A writing festival is an opportunity to...

- play with voices and words
- share your writing
- celebrate yourself as a writer
- create poetry, fiction, and memoirs

Who can participate?

- Any middle school student or teacher who likes to write or wants to start writing should check this out!

Gateway Writing Project
2014 Middle School Writing Festival

The day includes:

Two morning sessions focused on improving writing skills and style.

After lunch we will feature a celebration of writing for students and teachers.

Sign up for mini sessions on your registration form.

8:45-9:15
REGISTRATION

9:20 a.m.—10:20 a.m.
MINI-SESSION
See descriptions in brochure.

10:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m.
MINI-SESSION
See descriptions in brochure.

11:35 a.m.—Noon
Lunch: bring brown bag lunch. GWP will provide drinks and cookies.

Noon—1:15 p.m.
Celebration of Writing

J.C. Penney Conference Center
University of Missouri—St. Louis
One University Boulevard

Need registration information?
Contact: Diana Rehagen
dianar@umsl.edu
314-516-6590

Wednesday, November 12, 2014
FOR TEACHERS...

These tips will help you and your students have a good time.

BEFORE THE FESTIVAL:
- Promote student participation.
- Remind students to return entry forms to you with their $20 registration fee (Schools have the option of paying for students with a credit card or a P.O. but must contact Diana Rehagen at 314-516-6590.)
- Remind students to bring a lunch.

DURING THE SESSIONS:
- Participate in the sessions just like the student writers.
- Write with the students.
- Consider how to adapt or extend activities in your own classroom.

DURING LUNCH:
- Sit with your students.
- Engage students in conversations about their writing or sessions.
- Conduct a mini-sharing session at your table.
- Help students choose one piece (or an excerpt from a piece) to share with the large group after lunch.

One teacher may attend free for every five paid student registrations.

The university reserves the right to cancel any program. In the event of cancellation, you will be notified immediately, and all program fees will be refunded. If you must cancel a registration, you are entitled to a full refund only if you cancel prior to the festival.

The University of Missouri—St. Louis is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer, committed to excellence through diversity.

FOR STUDENTS...

Students, please read the descriptions, and indicate your top three choices on your registration form.

A. Unravel the Mystery! (Mrs. Brosch) Many years ago, Harris Burdick left a stack of intriguing photographs with an interesting tidbit for each photo. Then he disappeared. Now you can use your creativity to tell your own story that Burdick helped you start.

B. Sketchbook Journaling (Mrs. Crump) With sketchbook journaling, you write down spontaneous thoughts, memories, or dreams. Explore what happens when writing and doodling unite! Sketching skills not required.

C. Take a Walk in Someone’s Shoes (Mrs. Orr) As the saying goes, “You never understand a person until you climb into his skin and walk around.” Explore this idea by stepping in the shoes of someone different from you and write with a new perspective.

D. Giving Us the Sparks to Ignite Writing (Mrs. Roslawski) Sometimes we just need something to spark our writing. You will be able to choose a photo or a first line to begin a poem or story. Voila! The writing will just keep flooding out.

E. Music Memories (Mrs. Griner) Do you remember music sung or played by a loved one? Are there songs that inspire or relax you or just dance through your head? Let’s use these music memories to jumpstart great writing.

F. Imitation: The Sincerest Form of Flattery (Mrs. O’Brien) Use your imagination and creativity as you try your hand at imitating Shel Silverstein poems. Or feel free to bring your favorite poems and learn to be a better poet yourself through imitating a poet you admire.

G. Magic or Science (Mrs. Murray) Come and see if you can create tales of wonder or sci-fi creatures after exploring some mysterious scientific questions that may baffle you or bend your writer’s point of view.

H. Ode to Walter Dean Myers (Mrs. Book) In Love That Dog by Sharon Creech, a reluctant poet is inspired by the writing of author Walter Dean Myers. Learn to take risks by imitating poets as in Love That Dog, and write “Found Poems” using text from Myers’ popular books.

REGISTRATION...

Youth Writing Festival 2014
November 12, 2014 at the
J.C. Penney Conference Center
University of Missouri—St. Louis
Registration deadline: October 22, 2014

Name

School name

Grade in school

Home address

Home phone

School address

School phone

List the SESSION LETTER of your top three choices for the mini-sessions.

1st choice: _____ 2nd choice: _____ 3rd choice: _____

I give permission for my child’s writing and photograph and/or video to be included in the 2014 Gateway Writing Project Youth Writing Festival publication. This publication will be posted on the GWP website (http://ce.umsl.edu/gwp), a not-for-profit forum for the celebration of writing completed during this festival.

Registration is $20 per student (includes cinch bag, drinks, and snacks) payable by check to the University of Missouri—St. Louis OR contact Diana Rehagen to pay with credit card or PO at 314-516-6590.

Parent’s signature Date

Parent’s email address

Registration form and send with payment to: Nancy Singer
University of Missouri—St. Louis
358 Marillac Hall
One University Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63121