



Now Hiring: Writing Facilitators for the Young Writers Institute (YWI)

The Western Pennsylvania Writing Project (WPWP) is seeking Writing Facilitators to co-design and co-lead our 2026 Young Writers Institute (YWI) at the University of Pittsburgh. YWI is scheduled to take place June 22-30, 2026 with a celebratory showcase on July 1, 2026. We will accept application through November 15, 2025.

About the Western Pennsylvania Writing Project

The WPWP, housed in the University of Pittsburgh's School of Education, is a teacher-led network dedicated to improving writing and learning in schools and communities. As part of the National Writing Project network, WPWP supports educators as writers, researchers, and leaders—creating spaces for meaningful professional development, collaboration, and creative expression across Western Pennsylvania.

About the Young Writers Institute (YWI)

Founded in 1989, the Young Writers Institute is one of WPWP's longest-running youth programs. Each summer, YWI brings together middle and high school students from across the region for a week of writing, creativity, and community at the University of Pittsburgh. Writing Facilitators lead students through workshops that nurture skill, confidence, and joy in writing—helping youth see their words as powerful tools for reflection and change.

Commitment & Compensation

Facilitators will engage in 13 total days of engagement (planning, instruction, and reflection) for a \$1500 stipend. This includes:

5 planning meetings: two with co-teaching teams in 2026, and three surrounding the institute.

7 days of instruction during YWI (8 a.m.–2 p.m. daily) and 1 evening showcase (4–7 p.m.).

Role Overview

Writing Facilitators design and teach daily writing workshops for youth, lead creative and skill-building activities, and cultivate inclusive spaces for expression. They model the writing process, provide feedback, and support student publishing and performance for the final showcase.

Who Should Apply

Open to WPWP Fellows, MFA students and candidates, certified teachers and paraprofessionals, community educators, writers, and undergraduate or graduate students with a passion for writing, teaching and learning, and youth education.

Key Responsibilities

- Co-design curriculum and co-facilitate writing sessions.
- Lead daily writing mini-lessons and creative activities.
- Foster a supportive, inclusive, and engaging learning environment.
- Provide feedback and guide student revision.
- Collaborate with WPWP staff, interns, and co-facilitators.
- Participate in camp setup, reflection, and wrap-up.

Ideal Candidates

- Bring creativity, collaboration, and enthusiasm to their teaching.
- Demonstrate strong writing and instructional skills.
- Are culturally responsive and committed to inclusive practices.
- Are eager to stretch and grow their practice in revolutionary ways.

Application Timeline

October 17, 2025: Applications Open

November 15, 2025: Applications Close

December 1, 2025: Interview Invitations Shared

December 20, 2025: Facilitator Section Shared

Application Link: <https://forms.gle/F7HsJPcWuKzPxYDq7>

If you have any questions, please email wpwp@pitt.edu