

Elementary Registration Materials
Grades 3-6 on TUESDAY, March 10, 2020

9 AM – 2 PM

Dear Teachers and Administrators:

Great Prairie AEA is excited to announce 2020 Young Writers' Conference. On **Tuesday, March 10, (grades 3-6)** the conference will convene at William Penn University to honor student writers. *Teachers will be assigned to supervise sharing sessions.* Support from each of you has enabled us to plan an exciting event where students have an opportunity to share writing with peers and attend workshop sessions. Thank you! ***If a student needs special accommodations, contact the YWC Coordinator upon registering.***

In order to help us with our planning and scheduling, please note the registration deadline. The date is firm and will enable us to notify you of your students' schedules prior to the conference. Please return the student and adult registration information to the Young Writers' Conference building contact person to compile all student information to email to the event coordinator.

REGISTRATIONS TO GPAEA BY: January 27, 2020

1. Registration forms are in the excel files attached to this email. If you are unable to open the attachments, download at www.gpaea.org website. (Under Programs & Services/Student Events/Young Writers' Conference)
2. **Email two worksheets to complete registration for teachers/students in Excel:**
YWC ELEM TeacherParentReg2020 and YWC ELEM StudentReg2020
3. Complete the form: *YWC ELEM TeacherParentReg2020* with district name, building, and all teachers/parents chaperoning to meet the student participant ratio requirements is 1 adult to 8 students.
4. Complete the form *YWC ELEM StudentReg2020* with workshop choices for all students from each building(s). (Use the student registration worksheet included in this packet to collect each student's workshop choices.) Schedules will be van mailed to the main contact.
5. Save and rename the excel files for each file with your buildingnameELEMteacher.xls and buildingnameELEMstudent.xls.
*Email before or by **January 27** to Lisa Sines at Lisa.sines@gpaea.org*

The **\$2.00** student participation fee can be paid by cash, or purchase order/school check made payable to Great Prairie AEA. **Your registration is complete when sent to Lisa Sines, GPAEA, 2814 North Court Street, Ottumwa IA 52501.** Schools will be invoiced directly for purchase orders and billed for registrations submitted.

Reminder: Because of the regulations of the fire marshal we need to keep the number of participants to the minimum. Do not bring more than the allotted number of students and remember **the ratio of 1 adult to 8 elementary students.** Please do not allow parents to come, unless they are registered as a chaperone to fulfill your adult/child ratio.

During the conference activities, students will attend a sharing session where they will read a piece of their best writing to a small group of students. They will be placed in a session with students about their age from various districts. Each student will bring **11** copies of a revised manuscript to the conference and will share copies with other students and the teacher in their assigned sharing session. Copies should be clear and sharp with ample margins, typed, limited to 500 words and may be illustrated. **Please identify student work with: name of student, grade level, school and district in the upper right hand corner.** Students will have a compilation of manuscripts from their sharing session to take home.

Students and teachers need to bring a sack lunch or **Sodexo dining center is offering chicken nuggets, tater tots, vegetable and salad bar for \$4.00.** Be aware space is limited in the dining center and may make this option inconvenient. Groups will be assigned to a lunch area. Those groups bringing all sack lunches for students will be assigned to the lounge or available classrooms. If interested in the chicken nuggets, please be sure to indicate a count on the teacher/parent form. If your school wants to pay by purchase order for the buffet, email a copy to Jeff Halverson at Sodexo Inc. at halversonjef@wmpenn.edu (Phone: 641-673-1069). **On the day of the event, teachers/students can pick up or purchase wristbands for chicken nuggets with a purchase order, cash or check until 10:00am. Please plan for your students accordingly.**

Books: Books from the keynote author will be available at the conference for purchase.

Shirts: T-shirts/sweatshirts may be ordered ahead or available the day of the conference.

We are looking forward to seeing you on Tuesday, March 10!

Sincerely,

Lisa Sines, Carol Ryon

Young Writers' Conference Coordinator

Elementary
Student Packet

ELEMENTARY STUDENT WORKSHOP CHOICES

2020 Young Writers' Conference
Tuesday, March 10, 2020, William Penn University

Please select **THREE** workshops you would like to attend during the Young Writers' Conference in each group. You will be scheduled for one in each group by the availability in the sessions.

TEACHERS: IF A STUDENT NEEDS SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS CONTACT THE COORDINATOR.

