



BE
A VOICE
FOR
CHANGE

SUMMER

WRITING
WORKSHOP

July 5 - August 11, 2016

11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Mon. - Thurs.

FOR NEW YORK CITY YOUTH
AGES 15-20

Explore your own story and how it fits into the larger world.

Teens experience:

- Sexual Harassment • Racism & Discrimination • Relationship Conflicts
- Immigration Struggles • Police Mistreatment • Foster Care

So why do we only read adults' opinions on these issues?

WRITE ABOUT IT!

Be part of Youth Communication's 37th annual intensive summer writing workshop. Get one-on-one mentoring from a professional editor, write and revise personal stories about your life, go on field trips, and make friends with other writers. Participate in writing lessons and group activities exploring your own story and how it fits into the larger world, particularly in this epic election year. No prior experience is required, but you must be able to attend for all six weeks. Our stories are read by thousands of people and have been republished on the New York Times Learning Network and Huffington Post. Workshop alumni have gone on to attend colleges from Hunter to Harvard.

The workshop is free because our funders cover the \$3,000 cost for each participant. All participants get a MetroCard and \$7 for lunch each day. (Additionally, youth in foster care will receive a \$600 stipend upon successful completion of the workshop.)

APPLY ONLINE BY MAY 20, 2016
bit.ly/ycteenwrite
 Top candidates will be contacted by June 3



youthcomm.org



Application for the 37th Annual Youth Communication Summer Writing Workshop

Youth Communication publishes personal narratives by teens in two award-winning magazines: *YCteen*, by and for New York City high school students, and *Represent*, by and for young people in foster care. This is a competitive program—there will be a maximum of 15 students—so start working on your application essays now!

Dates and Times: The workshop runs Monday through Thursday from July 5 to August 11. The hours are from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. You must be able to attend every day.

Cost: The workshop is free because our funders cover the \$3,000 cost for each participant.

Stipend: We provide MetroCards and \$7 for lunch each day. (Youth in foster care will also receive a \$600 stipend upon successful completion of the workshop.)

Facilities: The workshop will be taught at the Youth Communication office in mid-town Manhattan. The office is easily accessible by many subway lines.

Staff: Writers will be taught by Youth Communication editors who have substantial experience working in journalism and youth development.

Eligibility: Anyone ages 15 to 20 who lives within commuting distance is eligible to apply. We're interested in your writing skills, but when we judge your essays we will also look for your ideas and willingness to write deeply personal stories. Youth Communication's most essential job is to convey important information to teens in an interesting way.

History: This is the 37th year we have run the summer program. Workshop alumni have gone on to attend colleges from Hunter to Harvard, and they include reporters, lawyers, teachers, and authors.

DEADLINE
Applications must be
received by May 20, 2016.
Top candidates will be contacted
by June 3 for interviews.

Apply online at: bit.ly/ycteenwrite

Or mail to:

Youth Communication
Summer Writing Workshop
242 West 38th St., 6th floor
New York, NY 10018

Or fax to: 212-279-8856

Today's date _____ Your age _____

Name _____

Address _____ Apt. _____

City _____ Zip _____

School _____ Grade _____

Phone (____) _____ Date of birth _____

E-mail _____@_____

Male _____ Female _____ Other _____

Race/ethnicity (check all that apply)

_____ Black _____ Latino _____ White _____ Asian

_____ Other _____

Where did you hear about the workshop?

(e.g., teacher, ad in *YCteen* or *Represent*, website, foster care agency, social worker, etc.)

If you're in foster care, what is your agency?

On separate pieces of paper, answer each of the **three following questions**, and attach it to this application.

Please be thorough. Print neatly or type.

- 1) Millions of people have had to leave their homeland in the last few years to seek safety from religious and/or cultural persecution. If you had to leave your country and could only take one thing with you, what would it be and why? How would you go about starting your new life? What would make it easier? Write three well-developed paragraphs.
- 2) Good personal stories include many details, sometimes painful, sometimes embarrassing, and your thoughts and feelings. Describe one personal story you'd like to work on and how it changed you. What would readers get out of the story? Write at least six paragraphs as a first draft.
- 3) Is there something happening in your school, neighborhood, or city that you think is wrong? Has anyone done anything to try to change that situation that impressed you? Tell us about the problem and what you liked about the advocate's approach. How has the advocate's action influenced you? Write three well-developed paragraphs.

Questions? Call Virginia Vitzthum at 212-279-0708, extension 112.