

Talented Young Writers' Programmes (TYWP)

Year 6 Junior Writers' Days (Year 6)

Young Writers' Days (Years 7-8)

Youth Literature Days (Years 9-12)

Overview

The purpose of this great adventure is to nurture a group of young writers over several years by exposing them not only to superb authors, but also to each other. It is a joy to see the friendships and confidence developing.

The authors working with us are carefully chosen because of their:

- list of critically acclaimed publications
- warm and empowering presentation style
- different personalities and backgrounds
- and varied approach to the craft of writing

Each term the same group of talented young writers from multiple schools come together for a day working with one of Australia's top authors for their age group. Each author is a brilliant teacher of his/her craft. Each day will be informative, practical, intense, inspiring and fun. One of The Literature Centre staff will be managing each day working alongside the author.

Those students who wish to continue will be welcome to return in subsequent years.

The students selected must want to come, be avid readers, want to write and want to share their writing. They should also be prepared to commit to the complete programme of 4 days in any given year. Please do not send reluctant readers or writers. It will not be good for them as they will be out of their depth.

The Youth Literature Day Programme started in 2002 at the Centre. Due to the success of the programme it expanded and now includes workshops at the Centre and in Albany, Bunbury, Busselton and Geraldton.

The Talented Young Writers' Programme incorporates our Young Writers' Days, for students in Years 7 - 8, and the Youth Literature Days for students in Years 9 -12. In 2015, we expanded the programme to offer metropolitan students in Year 6 an opportunity to attend the Year 6 Junior Writers' Day workshops.

Information and expectations for Students, Teachers and Parents

- Students must be highly motivated and prepared to listen, question, write and share. They need to be avid readers. The aim is to nurture both their skills as writers and their confidence to share and be edited. They must want to write. These days are very exciting but also very challenging. Students will be nurtured, have a lot of fun and will be treated as mature young adults. Students should be prepared to commit to the complete programme of 4 days in any given year as the skills and confidence is cumulative.

Please Note: These days are not suitable for reluctant readers and writers. They will be out of their depth.

- During the day the author shares his/her background experiences relevant to his/her books and incorporates several readings from them and then presents two or three hands-on creative writing workshops, exploring different techniques and ideas. The students engage in silent writing, editing and sharing with both a partner and the larger group when confident and encouraged to do so.
- Students need to bring all writing materials including A4 paper, clipboard, pencil and pen. A designated file is essential to store all drafts, handouts, etc.
- These days are free dress: strictly no uniform. However, students must wear their name badge provided by the Centre at all times. If there are any changes required, queries must be directed to Centre staff and not changed by staff or students.
- Students need to bring all the food and drink they require. There is nowhere to buy food and students are not permitted to leave the grounds.
- We ask that students arrive between 8.30 – 9.00am for registration. The workshops will start promptly at **9.00am**. The Youth Literature Day, the Young Writers' Day and Year 6 Junior Writers' Day workshops finish at **2.30pm**. Any student needing to leave early must have a note from a parent or teacher with a telephone number provided.
- Books by the presenting author and other authors will be available for sale on the day. An 'Honour System' enables those students unable to pay on the day to take a book and pay at the next workshop or beforehand by ringing or mailing the Centre with credit card details or cheque. Centre staff will inform students if books they wish to purchase are age inappropriate.
- Cost is \$120.00 per student per year. GST is not applicable to the workshops.
- The schools will be invoiced at the end of Term 1 for the whole year for enrolled students. Payment from individual students is only accepted for students who are enrolled privately.
- Where possible a teacher from each school is encouraged to attend the days, to care for their students and as they provide superb professional development.

For further information, please contact The Literature Centre ph: 9430 6869, email Alyssa at tywp@thelitcentre.org.au or go to the website www.thelitcentre.org.au