

Sessions for Grades 5-6

21. Hints and Tricks to Write in 3D, Not Flat

Join us in this workshop that is a little bit crazy with lots of interaction, noise, drama and fun. Learn and practice seven simple hints and tricks to make your writing come alive! We'll explore the simple tricks for settings that soar, dialogues that delight, action that amazes, characters with charisma, showing that's not slowing and telling that's compelling.

J. Michael Blumer, Author

22. Learn to Lie...and Not Get Grounded: Writing Fiction

What? Learn to lie?! That is what fiction is! Whether your story is about zombies or homecoming queens, your job as a writer is to convince readers you are telling the truth. In this session we will practice writing fiction using both "real lies" and "out-of-this-world lies."

Lisa M. Bolt Simons, Teacher and Writer

23. Create Your Painted Masterpiece!

Let your imagination flow! You will be led step-by-step in creating a beautiful canvas painting to take home.

Laura Nelson, Artist and Business Owner

24. Truth Tales: Writing a Novel with Real-Life Historical Events and People

There is a BIG difference between writing fiction and nonfiction. Together we will brainstorm ideas and characters, make a writing plan and create our very own storyboard! We will discuss how to add real life people and events from history into your fictional story. Truth tales will add a fun twist to your creative writing.

Rachel Britz, Author, Blogger and Storyteller

25. Fantastical Poetry and Where to Find It

Poems can be found everywhere. Come for a magical exploration of words and writing. You will get a chance to conjure up a poem.

Susan Chambers, Poet

26. Super Powered Character Creation

Do you love super heroes? This class involves creating your own super hero or heroine by first discussing characteristics and then drawing a super hero of your own! This class is jam-packed with a variety of super hero examples and hints for helping you create your original character.

Scott Rolfs, Illustrator

27. Soft Pastels Made Easy

In this workshop, students will be introduced to the art of hand tinting black and white photographs using soft chalk pastels. Each student will be supplied with a black and white photo. Working with soft pastels, students will add their own flavor and bring the photo to life. Each student will produce a frameable work of art.

Terri DeGezelle, Photographer and Author

28. Communicating Through Illustration and Design

A picture is worth a thousand words. More and more we communicate through pictures. Find out how to use art and design to communicate what you want to say. We will have some fun exploring different types of designs, as seen through a designer's eye, and work through the process of creating a book cover.

Gregory R. Wimmer, Artist and Designer

29. No Question About It: Writing a Story is Simple!

If you want to be an author or if you think making up stories is hard, this class is for you! Follow a simple process that makes storytelling a snap. We will work together through a series of questions that lead to an amazing story—usually with hilarious results. Then try it on your own, or with a friend, to tell your own incredible tale!

Ryan Jacobson, Author and Presenter

30. Ojibwe Shoulder Bag Activity

Based on stories from the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe in central Minnesota, this session will enrich your knowledge of Ojibwe culture, history and arts both past and present. Honor the story of the artist who created your bag's pre-printed design while you use your own artistic expression to complete it. You'll leave with a unique piece of art!

Cheryl Minnema, Artist and Author

31. Patterns in Time and Space

Take a trip around the globe as you learn line and circle dances from all over the world. Some are familiar, some are a bit bizarre, but all are fun!

Kate Stuart, Dance Instructor

32. Create Your Own Murder Mystery!

Discover the elements required in a successful murder mystery. Then improvise some story lines to create your own mystery! Those who want to act may do so, but it is not required.

Paul Warshauer, Director, Producer, Teacher and Author

33. Readers Theater

Readers Theater is a form of theatrical expression where the actors "read" with expression without the requirement of memorization. All participants will be cast in a humorous show that features costumes and props that all contribute to hilarious entertainment. Come to this session prepared to be someone or something you are not!

Melanie M. Schmidt, Mankato Community Education/Recreation

34. Kids in the Mud

Create a small bowl out of air dry clay in this session. Choose any theme for your bowl including shapes, letters, stars and moons, swirls, leaves or nature objects... anything you can imagine! Take home your clay made creation. After three days, the clay will be dry and can be painted with any acrylic paint from your local art store.

Tracy Calmes, Artist

35. Information Detective

It's on the Internet, so it has to be true, right? Think again! With so much information readily available and at your fingertips, how can you tell what's real from what's fake? Learn to be a super sleuth by sorting out fact from fiction! In this session, we'll explore how to research accurate information and investigate credible sources for nonfiction writing.

Susan Hamen, Author and Editor

36. Mr. Lincoln Goes to Gettysburg

President Abraham Lincoln is best known for his stirring Gettysburg Address, but many people do not realize he was not meant to be the main speaker at the Gettysburg National Cemetery dedication ceremony or that Lincoln did not actually write his speech on the back of an envelope while riding on a train to Gettysburg. This session is designed to give students a glimpse of what it was like to be an eyewitness at the ceremony, as well as allow them an opportunity to compose their own "address" or draw a picture of the event, as if they were an "artist correspondent" on the scene.

