Your Story Matters

Intimate and Inspiring Workshops for Children’s Authors and Illustrators

2018 Workshops

www.highlightsfoundation.org
Dear Friends,

Our 2018 program year is full of great workshops, retreats, and all things related to writing and illustrating for children. We’re excited to be opening the Jerome Weisman Art Coop this spring – a funky space for artists to make a mess and hang out. And Kent has plans to build a few more cabins this summer.

New courses. New retreats. All for you, writer and illustrator. Whether you’re new to the Highlights Foundation or an old friend, make 2018 the year to visit. We promise you’ll love your experience here. We’ll pamper you with hospitality and food and give you uninterrupted hours of quiet to work. You’ll get more done than you ever thought possible.

You’ll love the quiet serenity of our retreat center. Your story matters. We hope 2018 will be your year to make writing and illustrating happen.

George Brown
Director of Customer Experience
The Highlights Foundation Difference

About Us
For more than 30 years, the Highlights Foundation has been fulfilling its mission of improving the quality of children’s literature by helping authors and illustrators hone their craft.

Our Workshops
Each year, we offer more than 40 workshops that cover every aspect of writing and illustrating for children. Whatever your genre or stage in your career, we offer workshops designed to help you meet your creative goals.

Our Faculty
Our faculty understands what writers and illustrators need at various stages of their journey – whether experienced or just starting out on the road to publication – and they are ready to share their expertise. We also welcome editors, agents, and art directors as special guests and, like our faculty, they believe in our mission and our vision of community. You’ll find them to be friendly and accessible. At our workshops, faculty do not sit at head tables or in roped-off areas. You’ll get to share time with them and come to know them personally.

Unworkshops
Unworkshops are unstructured. You decide how to use your time: to think, dream, and create. We’ll provide you with cozy, peaceful lodging where you can focus on your writing or your art. We’ll also provide you with three great meals a day. Find out more on page 48.

Our Scholarship Program
Our scholarship-aid program serves those who may not be able to bear the costs of our workshops. It has provided financial aid for more than 600 writers and illustrators to attend our programs. Find out more on page 50.

Our Picturesque Property
The Highlights Foundation is tucked away in the scenic Upper Delaware River Valley and Pocono Mountains foothills. Our campus is surrounded by a 1,300-acre forest, and Calkins Creek runs through it on its way to the Delaware River. You’ll find cabins nestled among the trees, a lodge at the top of a small hill, and the Barn at the center of it all.

Cabins and Lodge
We have 21 cabins that each come with modern facilities, including a refrigerator, coffee maker, air conditioner, and bathroom, plus a writer-ready desk, a chair, and shelves filled with books. Our eight-room Lodge also features a Great Room that’s perfect for intimate gatherings. Outside the Lodge, there’s an inviting front porch where you can begin the day with a hot cup of coffee, take an afternoon fresh-air break, and stargaze at night.

The Barn Conference Center
Programs are held in the Barn, our 5,200-square foot conference center. The building is energy-efficient, with geothermal heating and cooling systems. The Barn features a Great Hall, a loft, a library, a living room, and a large commercial kitchen. There’s plenty of space for meetings, meals, or relaxing and enjoying the company of fellow writers and illustrators. Outside, you’ll find a stone fireplace and patio as well as our soul-soothing Word Garden, where you can write messages or poems with word rocks.

Meals
Everyone who comes to the Foundation leaves raving about the food. Farm-style meals are prepared by top-notch chefs. Snacks and ice cream are always available for late-night or early-morning writing sessions. We accommodate most any dietary needs.

I would highly recommend this experience to anyone interested in writing for children and teens, no matter where you are in the writing journey. You will meet people at varying stages at Highlights that will become a part of your own journey.

The generosity of the staff, mentors, and other attendees will remain with me for years to come.

Inspiration and ideas always arrive within the peaceful surroundings.
Need help deciding if a workshop is right for you?
We do our best to provide detailed descriptions of our workshops so that you can evaluate whether it will be appropriate for your needs at this stage in your writing career. Since each person is at a unique creative place, we invite you to use our concierge service. If you have any questions at all about a workshop level, please call Jo Lloyd at 877-288-3410 or email her at jo.lloyd@highlightsfoundation.org. She can answer your questions and interact with faculty to make sure you’re in the right place.

Writing Levels

Serious Beginners
• You’ve been curious about writing or illustrating for children and want to know more.
• You’ve written and/or drawn a few stories but haven’t gotten much peer or mentor feedback.
• You’re not sure which genre or age level your stories are appropriate for.
• You’d like to learn more about the children’s book market.

Intermediate
• You’ve been writing or illustrating for a while.
• You could use some help with revision.
• You need to deepen your understanding of the fundamentals: plot, voice, character, world-building and/or illustration technique.
• You’ve submitted some manuscripts or dummies.

Advanced
• You’re regularly submitting.
• You’re comfortable with intense feedback and deep revision.
• You’re looking for professional development courses.
• You’d benefit from an intensive retreat where you can network and brainstorm with peers.
• You’d enjoy having some unstructured time away to write or draw.

Everything You Need to Know About Children’s Book Publishing: A Crash Course March 22-25

A workshop for serious beginners: Learn all you need to know about the children’s book industry!
• Gain a comprehensive look at how the children’s book publishing industry works.
• Learn everything associated with submitting, producing, and selling a trade book or magazine article.
• Study genres of books, types of publishers, and types of markets.
• Learn the mechanics of submitting your work, contracts, the editorial process, the design process, and selling systems and promotion.

Faculty $899
Harold Underdown is an author and independent children’s book editor and the author of The Complete Idiot’s Guide to Children’s Book Publishing. Leah Henderson received her MFA at Spalding University and is the author of the middle grade novel One Shadow on the Wall.

Special Guests
David Richardson is a book buyer and accounts manager for Blue Marble Books, a children’s bookstore, and a freelance editor and speaker. Bobbie Combs is a marketing consultant with over 30 years of experience in the children’s book industry. Lindsay Barrett George is a former art director and the author/illustrator of many picture books.

www.highlightsfoundation.org
Crafting Successful Author Visits

April 29-May 4

UPDATED CURRICULUM

Create and deliver an impressive school visit with our faculty by your side.

• Take what you’ve written or illustrated and turn it into an attention-grabbing presentation for kids.
• Learn strategies for creating and delivering engaging talks and information on developing materials for teachers and students.
• Practice the fundamentals of public speaking and learn the seven essential parts of speechwriting as well as tips for audience engagement.
• Get one-on-one feedback on your presentation and have our mentors accompany you to an on-site school visit.
• Receive an overview of other marketing techniques, including social and traditional media.

