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New York State Summer Young Writers Institute

July 1 – 7, 2012

518-580-5593

www.skidmore.edu/summer

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C O L L E G E





Kathleen Aguero



Richard Hoffman



Elaine Handley



William B. Patrick



Bob Miner



Liza Frenette



Summer

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 14th annual creative writing workshop for high school students. The New York State Summer Young Writers Institute (SYWI) will be held at Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, New York, July 1 - 7, 2012.

Participants in the SYWI will receive instruction in poetry, fiction, and imaginative nonfiction, and will 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 well-regarded authors in the country. In 2011, our students attended evening readings and craft talks by such nationally known writers as Michael Ondaatje, Joseph O'Neill, Frank Bidart, Marilynne Robinson, Mary Gordon and Robert Pinsky, among others, as part of the New York State Summer Writers Institute, a workshop for college and post-college writers which also takes place on the Skidmore campus during the month of July. By bringing the top student writers in the country 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 readings of their work at the end of the week, and their poems, essays, and stories will be published in an anthology.

The SYWI is open to any high school student entering the 10th, 11th, or 12th grade in the fall of 2012. Based on creative writing samples that the applicants submit (see online application for details), approximately 36 students will be selected to participate in the program. Full and partial financial aid awards are available for participants based on need.

FACULTY

Kathleen Aguero's most recent book of poetry is *Investigations: The Mystery of The Girl Sleuth* (Cervena Barva Press, 2008). She has published three other volumes of poetry, including *Daughter Of, with Cedar Hill Books*, and edited three anthologies of multicultural literature from the University of Georgia Press. Kathleen Aguero is a Professor of English at Pine Manor College in Chestnut Hill, MA, and she teaches in the low-residency MFA and undergraduate programs there.

Liza Frenette is an assistant editor at the monthly magazine, *NYSUT United*, where she writes features, human interest stories, article about workers rights, environmental education, and breaking news. She has twice won the Mary Heaton Vorse award, the highest writing award from the Metro Labor Communications Council of New York City, for feature writing. Vorse was an activist and writer, often covering workers' rights. Liza Frenette is the author of three novels for middle-grade children, *Soft Shoulders*, *Dangerous Falls Ahead*, and *Dead End*.

Elaine Handley is a professor of Writing and Literature at SUNY Empire State College. She is an award winning poet and is completing a novel. Her most recent book of poetry, written in collaboration, is *Tear of the Clouds*, published in 2011 by RA Press. In 2011 she was the recipient of the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Richard Hoffman is author of the *Half the House: a Memoir*, and the poetry collections, *Without Paradise*, *Gold Star Road*, winner of the 2006 Barrow Street Press Poetry Prize and the 2008 Sheila Motton Award from the New England Poetry Club, and his latest, *Emblem*. A fiction writer as well, his *Interference & Other Stories* was published in 2009. His work has appeared in *Agni*, *Ascent*, *Harvard Review*, *Hudson Review*, *The Literary Review*, *Poetry*, *Witness* and other magazines. He teaches at Emerson College and currently serves as Chair of PEN New England.

Bob Miner worked for *Newsweek* and has written for the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *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 most recent book is *Courageous Learning: Finding a New Path through Higher Education*, published in October, 2011. He is also the author of *Saving Troy: A Year with Firefighters and Paramedics in a Battered City*, *Roxa*, an award-winning novel, *We Didn't Come Here for This*, a memoir in poetry, and two other collections of poetry, *These Upraised Hands* and *Letter to the Ghosts*. Mr. Patrick is currently on the faculty of Fairfield University's MFA Program in Creative Writing.

SPONSORS



The New York State Writers Institute is one of America's premier sites for celebrating achievement in the art of writing and for 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 State University of New York 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, N.Y. 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!

The Swyer Companies
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TUITION AND FEES

Tuition: TBD
Includes instructional workshops and readings, campus activities, and room and board. This is a residential program. A commuting option is not offered.
Fees: \$40 nonrefundable application fee

FINANCIAL AID

Full and partial financial aid awards are available to qualified students based on need. For more information on how to apply for financial aid visit the New York State Summer Young Writers Institute Web site at: www.skidmore.edu/summer. Follow the link to the Young Writers Institute. Specific instructions are available there.

HOW TO APPLY

The SYWI is open to any high school student entering the 10th, 11th, or 12th grade in the fall of 2012. Applications may be found and printed from the New York State Summer Young Writers Institute Web site at: www.skidmore.edu/summer. Follow the link to the Young Writers Institute. Specific instructions are available there. A complete application consists of the following: a completed online application form; \$40 application fee; best writing sample – any genre(s) (poetry, fiction, nonfiction, play, screenplay) up to a maximum of 15 pages (typed, double-spaced). If applying for financial aid, a completed Financial Aid Application must also be included.

Submission of the online application and supporting materials is required by April 1, 2012.

Writers accepted into the Summer Young Writers Institute will be notified after April 20, 2012.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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