

# Dallas Writers in the Schools

an educational  
program of



Writers in the Schools (WITS) program formats are flexible to meet the needs of your school. We can do any day of the week and any time slot. We can work with your students one day a week or multiple days during a week. We can be there during school hours or for after-school programs. Our creative writing programs excite, energize and challenge your students to expand their creativity and to have fun with words and expression. At the same time our team of Instructors is also uniquely able to help your students excel in the writing portions of the TAKS, emphasizing key areas such as original voice, inventive word choice, clear organization, and description. Our six-week residency results in a printed anthology of students' work for each student and teacher.

**\$100 per contact hour (2-hour minimum)**

**25 student maximum per class – We assign one Lead Teacher and one Apprentice.**

**Making a Write Turn!** A creative writing course specifically geared towards students deemed “at risk,” on the basis of socio-economic factors, personal stresses, learning challenges, and/or testing scores. Students express what they think, feel, want, fear, and imagine by writing and reading poetry, short stories, essays, plays, and more, building confidence and communication skills.

**Creative Approaches to Testing (TAKS or SAT).** By focusing on the rubrics of creativity, organization, and inventive voice, students enjoy learning the skills of creative writing and reading that will also prepare them for TAKS or SAT tests. Creative Approaches, as do other WITS programs, can help improve TAKS scores by 10%-25%.

**Student Book Club / Writing Club.** With the help of talented facilitators, students can make informed decisions about what books to read and how to make meaningful connections with the text and each other through lively literary discussion. Meetings may be weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly for up to 24 weeks per year. For book club schools may even supply their own book lists.

**Work of Art.** Students explore writing in tandem with another art form or discipline (e.g., writing & dance; writing & painting), expanding and enhancing the educational experience.

**History -- the Write Way!** Students interpret chronicled periods in their own words, through stories, poems, and plays, as well as drawing on historical, geographical, and sociological contexts. Includes TEKS criteria for History as well as writing.

**Science -- the Write Way!** Students combine creative writing and imagination with their current science topics through stories and poems to bring science alive in their own words. Includes TEKS criteria for Science as well as writing.

**Read Write Now!** guides students through a deepening process of exploring what they read, applying it to their own lives, and then reinterpreting what they've read through their own writing. "Read Write Now!" enhances students' basic reading skills, teaching them how to interpret texts via symbolism, allusion, point of view, voice, word choice, and other elements of style that add texture and depth to the reading experience.

**Reading Between the Lines** provides an interactive one-hour performance where writers portray famous characters or play musical instruments for lively and unique story telling experience. The program—great for assemblies of grades Pre-K through 4<sup>th</sup>—entertains, yet educates, by engaging the students in the performance and in literature “come alive.” **\$250 - \$275 for 1-hour performance.**

**The Writer's Garret is a provider for ArtsPartners and Young Audiences. For more information, please contact The Writer's Garret at (214) 828-1715 or email us at [program@writersgarret.org](mailto:program@writersgarret.org)**