Faculty

Peter P. Jacobi is professor emeritus of journalism at Indiana University and a consultant with magazines and corporations, helping CEOs, writers, and editors learn to express their ideas more effectively. His articles have appeared in World Book, The New York Times, Highlights, and others.

Carmen Oliver is an author and the founder of The Booking Biz, a boutique-style agency that brings award-winning children’s authors and illustrators to schools, libraries, and special events.

Jan Cheripko is the author of seven books for children and young adults, including the award-winning young adult novel Imitate the Tiger.

Special Guest

Andrea J. Loney is a picture book author and community college instructor with an MFA in dramatic writing from New York University.

Faculty $1295

Writing for the Educational Market

June 24-28

REGISTER SOON: SOLD OUT IN 2017

Would you like to have editors contacting you and asking you to write for them? Welcome to the educational market!

• Find your niche in the educational market, whether your interest is straight informational nonfiction, narrative nonfiction, fiction, or poetry.
• Faculty will demystify the concept of reading levels, and you will practice writing and editing to match assigned grade levels.
• Learn how to rewrite in response to editor requests and make nonfiction interesting by finding an age-appropriate hook, finding quick but reliable research sources, and even working with photos.
• Discover market-specific information and brainstorming techniques.
• Have an opportunity to interact with editors at educational publishing companies.

Faculty

Jan Fields has written 30 books for educational publishers and has written fiction, nonfiction, plays, and poetry for educational testing companies.

Paula Morrow is an editor, author, and children’s librarian who is also an author of books, articles, and stories in children’s magazines and professional journals.

Faculty $1350
Writing Mysteries for Middle Grade, Chapter Books, & Series  

For writers eager to begin or complete a mystery for middle grade readers.

- Explore the foundations of a stand-alone mystery along with the elements needed to create a successful middle grade or chapter book mystery series.
- Lecture topics include developing a protagonist your readers will love, how to conceal clues, and hooking your readers early on.
- Enjoy time to write and revise your own project.
- Meet one-on-one with our mentors for feedback.

Faculty

Dian Curtis Regan is the author of 60 books for young readers, ranging from picture books to young adult novels. Her book Space Boy and the Space Pirate (Boyds Mills Press) was a finalist for the Colorado Book Award and the winner of a Crystal Kite Award from SCBWI.

More faculty to be added.

Chapter Books & Middle Grades

Writing First Chapter Books & Early Readers  
June 10-13

Gain understanding of the unique needs of books for children who are beginning to read independently.

- Study the differences between picture books, early readers, and transitional chapter books.
- Zero in on where your work – fiction, nonfiction, or both – fits in and examine what makes the best books for this age group successful.
- Learn about generating new ideas, researching and writing your stories, and finding the right publishing home for your work.
- Enjoy one-on-one critique sessions with a workshop leader, writing exercises, and time to write.

Faculty

Laurie Calkhoven is the author of more than 50 books for young readers, ranging from award-winning nonfiction early readers to young adult adaptations of adult books.

Wiley Blevens has worked in publishing for almost 30 years and has written several early reader series and over 15 books for teachers.

www.highlightsfoundation.org

Chapter Books & Middle Grades
Getting Your Middle Grade & Young Adult Novel Unstuck

An intimate workshop for middle grade and young adult authors looking to explore or revise and polish a work-in-progress.

- Learn tools to help you get unstuck, with a focus on research, character development, plotting and outlining, revision, and improvisation/play.
- Submit 10-12 pages from a work-in-progress and a brief synopsis for a critique.
- Receive an initial one-on-one critique plus a follow-up session at the end of the workshop.
- Hear faculty sessions on craft and enjoy time for revision and free writing.

“The encouragement from everyone was an empowering highlight. At times, when the task of writing feels so overwhelming, it’s nice to have creative minds lift your spirits enough for you to keep soaring higher.”

Faculty

Chris Tebbetts is the author and co-author of many books for young readers, including the #1 New York Times bestselling Middle School series.

Julie Berry is the author of the 2017 Printz Honor and Los Angeles Times Book Prize shortlisted novel, The Passion of Dolssa, and the Carnegie and Edgar shortlisted All the Truth That’s in Me.

Special Guests

Hannah Barnaby is a young adult novelist and picture book author who previously worked as a children’s book editor, independent bookseller, and book reviewer.

Aubrey Poole is an editor at Hachette’s JIMMY Patterson Books imprint, acquiring middle grade and young adult projects.

Connecting Source to Story: Mining the World for Your Fiction

Writers of historical, contemporary, or speculative fiction: Join Ashley Hope Pérez for a look into the authentic sources for fiction.

- This workshop focuses on finding sources for fiction everywhere and using them to jumpstart and deepen your fiction.
- Learn to incorporate the lived experiences of people from varied cultures, communities, and time periods into your writing.
- Discover fresh ways into all kinds of stories, whether you write historical, contemporary, or speculative fiction.
- Ideal for fiction writers at any stage, the workshop focuses on generative practices that make exploration and research an organic and inspiring part of the writing process.

Faculty

Ashley Hope Pérez is the author of three critically acclaimed novels. She holds a doctorate in comparative literature and is a professor of world literature at The Ohio State University.

Special Guests

Edith Campbell is an assistant education librarian who currently serves as the Indiana State Ambassador for the United States Board on Books for Young People and is a member of the 2018 Michael L. Printz Award Committee.

Alisa Alering, writer of fantasy and other fictions, lives in Indiana and writes stories that open the door to the secret worlds hidden within our own.
Summer Camp at the Barn: A Week of Creative Mentorship

The Highlights Foundation tackles summer camp a bit differently than with s’mores by the campfire and hiking in the woods (although those adventures are always on our schedule, too).

To us, summer camp is a time to find the kind of encouragement for your writing that only a generous mentor can provide. Our camp offers someone to guide you through the long process of publication and a place to work one-on-one with a published author on fine-tuning your words and mastering your pitches in a relaxed and supportive atmosphere.

What to Expect:

Keynotes, workshops, and a creative mentor to provide one-on-one support.

- Kick off each morning with an inspiring keynote, followed by one-on-one mentorship. You will have three mentor sessions throughout the week and your writing mentor will offer broad critiques of your writing as well as immediate feedback on work produced at camp.
- Meet with other members of our faculty for guidance in the submission process, including query-writing basics and overviews of the current children’s book market.
- Develop your writing muscle with plenty of time for you to work on your craft.
- Ten breakout sessions throughout the week will be led by an editor, agent, author, or illustrator, each designed to help you grow as a writer through hands-on exercises.
- Our faculty will cover topics such as creating rich characters, developing voice, constructing believable settings, structuring plot, and much more.

