

# YOUNG WRITERS' CONFERENCE



## YWC Summer Camp

### Mission:

Improve student writing skills by instilling a passion for writing. Pairing students with professional writers from a wide variety of disciplines, students are guided on a journey of creativity, reflection, and inspiration where writing is not a chore but something to be enjoyed.

### Vision:

- We believe the camp should be fun and students should want to come back to participate again.
- We believe writing should be enjoyable and productive.
- We believe students should feel engaged and have a sense of accomplishment.

### Values:

- Students will be treated like professionals.
- Everyone writes and everyone publishes.
- We are open to student input.

### Goals:

- Students will keep a portfolio of all drafts and writings.
- Teachers will begin working day 1 on building a team and community among their students.
- Each child will submit at least 5 pages of original writing that will be bound into a book.
- Each child's book will include a brief student "biography" (creativity encouraged).
- Each student will have the opportunity to reflect upon each day's accomplishments, will identify goals for next day, and identify any question they have.
- We will build in scaffolds for public moments (i.e., student speaking, sharing writing, and publishing).

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## Schedule:

- Opening activities (15-30 minutes)
  - Team building
  - Establish and reinforce group norms
  - Respond to student questions and share reflections from the previous day
  - Set goals
- Speaker/Author (50-60 minutes)
  - Introduction
  - Student and teacher writing is developed
- Break/Nutrition (15 minutes)
- Writer's Workshop Time (90-120 minutes)
  - Time to write
  - Continue to develop ideas inspired by the speaker
  - Use literature to inspire new writing
  - Students and teachers share writing in progress with each other
  - Teacher will have a one-on-one conference with each student everyday
- Student Dismissal
- Teacher lunch and professional learning time
  - Eat
  - Teacher-leaders share and receive feedback on student products, teacher products, successes, and challenges

## Friday Schedule Addendum:

- 11:00—Student and teacher writing deadline
- 11:00—12:00 Coffee Shop Writing Wrap-up (food and fun while students and teachers volunteer to share writing completed during the week)