

New York State  
Summer Young Writers Institute

Office of the Dean of Special Programs  
Skidmore College  
815 North Broadway  
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

New York State  
Summer Young Writers  
Institute 2008



**July 20 - 26, 2008**

Skidmore College  
Saratoga Springs, New York

## New York State Summer Young Writers Institute

The New York State Writers Institute in conjunction with the Office of the Dean of Special Programs at Skidmore College is pleased to announce the 10th annual creative writing workshop for New York State high school students. The New York State Summer Young Writers Institute (SYWI) will be held at **Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, New York, July 20 – 26, 2008.**

Participants in the SYWI will receive instruction in poetry, prose, and imaginative nonfiction, and engage in the critical evaluation of each other's work. There will be three workshops per day: two sessions in the morning, and one in the afternoon.

In addition, the young writers will have an opportunity to interact with some of the most famous and well-regarded authors in the country. They will attend evening readings and craft talks by such nationally known writers as Russell Banks, Ann Beattie, Mary Gordon, William Kennedy, Joyce Carol Oates, and Robert Pinsky, among others, who are part of the New York State Summer Writers Institute, a workshop for post-college writers, which also takes place on the Skidmore campus during the month of July.

By bringing the top student writers in the state together to work extensively with professional writers, the SYWI provides young artists with recognition, respect, opportunities for artistic development, and peer support.



Participants are expected to write extensively and complete pieces of work in three genres. Computers will be available for writing and revision. Students will present a reading of their work and selections produced during the Institute will be published in an anthology.

The SYWI is open to any New York State high school student entering the 10th, 11th, or 12th grade in the fall of 2008. Thirty-four students will be chosen based on the submission of creative writing samples (see application for details). Full and partial scholarships are available to participants based on need.

### Tuition and fees

**Tuition: \$ 600.00 \***

Includes instructional workshops and readings, campus activities, and room and board. This is a residential program; a commuting option is not offered.

**Fees:** \$30 nonrefundable application fee

\*Full and partial financial aid awards are available to qualified students. To be considered for aid, a completed financial aid application must accompany the program application and be submitted by April 15, 2008. Financial aid applications may be obtained by calling Chris Merrill in Skidmore's Office of the Dean of Special Programs at 518-580-5590 or from [www.skidmore.edu/summer](http://www.skidmore.edu/summer). Follow the link to the Summer Young Writers Institute.

## Summer Faculty 2008



**Kathleen Aguero's** most recent book of poetry, *Daughter Of*, is published by Cedar Hill Books. The author of two previous books of poetry and editor of three anthologies of multicultural literature from the University of Georgia Press, she is a Professor of English at Pine Manor College in Chestnut Hill, MA, teaching in their low-residency MFA and undergraduate programs.



**Liza Frenette** is an assistant editor at *New York Teacher*, the official membership newspaper published by New York State United Teachers (NYSUT). Author of three novels for children, including *Soft Shoulders*, Ms. Frenette has published articles in *Reader's Digest* and *Adirondack Life*, among other publications, and has won first place feature and news writing awards from UPI and Associated Press.



**Elaine Handley** is a poet and fiction writer, as well as an Associate Professor of Writing and Literature at Empire State College. Her poetry chapbooks, *Notes from the Fire Tower* and *Glacial Erratica* won the Adirondack Center for Writing Award in Poetry in 2006 and 2007 respectively. She is currently completing *Deep River*, an historical novel about the Underground Railroad.



**Richard Hoffman's** memoir, *Half the House*, first published in 1995 by Harcourt Brace, was recently reissued in a new and expanded edition. He is also author of the poetry collections *Without Paradise* and *Gold Star Road*, winner of the 2007 Barrow Street Press Poetry Prize. Writer-in-Residence at Emerson College, he also teaches in the Stonecoast MFA Program.



**Bob Miner** worked for *Newsweek* and has written for the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *The Village Voice*, and *Esquire*. He has published two novels—*Exes* and *Mother's Day*—and is finishing up the third novel in this series, *Father, Son and Holy Ghost*, as well as writing nonfiction about Istanbul, Turkey. Since 1980 he has taught writing for the University at Albany and Empire State College, as well as for Skidmore College, Syracuse University, Siena College, and the College of St. Rose.



**William B. Patrick** is the founder and director of the New York State Summer Young Writers Institute. His latest book, *Saving Troy*, is a creative nonfiction chronicle of a year spent living and riding with professional firefighters and paramedics. He has also published a memoir, an award-winning novel, and two books of poetry with BOA Editions. Mr. Patrick teaches writing for the College of St. Rose and for the Stonecoast MFA Program.

It is the policy of the NYS Summer Young Writers Institute to prohibit discrimination for or against any individual or group of its students, prospective students, employees, or prospective employees on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, disability, age, national or ethnic origin, or sexual orientation.

## Sponsors



The **New York State Writers Institute** is one of America's premier sites for celebrating achievement in the art of writing, and nurturing aspiring writers. Mandated in 1984 by New York's governor and legislature to provide "a milieu for established and aspiring writers to work together . . . to increase the freedom of the artistic imagination," the Institute sponsors a diverse program of author visits, film screenings, symposia, and writing workshops. Founded by Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist William Kennedy and located at the University at Albany, the Institute collaborates with a variety of public and private organizations to enhance educational and cultural opportunities for students and the general public.



**Skidmore** is an independent, four-year liberal arts college located about one mile from historic downtown Saratoga Springs, NY. Skidmore extends its academic year emphasis on experimentation and creativity across disciplines into the summer months, through its numerous institutes in the creative and performing arts; the college's Summer Term; programs in the liberal and studio arts for pre-college students; and by promoting a wide array of campus events including concerts, film screenings, lectures, readings, and art exhibits.

The New York State Summer Young Writers Institute gratefully acknowledges the support of our sponsors, without whom the program would not be possible. Thank you!

New York State United Teachers  
Saratoga Foundation  
Senator Joseph Bruno, New York State Legislature  
The Swyer Companies

## Application Form

The SYWI is open to NYS high school students entering 10th, 11th or 12th grade in September, 2008. A completed application, which must be postmarked by April 15, 2008, consists of: one copy of an applicant's best writing samples—any genre(s) (poetry, fiction, nonfiction, plays)—up to a maximum of 15 pages (typed, double-spaced); a nonrefundable application fee of \$30 made payable to Skidmore College; two copies of a completed application form; and, if applicable, a financial aid application and supporting materials. Writing samples will not be returned, so please keep a copy.

Writers accepted into the Summer Young Writers Institute will be notified by email after May 15, 2008. Questions may be addressed by calling Chris Merrill in Skidmore's Office of the Dean of Special Programs at 518-580-5590. Applications and program information are also available on the web at [www.skidmore.edu/summer](http://www.skidmore.edu/summer). Follow the link to the SYWI.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_ Female \_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address (required): \_\_\_\_\_

High School: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

English Teacher's name and email address:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Genre(s) you are interested in  
(poetry, prose, playwriting, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

*I authorize the SYWI to contact me to discuss my child's application.*

I have enclosed: \_\_\_ \$ 30 nonrefundable administrative fee  
\_\_\_ Original and 1 copy of application form  
\_\_\_ 1 copy of writing selections  
\_\_\_ Financial Aid Application (if applicable)

Mail to: New York State Summer Young Writers Institute  
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