“I liked all of the class offerings and keynotes. I LOVED the mentorship part. This was a top-notch workshop.”

Special Guests

$1799

Patricia Lee Gauch is the former vice president and editor at large of Philomel Books. She is now a full-time writer and lecturer who has authored more than 40 picture books and novels for young readers.

Linda Epstein is an agent at Emerald City Literary. She represents picture books, middle grade and young adult novels, and children’s nonfiction.

Peter P. Jacobi is professor emeritus of journalism at Indiana University and a long-time faculty member of the Highlights Foundation who continues to offer exceptional instruction and mentorship.

Lindsay Barrett George is a former art director and the author/illustrator of many picture books.

Faculty

Lamar Giles writes novels and short stories for teens and adults and is a founding member of We Need Diverse Books.

Anna-Marie McLemore is the Mexican-American author of The Weight of Feathers, When the Moon Was Ours, Wild Beauty, and the forthcoming Blanca & Roja.

Mitali Perkins has written many novels for young readers, including Rickshaw Girl, chosen by the New York Public Library as one of the top 100 books for children in the past 100 years.

Alison Green Myers is the program coordinator for the Highlights Foundation and reviews manuscripts for Boyds Mills Press.

“Fundamentals”

www.highlightsfoundation.org 14 1-877-288-3410

July 8-13
Elements of Plot with Grace Lin and Padma Venkatraman  

**NEW COURSE**

Find your way through your novel, from point to point and place to place.

- Enjoy hands-on experience designed to help you understand the analytical nature of plot and uncover ways to plan your novel.
- Examine the internal and external conflicts of your story and whether or not an emotional arc is achieved.
- Get feedback on pacing, tension, and stakes, as well as guidance in planning the journey of your story.
- Submit 10 pages from the beginning of your work-in-progress, along with a chapter-by-chapter summary of the entire manuscript.
- Picture book writers are also welcome to attend and may send a single manuscript in its entirety.

"The workshop leaders provided a special balance between honest feedback and sincere encouragement. Masters of their own craft, they take the time to get to know attendees and offer helpful, specific advice. In a word, inspiring!"

**Faculty**

Grace Lin is an award-winning and *New York Times* bestselling author/illustrator of picture books, early readers, and middle grade novels.

Padma Venkatraman is an award-winning middle grade and young adult novelist.

Color, Light, Line, & Texture Hands-on Workshop  

**April 26-29**

Come play in paint, explore collage, and dive into textiles during this hands-on retreat for everyone.

- NO previous art experience required! Everyone is welcome: teachers, librarians, writers, artists, and art lovers!
- Using paints, paste, and paper, you will create drip papers, paste papers, 3-D illustrations, accordion books, gilded quotes, and vivid collage art.
- Learn how these various techniques can be used in illustration and in your personal projects.
- Special guest Judy Schachner will lead a workshop using her signature style of art.

![The workshop leaders provided a special balance between honest feedback and sincere encouragement. Masters of their own craft, they take the time to get to know attendees and offer helpful, specific advice. In a word, inspiring!](image)

**Faculty**

$995

Denise Fleming is the author/illustrator of many award-winning picture books, many of which are created in her signature style of pulp painting, a paper-making technique.

Ashley Wolff is the author and/or illustrator of over 65 children’s picture books and works in a variety of media.

**Special Guest**

Judy Schachner is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author/illustrator of over 25 books for children.
Crafting a Dummy with Heart & Soul: A Creative Incubator for Illustrators  
May 24-27

Find balance with words and pictures as you polish your picture book dummy for submission.

- Whether you are working on your first picture book or you are reinventing yourself to renew your enthusiasm, this workshop will bring out your unique personal expression to help you craft an exciting, lively dummy.
- Over the course of three days, faculty will work with you individually and help you discover and showcase your strengths.
- With lots of individual attention and class feedback, you will perfect your picture book dummy to get it ready for submission.
- Review the basics of creating a dummy for a 32-page picture book and get help creating successful illustrations from sketches to final, perfected dummy.

Faculty

Floyd Cooper is the Coretta Scott King Award-winning author/illustrator of more than 60 books for children.

Melanie Hall is a children’s book illustrator, fine artist, and college professor who has illustrated more than 30 children’s books.

Illustration Intensive  
July 20-23

Explore the ever-changing children’s book market with authors, illustrators, and art directors who are currently in the field.

Come learn new techniques and enjoy the camaraderie of artists who understand your passion. Daily hands-on activities will challenge you to sharpen your illustration skills with support and guidance from our talented mentors.

The sessions you’ll find in this workshop will help demystify the publishing process and give aspiring illustrators and storytellers the tools and insight into how to find and advance ideas through play, doodling, book dummies, character development, and more.

In addition to illustration techniques, you’ll also explore:
- Dummy preparation
- Storyboarding
- Continuity
- Portfolio expectations
- Character development
- Self-promotion
- Finding a market

Faculty

Elizabeth Rose Stanton is an author/illustrator whose debut book, Henny (Simon & Schuster), was named a 2014 Best Picture Book by the New York Public Library (Titles for Reading and Sharing).

More faculty to be added.
Picture Book Illustration: From Conception to Birth  
October 5-7
A down-to-earth, hands-on workshop for the illustrator who’s looking for the inside track, packed with valuable pointers and solid advice.

- Designed to give you a competitive edge by providing practical tips and direction, this workshop is led by Tim Gillner, an art director with many years of experience.
- Prior to attending the workshop, you’ll have the opportunity to select a picture book manuscript from those provided, determine a trim size, do sketches for a spread, and send to faculty for revision notes.
- At the workshop, Tim will review each assignment and discuss the process and results.
- Sessions will focus on the practical components of illustrating a picture book, including overall layout and design, medium, drawing techniques, portfolios, dummy preparation, book production, and printing.

Writing & Revising Narrative Nonfiction  
May 7-12
Learn narrative nonfiction storytelling skills and get the feedback you need to complete your revision.

- Faculty seminars on scene-building, research, revision techniques, visuals, and back matter.
- Two one-on-one critiques with your faculty mentor.
- Faculty-led discussions of student-generated topics.
- Ample time between sessions to work on your manuscript.

Faculty  
$1495, Application Required

Deborah Heiligman is the author of 31 award-winning books for children and teens. Her most recent book, Vincent and Theo: The Van Gogh Brothers, won the Boston Globe-Horn Book Award in nonfiction.

Barbara Kerley is the award-winning author of numerous nonfiction picture books, including A Home for Mr. Emerson, an NCTE Orbis Pictus Award Honor Book and Those Rebels, John and Tom, an NCTE Orbis Pictus Award Honor Book.

