choose the right words to describe what you see, and how to craft essays, poems, and stories that will bring nature to life for your readers. Be sure to bring water, sunscreen, and wear comfy shoes!

### Nature Writing

with Molly Davidson

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