Bryce Stenzel, Lincoln's Travelling Troupe

37. Here Be Dragons!

Do you like stories about dragons and other mythical creatures? Unicorns, trolls, giants or things that go bump in the night? In this class, an experienced writer of fantasy stories will give you tips for creating your own original, marvelous creatures. Get a little history behind the most famous dragons and monsters and have time to create your own!

Nicholas Ozment, Author, Presenter and Educator

38. Creating Characters

How do writers create characters that feel real? How can we make readers believe in a person or creature who does not exist? In this fiction workshop, we will get to know our characters, starting with the basic details and then digging deeper. Pick your characters' pockets, look at their wish lists and peek into their journals, all while learning about motivation, backstory and voice.

Jacqueline West, Author

39. Creating Rural Art (Tuesday, March 7 only)

Ever wonder who those people are in the famous painting "American Gothic?" Come find out in this session! We'll learn some brief history on the artist Grant Wood. He lived just across the border in Iowa. In addition to "American Gothic," he is also famous for his rural landscape pictures. We will try our hand at some landscape pictures of our own – Grant Wood style.

Kari Sehloff, Educator and Presenter

40. Try Not to Scream: Writing Scary Stories (Tuesday, March 7 only)

We will read a few scary stories to figure out the basic components of this style and then come up with some scary stories of our own. Be prepared to have fun and perhaps be a little bit scared at the same time! Please note: stories may be on the scale of the REAL Grimm Fairy Tales.

Joel Arnold, Author and Presenter

41. Pigs & Pens Bookmaking Workshop (Tuesday, March 7 only)

Calling all enthusiastic and creative students who want to become published authors and illustrators! In this hands-on session we will work through the creative process making books. We will start with a series of drawing exercises; move into developing the story, its characters, mood, setting, etc.; and then brainstorm the story. Once we have creatively flushed out our ideas, we will break up into teams to illustrate and color the pages in the book with some fun techniques.

Frank, Dave and Paul Kamish, Authors and Illustrators

42. You are a Book Character! (Tuesday, March 7 only)

Learn how to create a character, starting with details from your own life. Your experiences can be the inspiration for amazing characters!

Elen Bahr, Author and Presenter

43. Professor Origami Does Awesome and Aw(e)ful Things with Paper (Tuesday, March 7 only)

Professor Origami will show everyone how to make passenger pigeons, flapping birds, dragons, dinosaurs or whatever other awful paper animals we have time to create. We will work together to fold colorful squares of paper into awesome animals, helping each other as needed. You will take home at least one piece of original origami that you made yourself, the knowledge to make more at home and another origami animal made by Professor Origami.

Bill Cosgrove, Professor Origami

44. Shadowplay: Make Your Own Shadow Puppet (Wednesday, March 8 only)

In this session, students will have a brief overview of the history of shadow puppetry with an emphasis on techniques from Southeastern Asia, early European animation and contemporary techniques involving drawing with ink. Students will then build a simple shadow puppet modeled after a template or from their own imagination. We will show how our puppets operate on a back lit screen and have the option to document the demonstration.

Preston Drum, Artist

45. Amazing Origami (Wednesday, March 8 only)

Origami has been an enjoyable art form for hundreds of years all over the world. Maybe you have tried origami - a fortune teller, a jumping frog or even a crane? Origami models are constantly being created and the principles of origami are used in the fields of science, medicine and space travel. Origami is truly amazing and fun! In this session you will fold your own origami spinner to take home.

Kathleen Sheridan, Educator

Ruth Berglin Memorial Scholarship

The Ruth Berglin Memorial Scholarship is available to homeschool students in grades 3-9. Ruth was a long-time presenter at the SCSC Young Writers & Artist Conference, a dedicated homeschool teacher, former public school educator, musician and published author. Her book, "Dear Big, Mean, Ugly Monster" was nominated for a Minnesota Book Award and is recommended for anyone who has ever peered nervously under the bed after dark.

To inquire about the scholarship, please contact Mary Hillmann at mhillmann@mnspsc.org or 952-715-8745.

REGISTRATION

Visit www.mnpsc.org click on "Events & Registration."

Online Registration Questions/Assistance, Contact The Conference Coordinator:

mhillmann@mnspsc.org or (952) 715-8745

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Visit www.mnscsc.org click on "Events & Registration."

****This is not a valid registration. Online registration is required****

Young Writers & Artists Conference Payment Coupon

Please write: YWAC and the student's name in the memo line of your check.
Attach this payment coupon to receive proper credit.

Attending on: ___ March 7 ___ March 8 Grade Level ___(3-4) ___(5-6) ___(7-9)

Name of Student _____

School Name _____ District Name _____

Name of Parent or Guardian _____

Address _____

City _____ State ___ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Send payment coupon and check payable to SCSC:
South Central Service Cooperative
Attn: Mary Hillmann
2075 Lookout Drive
North Mankato, MN 56003

Regular Registration (Ends Feb. 24 or when sessions are full) – \$27/student
Late Registration (Feb. 25–March 3) – \$37/student (limited session availability)
Walk-in Registration (March 7 or 8) – \$37/student (limited session availability)

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