Elizabeth Partridge’s writing for young adults often focuses on politics, social justice, photography, and art. Her book, This Land was Made for You and Me: The Life and Songs of Woody Guthrie, was a National Book Award finalist.

Special Guests
Carolyn P. Yoder is currently senior editor of Calkins Creek Books, the U.S. history imprint of Boyds Mills Press, and a freelance editor and writer.

Susan Campbell Bartoletti is an award-winning author of picture books, novels, and nonfiction for children, including the Newbery Honor book Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler’s Shadow and the Sibert Medal-winning Black Potatoes: The Story of the Great Irish Famine.

Appearing via Skype
Catherine Frank is the owner of Catherine Frank Editorial Services, an editorial consultancy specializing in children’s literature and publishing.
Master Class in Writing Nonfiction for Children & Young Adults

Work with our talented group of mentors to explore factual writing!

Nonfiction matters. Publishers crave it. Teachers and librarians need it. Nonfiction connects our children to the world. Stories about real people, real places, and really interesting world events are more important now than ever.

- Explore nonfiction from many angles: the editorial, the business, and, most importantly, the art of telling true stories.
- Work with our talented group of mentors to explore factual writing through a range of topics, including nonfiction voice, biography, memoir, nature writing, science writing, and narrative nonfiction.
- Your mentor will help guide you in your revisions or explore story ideas during daily one-on-one sessions.
- Additional opportunities include connecting with acquiring editors, developing necessary research and interview skills, exploring today’s magazine and trade-book markets, and investigating visual design through illustration and photography.

Faculty

Larry Dane Brimner is the author of more than 150 fiction and nonfiction books for children.

Rich Wallace is the author of many award-winning books and spent many years as an editor at Highlights for Children magazine.

Sandra Neil Wallace is a former news journalist and ESPN announcer who writes realistic fiction for young people and has written extensively for magazines, including Highlights and Cobblestone.

Carole Boston Weatherford is an award-winning author of children’s books, including Gordon Parks: How the Photographer Captured Black and White America, winner of the NAACP Image Award and Voice of Freedom.

Emma Otheguy is the author of the bilingual picture book Martí’s Song for Freedom.

Special Guests

Peter P. Jacobi is professor emeritus of journalism at Indiana University and a long-time faculty member of the Highlights Foundation who continues to offer exceptional instruction and mentorship.

Jan Cheripko is the author of seven books for children and young adults, including the award-winning young adult novel Imitate the Tiger.

The faculty was outstanding in every regard. Their insight, kindness, generosity, approachability, and availability were beyond anything I’ve ever experienced at a writing conference. Off the charts.
Nuts & Bolts of Science Writing  

Energize readers through active fiction and nonfiction writing that shines the light on exciting science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) concepts.

• Learn how to generate, evaluate, and shape your ideas to engage and attract agents and editors.
• Find out how to create proposals and research content and photos/images.
• Work with experts to improve the accuracy and depth of your writing and draw on your research to write cohesive, energetic nonfiction and fiction books, articles, or other science-based works for picture book, middle grade, or young adult age categories.
• Hear presentations on finding exciting and timely topics that will knock the socks off your agent or editor, polishing the dreaded cover letter and preparing a proposal, analyzing a scene, and building out science-based content for middle grade and young adult readers.

"Miranda Paul and Jennifer Swanson were thoroughly prepared, worked hard on their presentations, and were so nurturing of all the writers there. The whole workshop was very well thought out. You could tell that the session leaders had spent a great deal of time preparing for the week."

Faculty

Jennifer Swanson is a self-professed science geek and the author of over 25 nonfiction and fiction books.

Miranda Paul is an award-winning picture book author and the author of more than 50 short stories, articles, and poems for magazines and digital markets.

Telling It True: The Art of Storytelling in Picture Book Biography & Narrative Nonfiction  

October 18-21

Engage children in the lives of others through captivating events and compelling narrative threads.

• Explore the art of writing biographies for children and teens in both long and short forms.
• Learn to complete research and use narrative structure to bring subjects to life through accuracy and authenticity.
• Experience lectures, hands-on writing exercises, one-on-one critiques, and time for revision.
• Submit a picture book biography, the first chapter of a longer biography (2,000 words max), or a book proposal for mentor feedback.

Faculty

Tod Olson is the author of the narrative nonfiction series Lost and the historical fiction series How to Get Rich. He has 30 years of experience as a writer, editor, and book developer for the education and school/library markets.

Leda Schubert is the author of 10 picture books, both fiction and nonfiction. Titles include Listen: How Pete Seegar Got America Singing and Monsieur Marceau: Actor Without Words, winner of the NTCE Orbis Pictus Award and the Sugarman Award for Excellence in Nonfiction.

Faculty

Jennifer Swanson is a self-professed science geek and the author of over 25 nonfiction and fiction books.

Miranda Paul is an award-winning picture book author and the author of more than 50 short stories, articles, and poems for magazines and digital markets.

Plus guest editors!
# Programs by Month

## JANUARY/ FEBRUARY

- **Online: Getting to Know Your Novel with Sarah Aronson** – 1/8 to 4/19
  - SOLD OUT!
- **Carolyn P. Yoder’s Alumni Retreat** – 1/28 to 2/4
- **Plan your Custom Retreat with your writing group**

## MARCH/APRIL

- **Everything You Need to Know About Children’s Book Publishing: A Crash Course** – 3/22 to 3/25
  - SOLD OUT!
- **Novel Writing with Patti Gauch** – 3/25 to 3/31
  - SOLD OUT!
- **Getting to Know Your Novel Retreat** – 4/15 to 4/19
  - SOLD OUT!
- **Color, Light, Line, & Texture: A Hands-on Workshop** – 4/25 to 4/29
- **Crafting Successful Author Visits** – 4/29 to 5/4

## MAY

- **Writing & Revising Narrative Nonfiction** – 5/7 to 5/12
- **Filling the Writer’s Toolbox: Tools for First Lines, Voice, Character, World-Building, & Revision** – 5/12 to 5/17
- **Writing the Unreal: The Whole Novel Workshop in Fantasy & Speculative Fiction** – 5/13 to 5/20
- **Retell, Revisit, Reimagine: Writing Fresh Fairy Tales & Folklore for Older Readers** – 5/18 to 5/20
- **Crafting a Dummy with Heart & Soul** – 5/24 to 5/27

## JUNE

- **PB&J: Picture Books & All That Jazz** – 6/7 to 6/10
- **Writing First Chapter Books & Early Readers** – 6/10 to 6/13
- **Connecting Source to Story: Mining the World for Your Fiction** – 6/14 to 6/17
- **Writing Mysteries for Middle Grade, Chapter Books, & Series** – 6/17 to 6/20
- **Novel Beginnings: Building Strong Foundations for Your Novel & Your Career** – 6/21 to 6/24
- **Beginning STEPS to Writing Historical Fiction** – 5/21 to 5/24
- **Writing for the Educational Market** – 6/24 to 6/28
- **Online: Getting to Know Your Picture Book with Debbie Ridpath Ohi** – 6/11 to 9/16

## JULY

- **Summer Camp at the Barn: A Week of Creative Mentorship** – 7/8 to 7/13
- **Master Class in Writing Nonfiction for Children & Young Adults** – 7/15 to 7/19
- **Illustration Intensive** – 7/20 to 7/23

## AUGUST

- **Revision Retreat** – 8/3 to 8/7
- **Nuts & Bolts of Science Writing** – 8/8 to 8/12
- **Whole Novel Workshop: Middle Grade/Young Adult** – 8/12 to 8/18
- **The Ins & Outs of a Picture Book & Its Many Forms** – 8/26 to 8/29

## SEPTEMBER

- **The Journey: Your Path to Publication** – 9/9 to 9/12
- **Getting to Know Your Picture Book Retreat** – 9/13 to 9/16
- **Books with Bite** – 9/30 to 10/3
- **DIY Repair Kit for Writers: Get Your Fixer-Upper Ready to Sell** – 9/30 to 10/3

## OCTOBER

- **Picture Book Illustration: From Conception to Birth** – 10/5 to 10/7
- **Beginner’s Class in World-Building and World-Conjuring** – 10/4 to 10/7
- **Writing for All Young Readers: Board Books Through Middle Grade Series** – 10/7 to 10/9
- **The Craft & Heart of Writing Poetry for Children** – 10/14 to 10/18
- **Telling It True: The Art of Storytelling in Picture Book Biography and Narrative Nonfiction** – 10/18 to 10/21
- **Elements of Plot with Grace Lin and Padma Venkatraman** – 10/21 to 10/24

## NOVEMBER

- **Getting Your Middle Grade & Young Adult Unstuck** – 11/4 to 11/8

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**The Highlights Foundation**, 814 Court Street, Honesdale, PA 18431  
[www.highlightsfoundation.org](http://www.highlightsfoundation.org)
We have many novel offerings this year. Which one is right for you?

If you’re just getting started or have an in-progress novel, check out:

- Getting to Know Your Novel Online Course Plus On-site Retreat, page 29
- Beginning STEPS to Writing Historical Fiction, page 34
- Retell, Revisit, Reimagine: Writing Fresh Fairy Tales & Folklore for Older Readers, page 31
- Writing Mysteries for Middle Grade, Chapter Books, & Series, page 11

If you’ve completed your novel and it’s time to get feedback and revise:

- Writing the Unreal: The Whole Novel Workshop in Fantasy & Speculative Fiction, page 32
- Whole Novel Workshop: Middle Grade & Young Adult, page 33
- Books with Bite Workshop and Retreat: Writing Horror & Haunted Novels, page 36
- DIY Repair Kit for Writers: Get Your Fixer-Upper Ready to Sell, page 43
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Getting to Know Your Novel with Sarah Aronson: Online Course Plus On-site Retreat

January 8-April 19

Give your novel the special attention it deserves with this long-form workshop: an activity-based web series paired with a guided writing retreat.

- Part 1, January-February: You’ll attend weekly sessions in a web classroom.
- Part 2, February-March: You’ll write and revise on your own to finish up your draft or revision. Faculty will be available via phone or email to answer further questions and offer support.
- Part 3, April 15-19: Bring your novel to our retreat center, where the team will mentor you through your next round of revisions and hold lectures and writing exercises.
- Faculty will read up to 50 pages and your synopsis and will meet with you for a one-on-one critique session.

Faculty

Sarah Aronson is a novelist and writing teacher who has an MFA in Writing for Children and Young Adults from Vermont College of Fine Arts.

Cori McCarthy is an editor, writing coach, and the author of four young adult novels.

Special Guests

Heather Alexander is an independent book editor with 10 years of experience working with authors and artists in children’s book publishing.

Mary Winn Heider received an MFA from Vermont College of Fine Arts and is the author of the upcoming debut middle grade book The Mortification of Fovea Munson.

Laura Sibson received an MFA from Vermont College of Fine Arts after a career in higher education and tells stories for teens through her writing.
Novel Writing with Patti Gauch
March 25-31

Move your novel to the next level with guidance from editor Patricia Lee Gauch.

- Dig into the first draft of your novel, looking to confirm characters and voices, elevate diction, celebrate ecstatic moments, and shape story structure.
- Days begin with morning writing prompts and the opportunity to explore new and original writing techniques.
- There will be generous writing time, whole workshop sessions, and one-on-one sessions with Patti.
- Nightly sharing sessions will round out the day as participants offer informal feedback and create community.

Retell, Revisit, Reimagine: Writing Fresh Fairy Tales & Folklore for Older Readers
May 18-20

Back by popular demand

Explore ways to harness the enduring appeal of fairy tales in your own work.

Fairy tales have inspired writers since they were first recorded. In this workshop, you’ll explore the ways you can incorporate or reimagine them into your middle grade or young adult novel. Fairy tales demand the same level of writing as any other form of fiction, so the focus of the workshop will always be on craft.

- Hear faculty sessions on craft.
- Complete writing prompts.
- Enjoy free writing time.
- Participate in group discussions.
- Work with a faculty mentor for feedback on your manuscript.

“Attending the workshop not only gave me deeper insight into writing, but it established new friendships and broadened my feeling of professionalism and capabilities. It was wonderful to get together with other writers who were more than willing to share their expertise and experiences.”

Faculty

Patricia Lee Gauch
$2699, Application Required
Patricia Lee Gauch is the former vice president and editor at large of Philomel Books. She is now a full-time writer and lecturer who has authored more than 40 picture books and novels for young readers.

Anna-Marie McLemore is the Mexican-American author of of The Weight of Feathers, When the Moon Was Ours, Wild Beauty, and the forthcoming Blanca & Roja.

Julie C. Dao is a proud Vietnamese-American writer for kids and teens and the author of Forest of a Thousand Lanterns.
The Whole Novel Workshop program is specifically designed for writers of middle grade and young adult novels.

This unique program offers the one-on-one attention found in degree programs without additional academic requirements, lengthy time commitments, or prohibitive financial investments. Our aim is to focus on a specific work-in-progress, moving a novel to the next level in preparation for submission to agents or publishers.

Faculty
Anne Ursu is the author of several novels for young readers and is the 2013 recipient of the McKnight Fellowship in Children’s Literature. She teaches at Hamline University’s MFA in Writing for Children and Young Adults program.

Laura Ruby is the author of the young adult novel Bone Gap, a National Book Award Finalist and Publisher’s Weekly Best Book of 2015, and several other novels for children. She teaches at Hamline University’s MFA in Writing for Children and Young Adults program.

Special Guests
Christine Heppermann is an author of fiction, nonfiction, and poetry for children and young adults.

Deborah Kovacs is editorial director of Walden Pond Press, a joint imprint of HarperCollins and Walden Media, specializing in middle grade fiction.

Tina Wexler is a literary agent at ICM Partners, representing authors in the children’s and adult marketplace, with a focus on middle grade and young adult fiction.

Jordan Brown is an executive editor with Walden Pond Press and Balzer + Bray, two imprints at HarperCollins Children’s Books.

Focused attention in an intimate setting makes this mentorship program one that guarantees significant progress. Our novel mentorship program includes:

• Focused, one-on-one response to your entire novel-in-progress from an accomplished author and teacher.

• Group discussion and feedback.

• Seminars on technique, craft, query letters, and agent/editor submissions.

• Ample time to write and revise.

• Writing exercises and group reading.

Writing the Unreal: The Whole Novel Workshop in Fantasy and Speculative Fiction May 13-20

Designed for anyone with a complete or near-complete draft of a middle grade or young adult novel in fantasy or speculative fiction.

$2495, Application Required

Faculty
Sarah Aronson is a novelist and writing teacher who has an MFA in Writing for Children and Young Adults from Vermont College of Fine Arts.

Nancy Werlin is the author of nine young adult novels that range from contemporary realism to mystery to fantasy.

A.M. (Amanda) Jenkins is the author of six young adult novels, including the Printz Honor Book Repossessed and the Los Angeles Times Book Prize finalist Damage.

Jennifer Jacobson is the author of many early reader, middle grade, and young adult books for children.

Special Guests
Nicole Valentine holds an MFA in Writing for Children and Young Adults from Vermont College of Fine Arts. She is currently working on a middle grade time travel novel.

Rob Costello writes fiction for and about young people. He holds an MFA in Writing for Children & Young Adults from Vermont College of Fine Arts.

Whole Novel Workshop: Middle Grade & Young Adult August 12-18

Revise and polish your novel in preparation for submission.

$2495, Application Required

Faculty
Anne Ursu is the author of several novels for young readers and is the 2013 recipient of the McKnight Fellowship in Children’s Literature. She teaches at Hamline University’s MFA in Writing for Children and Young Adults program.

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• Ample time to write and revise.

• Writing exercises and group reading.
Joyce Hostetter’s historical novels have been applauded for their rich language, southern atmosphere, precise tone, and believable situations. Joyce speaks regularly in schools, civic clubs, writer’s groups, and library conferences, sharing what she’s learned about researching and writing historical fiction.

Give your historical fiction a strong start by learning the fundamentals of this popular genre. Finish or revise your historical novel with five thoughtful STEPS:

• **Story**: Find stories embedded in history and embed history into your stories.

• **Time**: Allow the historical era to shape characters, dialogue, actions, and more.

• **Experts**: Seek insight from archivists, specialists, eyewitnesses, and survivors.

• **Place**: Infuse the story with a sense of locality and culture.

• **Sources**: Research history and document resources.

Kelly and Clara provided both professional and emotional support for the author embarking on a strenuous journey: writing a novel. They were honest about the ups and downs of the life of a writer, they discussed both the art and the industry, and they listened with true interest to our questions and concerns.

K.L. Going is the award-winning author of numerous books for children and teens.

Clara Gillow Clark is a critically acclaimed author of six novels of historical fiction for middle grade readers.

Get feedback on your novel AND guidance about your writing career from two experienced authors with great teaching and editing experience.

- Submit up to 50 pages of your manuscript, and faculty will give you both line comments and an editorial letter.
- Experience a personal, one-on-one critique with a faculty member.
- Participate in sessions with guest editors.
- Attend faculty and guest presentations on plot, character, conflict, the publishing process, and how to avoid common mistakes.

"...they discussed both the art and the industry, and they listened with true interest to our questions and concerns."
Books with Bite Workshop & Retreat: Writing Horror & Haunted Novels  September 30-October 3

In this unique four-day workshop, you will have your work critiqued, produce new pages, and come away with solid direction for your novel.

- Participate in group critiques to discuss a section from your novel in an honest, supportive environment co-led by the faculty. Each writer will have up to 20 pages discussed.
- Enjoy craft lectures, prompts for freewriting, open discussions on topics of your choosing, and opportunities for you to share your work in a reading.
- Each writer will also be paired with a faculty mentor for an in-depth, one-on-one meeting, with the opportunity to share an additional 20 pages of your novel (40 pages total).
- Your faculty mentor will provide a detailed edit letter, giving you guidance to help you complete your draft.

PB&J: Picture Books & All That Jazz  June 7-10

Go beyond the basics to understand the “whys” behind current picture book bestsellers.

- Dig deep into the many layers that create strong, creative stories. You’ll go beyond the basics to understand the “whys” behind current picture book bestsellers.
- Explore books with that elusive read again and again quality and learn how to entice readers with your own writing.
- Get reviews on personal manuscripts from our faculty members.
- Receive feedback on your work from an acquiring editor and hear her discuss why she chooses the books she chooses.
- A visiting art director will discuss how art enhances writing and inspire you to make room for the art as you write.

Faculty

$1099

Children’s book author and writing teacher Darcy Pattison has been published with Harcourt, Philomel/Penguin, HarperCollins, Arbordale, and Mims House.

Micol Ostow has been writing professionally since 2004, and in that time has written and/or ghostwritten over 40 works for young readers. She received her MFA in Writing for Children and Young Adults from Vermont College of Fine Arts.

Leslie Helakoski is the author and sometimes illustrator of 10 picture books known for their humor and wordplay.

Faculty

$1495, Application Required

You might also be interested in:

Color, Light, Line & Texture Hands-on Workshop, page 17
Crafting a Dummy with Heart & Soul: A Creative Incubator for Illustrators, page 18

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www.highlightsfoundation.org
The Ins & Outs of a Picture Book & Its Many Forms

**NEW COURSE**

**August 26-29**

Learn about crafting characters, storyboarding with an illustrator’s eye, revising strategies, stand-out submissions, school visits, and more.

- This hands-on workshop will help you discover what you’re most driven to write and how to get that work ready for submission to editors and agents.
- Have one-on-one critique sessions and opportunities for critical feedback.
- Hear faculty sessions on: The Picture Book Biography Only You Can Write, Creating Compelling Characters Readers Care About, Scene and Structure in Picture Books, Revising: If You Love the Work, It Will Love You Back, SOS: Stand-Out Submissions, and more.

**Faculty**

Bethany Hegedus is an award-winning author, a graduate of the Vermont College of Fine Arts MFA program, and the owner and creative director of The Writing Barn in Austin, Texas.

Carmen Oliver is an author and the founder of The Booking Biz, a boutique-style agency that brings award-winning children’s authors and illustrators to schools, libraries, and special events.

Salina Yoon is the award-winning and bestselling author and illustrator of over 160 books for children, with over 3.5 million books sold worldwide.

**The Journey: Your Path to Publication**

**September 9-12**

Get serious about writing that picture book—and set reachable goals to move you toward publication.

- Learn about steps toward publication and discover ways to set goals for yourself that will move you forward.
- Explore the children’s book market as well as the essentials of writing for young children.
- Try writing exercises on character, poetry, pitches, and mining your childhood memories.
- Hear faculty and special guests share their own paths to publication.
- Enjoy time to write and revise on your own.
- Meet with faculty for one-on-one critiques of your manuscript.

“This workshop was informative, motivating, and challenging. The facilitators were professional, fun, and inspiring. Through this challenge, I have discovered much about the craft and about myself as an author. I came away with tools and strategies that are immediately relevant and applicable.”

**Faculty**

Don Tate is an award-winning author, the illustrator of numerous critically acclaimed books for children, and a founding host of The Brown Bookshelf.

Carmen Oliver is an author and the founder of The Booking Biz, a boutique-style agency that brings award-winning children’s authors and illustrators to schools, libraries, and special events.
Getting to Know Your Picture Book with Debbie Ridpath Ohi (Online Course Plus On-site Retreat) Online: June-August On-site: September 13-16

Give your picture book the special attention it deserves with this long-form workshop: an activity-based web series paired with a guided writing retreat.

- **Part 1, June-July:** You’ll attend weekly sessions in a web classroom.
- **Part 2, July-Aug:** You’ll write and revise on your own to finish up your draft or revision. Faculty will be available via email to answer further questions and offer support.
- **Part 3, September 13-16:** Join us on-site at our retreat center where the team will mentor you through your next round of revisions and hold lectures and writing exercises.
- Faculty will read your completed draft of a picture book manuscript or picture book dummy/mock-up and give you a one-on-one critique.

Revised Retreat August 3-7

Intended for writers wanting to revise a draft of a manuscript and explore proven techniques for self-editing.

- Work on your rough or finished draft of a novel, picture book, or narrative nonfiction.
- Try out a variety of techniques for self-editing, from big picture revision down to line editing.
- Explore ways to gain objectivity and more focused responses to manuscripts.
- Take part in model critique groups and contribute to group discussions to share favorite techniques.
- Meet with an editor for individual consultations.

**Faculty** $1295

Harold Underdown is an author and independent children’s book editor who works with authors and publishers and is the author of *The Complete Idiot’s Guide to Children’s Book Publishing*.

For almost 10 years, Eileen Robinson acquired, developed, and edited children’s books for both Scholastic, as executive editor, and Harcourt, as editorial manager. Now an editorial consultant, Eileen works with both published and unpublished authors.

**Special Guests**

Heidi Stemple has published more than 20 books, including two poetry collections, as well as numerous short stories, essays, and poems, mostly for children.

Lisa Cinelli is an award-winning painter, children’s book author/illustrator, and a Teaching Artist.

Rubin Pfeffer has served as President and Publisher of Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, SVP and Chief Creative Officer of Pearson, and as SVP, Publisher of Children’s Books for Simon & Schuster.

**Faculty** $1499


A haiku by Cory Corrado

“Highlights oasis nurtures spirit and soul rejuvenation”
Filling the Writer’s Toolbox: Tools for First Lines, Voice, Character, World-Building, & Revision  May 12-17

Under the guidance of Emma Dryden, you’ll prepare your manuscript for submission and gain a deep understanding of the fundamentals of writing for children.

- Learn proven techniques for editing and revising your manuscript with renowned editor Emma D. Dryden.
- This workshop is geared specifically to authors of picture books and middle grade and young adult novels who have completed entire drafts of their manuscripts and taken their work through at least one or two rounds of revision.
- We will discuss, explore, and use various tools to help authors prepare their manuscripts to catch the heart of an agent and publisher.
- Engaging sessions on first lines and first pages, voice, character, world-building, and more.
- Receive one-on-one feedback and participate in small group workshopping with Emma and guests.

Faculty $1495

Emma D. Dryden founded drydenbks LLC, a premiere children’s editorial and publishing consultancy firm, after 25 years of experience as editor and publisher of Margaret K. McElderry Books and Atheneum Books for Young Readers, imprints of Simon & Schuster Children’s Publishing.

Special Guests

Pat Cummings is the author and/or illustrator of over 35 books for young readers. She also edited the award-winning series Talking with Artists, which profiles prominent children’s book illustrators.

Yesenia Flores Díaz won the 2016 Brooklyn Nonfiction Prize for her essay, “Abuela, My Redeemer,” and is working on a young adult novel.

Lisa Cinelli is an award-winning painter, children’s book author/illustrator, and a Teaching Artist.

Kevin Lewis is a 20-year veteran of children’s publishing, working as an editor for numerous bestselling titles before becoming an author.

Filling the Writer’s Toolbox: Tools for First Lines, Voice, Character, World-Building, & Revision  May 12-17

DIY Repair Kit for Writers: Get Your Fixer-Upper Ready to Sell  September 30-October 3

For published and pre-published authors who have a novel that needs to be renovated for sale.

- A hands-on workshop for novelists ready to deconstruct and rebuild their manuscripts.
- Craft lessons focused on the foundational elements of your novel, like dialogue, character, and setting.
- Mentor-directed evaluations of your work, turning from fundamental elements to big-picture questions.
- Feedback from your mentors and peers at every step of the way.

Faculty $1295

Susan Campbell Bartoletti is an award-winning author of picture books, novels, and nonfiction for children, including the Newbery Honor book Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler’s Shadow and the Sibert Medal-winning Black Potatoes: The Story of the Great Irish Famine.

Mitali Perkins has written many novels for young readers, including Rickshaw Girl (chosen by the New York Public Library as one of the top 100 books for children in the past 100 years) and Bamboo People (an American Library Association’s Top Ten Novels for Young Adults).

www.highlightsfoundation.org 1-877-288-3410

“Susan and Mitali were not only supportive and encouraging, but they were fun as well. They willingly shared their knowledge with us, in addition to giving us some feedback on our pieces.”

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Artist-in-Residency

The Artist-in-Residency program was established to celebrate the commitment select authors and illustrators have made to the field of children’s literature and to raise awareness about projects from our residents that we feel will have a lasting impact on readers of all ages. Named scholarships have also been established to progress new authors and illustrators on their journeys.

To date, our Artist-in-Residency program has honored nine members of the children’s book community: Meg Medina, Laurie Halse Anderson, Jerry Spinelli, Eileen Spinelli, Denise Fleming, Kathy Erskine, Matt de la Peña, Varian Johnson, and Suzanne Bloom.

“Knowing that Eileen Spinelli chose my application for the Highlights scholarship means the world to me. Her books have a way of making the ordinary extraordinary, and I aim to do the same as I attend the ‘Picture Books & All That Jazz’ workshop to work on my picture book about a young girl celebrating the wedding of her two moms,” said Mary Cronin, recipient of the 2017 Eileen Spinelli Scholarship.

Writers and illustrators are encouraged to join our artists on campus for a five-day retreat.

Check our website to discover our 2018 Artists-in-Residence!

“Varian was wonderful. I loved the way he kept it loose and informal, and we had larger group check-in meetings in the evenings with individual and small group chats throughout the day. He was amazingly generous with his time and thoughts, both on the writing process and the business side of the industry. A tremendous asset to the Highlights faculty!”

“Laurie was AMAZINGLY generous with her time and thoughts, despite the fact that she had a lot on her plate and was trying to get her own work done. Her one-on-ones were wonderful, more than I expected, and that one chat with her really changed my views on writing and life. What an amazing experience!”
The Craft & Heart of Writing Poetry for Children

Georgia Heard received her MFA in poetry writing from Columbia University. She is the author and editor of numerous children’s books and is the author of several books on teaching poetry.

Rebecca Kai Dotlich is an award-winning author and poet whose poetry appears in many award-winning collections, in dozens of anthologies and textbooks, and in major children’s magazines.

If you have a passion for writing children’s poetry, please join us. Beginning poets as well as seasoned writers, teachers, and dreamers are all welcome.

• Work in an intimate setting with published poets, make new friends, and immerse yourself in writing poetry and working on the craft.
• We will discuss learning, writing, revising, and working on the craft of writing poetry for children.
• Enjoy plenty of interaction, direction, free creative writing time, and writing exercises to inspire new poems.
• Focus on all elements of poetry, from the importance of word choice to surprising metaphors.

Just Added!

Faculty

Cori McCarthy is an editor, writing coach, and the author of four young adult novels.

Writing for All Young Readers: Board Books through Middle Grade Series

Designed to help writers uncover the possibilities offered in the children’s book industry as well as discuss ways to make the most impact on children of all ages.

• Explore ways to break into the industry, turn passion and ideas into a career, work in multiple genres and for varying ages, find work-for-hire opportunities, and more.
• Along with daily lectures and discussions, there will be hands-on writing exercises and chances to meet one-on-one with the faculty.

Faculty

Kelly Starling Lyons is a children’s book author whose mission is to transform moments, memories, and history into stories of discovery.

Gwendolyn Hooks is the author of 20 books for children. She writes both fiction and nonfiction to encourage children to explore their world.

Kristy Dempsey is a teacher-librarian and picture book author.

Crystal Allen is the author of several middle grade novels.
Unworkshops

Unworkshops are unstructured. You decide how to use your time: to think, dream, and create. We’ll provide you with cozy, peaceful lodging where you can focus on your writing or your art.

We’ll provide a comfortable, private place to stay, with a writing table and other amenities. We’ll also provide three great meals a day, served in the Barn, or the option of taking food back to your room on a tray if you are in the middle of a landslide of writing inspiration. Snacks are available at all times.

Stay for a day or a week. Get away from life’s distractions and begin new work or finish work-in-progress. Check our website for available dates, or call Jo Lloyd at 877-288-3410.

Custom Retreats

In addition to individual attendees, we’re grateful for the number of small groups who come here to do an Unworkshop together. It’s the perfect setting for critique groups and others to gather and run their own programs.

“"All in all the delicious food, the company, the yoga, the sparkling clean and cozy accommodations, and general homey atmosphere helped to enrich our experience.

We are grateful that you could provide us with a special place to write, to focus without interruptions, and to connect with other writers.""
**Our Scholarship Program**

The Highlights Foundation is a public, not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization. We receive support from a number of individuals, several publishing companies, and writers’ organizations who believe in our mission. The majority of our named scholarship funds are endowed. Our scholarship-aid program serves those who may not be able to bear the costs of our workshops. It has provided financial aid for more than 600 writers and illustrators to attend our programs.

**Scholarships are awarded based on the following criteria:**

- Seriousness of purpose
- Talent
- Financial need

For more information, please visit highlightsfoundation.org/scholarships

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**Educators: Earn Graduate Credits**

Educators have the opportunity to earn graduate credits by developing practical activities based on a Highlights Foundation workshop. Brandman University’s School of Extended Education will award one, two, three, or four semester hours of graduate-level elective credit based upon successful completion of course requirements.

Credits can be used as state continuing education credits.

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**What About Payment?**

The cost of our programs is all-inclusive and covers the workshop, lodging, meals, beverages, snacks, and transportation to and from the airport.

All registrations require a refundable deposit to save your spot in the workshop. Then consider these three options for paying for the rest of the course:

- **Choose “Pay Three Times” and we’ll bill you in three easy payments between the time when you register and the time when the course starts.**
- **Monthly Pay:** Set up $100 or $200 per month payments. You can even extend your payments past the start of the course if needed.
- **Pay in Full:** We’ll send you an invoice about six weeks before the workshop starts and you can pay in full.

For questions or to set up a plan, email Jo Lloyd at jo.lloyd@highlightsfoundation.org, or call toll-free at (877) 288-3410.

Payment can be made by check or credit card.

*Note: Grants to help writers and illustrators develop their craft and career may be available from writers’ organizations, critique groups, or employers.*

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**Where Are We Located?**

**Getting Here Is Easy**

Honesdale, Pennsylvania is 2½ hours from New York City and Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR) and approximately 45 minutes from the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport (AVP). Complimentary airport shuttle service is provided.

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**Stay Connected**

Wireless Internet access is available. Guests may use our computers, thumb drives, and printers, but we encourage you to bring your own laptops. There is limited cellular reception on the grounds. Guests may use our landline phone if needed.

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**Give the Gift of a Workshop**

Is there a children’s writer or illustrator in your life who would love to hone their craft or who could maybe use some inspiration? You can give them both and more with a gift certificate for a Highlights Foundation workshop.

A gift certificate can be purchased for any dollar amount you choose and your recipient can apply it toward the workshop of their choice, or you can purchase a certificate for the full price of the workshop.