*******CHOOSE THREE FROM GROUP A*******

1. **“Share a Memory”** – Ashley Morton, Author - Write about a memory good or bad and talk more about how to take an embarrassing memory and make it positive.
2. **“Teaching the Pillars of Character through Puppetry”** – Gregory McCaulley, Guidance Counselor, Oskaloosa, Iowa. Students will learn how to use puppetry to teach the pillars of character to younger children. Each student will write a puppet play and share their plays with others in the class. Students will share how their plays teach one of the pillars of character.
3. **“Eliminate Boring Words!!”**– Molly McCaulley, Oskaloosa CSD Students will work with the thesaurus and improve their descriptive writing skills! We will read stories and write some descriptive pieces!
4. **“Calligraphy: The Art of Elegant Writing”** – Joni Camp, Teacher, Cardinal Community Schools, Eldon, Iowa. Learn the history of calligraphy or the art of beautiful writing. Ms. Camp will show examples, demonstrate, and guide as you learn to write your own name in elegant lettering.
5. **“What If...” & Why?** – Winter Peck, is a local author writing under the pen name, Winter Austin. Find Winter Austin at www.winteraustin.com, on Facebook, and on Twitter @WinterAustin_. Every story begins with an idea starting with the question “What If ...?” followed by “Why?” Learn how to take both of these questions and create twists to the plot, making a good idea into a great story. Examples will be pulled from popular fiction such as The Hunger Games and the Harry Potter series. Students may come prepared with a “What If?” scenario. Will teach the students how to take a 'What if ...?' idea and brainstorm it into a plot by using the question why. Show how this technique works in creating memorable characters. Will use examples from popular books as well as my own, to show how the authors took this premise and made it into a strong plot. Have the students come up with their own 'What if?' scenario and brainstorm these ideas into a story for their own
6. **“Prepare to Scare”** - Linda Fox, Retired Youth Services Librarian, Oskaloosa, IA. This session will focus on the elements of storytelling, especially scary stories. Students will be asked to share experiences that could lead to great stories. Techniques in what makes a good storyteller will be emphasized. Mrs. Fox will share stories to raise your hair!

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Student Packet

**ELEMENTARY STUDENT
WORKSHOP CHOICES**

2020 Young Writers' Conference
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*******CHOOSE THREE FROM GROUP B*******

7. **“Collaborate, Create & Perform”** - Storybook Players/Laura Ross, Oskaloosa High School, Oskaloosa, Iowa. Workshop participants will act out their own stories in small groups with Oskaloosa’s own Storybook Players. The Storybook Players will first demonstrate how to turn writing into a performance before splitting participants into groups. The workshop concludes with small group performances.
8. **“Writing Visual Stories”** – William Penn Media, Students will use mobile technology (provided) to shoot video and interview people involved in a staged event on campus. After the event they will write and produce a short multimedia video using simple mobile applications.
9. **“Celebrate Enjoyment of Poetry”** – Crystal James, Retired Educator, English/Speech/ Drama /Reading, Ottumwa, Iowa.. We find numerous ways to celebrate and enjoy poetry by writing about important events, family, seasons, friends, history as well as our inner thoughts. In our session we shall explore poetry in figures of speech, types of poetry, traits of writing and skills in reading aloud. Participants will have the opportunity to share their ideas in creating their own poetry and also receive examples of “poetry starters”. The session will conclude with the reading of the poem, “Ice Cream Fountain Mountain”, were student compose their own final verse to share, while eating their own ice cream treat!
10. **“Writing for Success”** – Bruce Carlson, President of Quixote Press, Heart’ N Tummies Cookbooks and Black Iron Cookin Co., Wever, Iowa.
Mr. Carlson is a president of three companies, book publisher, self-publisher consultant, and a writer. In this session, students will role-play and learn exercises from a publisher first hand on how to get your ideas published! Learn key principals important to publishers and writers that make the process successful!
11. **“Becoming A Children's Book Author”** – Laci Morrissey, Author, LMHC, NCC Catalyst Country, LLC. Please join a newly published author and her illustrator in discussions about the wonderful world of children's books! Topics may include the writing process, illustration and design, publication submissions and the publishing process, as well as marketing and sales. Find out all the steps it took to become a children's book author!

**(For parent/student to complete
for teacher)**

Elementary
Student Packet

ELEMENTARY DAY – Tuesday, March 10, 2020

Please Print and Complete All Information.

Student's Name (PRINT CLEARLY) _____ Grade: _____

District: _____ School: _____ Teacher: _____

Workshop Choices			
Please indicate by number of workshop in each column below			
Group A (1 - 6)		Group B (7-10)	
First Choice Workshop #		First Choice Workshop #	
Second Choice Workshop #		Second Choice Workshop #	
Third Choice Workshop #		Third Choice Workshop #	

Our Keynote Speaker this year for the Young Writers' Conference: Bob Kann

Registration Fee: \$2.00

Students return form &/or fee to your teacher before January 15, for teachers to meet the closing of GPAEA registration on January 27.

By registering my child for Great Prairie Area Education Agency's (AEA) of Young Writer's Conference, I understand and give permission to Great Prairie AEA to develop and use media (audio recordings, still or motion pictures, video recordings, and/or digital recordings) of the individual being registered. The use of the media production may be a part of or associated with: public presentations; programs; publications; Internet publications; Web sites; GPAEA TV, including syndication with other educational organizations; agency social media sites; or other activities not specifically mentioned here. It is not necessary for me to review any finished products and I will not hold the Great Prairie Area Education Agency or the Great Prairie AEA staff producer as liable for any distortion, illusion, or alteration whether intentional or otherwise. There are no restrictions to the full rights allowed Great Prairie AEA unless specifically noted, by me, within this paragraph (specified here):

Parent Signature _____ **Date:** _____

**TEACHERS - BRING SIGNED PARENTAL FORM TO THE CONFERENCE!
TURN IN AT REGISTRATION SIGN IN!!**

SHARING SESSION GUIDELINES

The purpose of the sharing session is simply to share. There will be no judging or comparative evaluation. Students should be prepared to present their manuscripts orally at the session, which will be limited to 8-10 students with a teacher or adult functioning as the facilitator. Sharing sessions are scheduled to be 45 minutes in length, therefore presentations should be limited to approximately four or five minutes for each participant. Your conference schedule will tell you when and where your sharing session will be held. Try to be at your session a little ahead of the scheduled time so that it can begin promptly.

The following guidelines are given to provide some uniformity and expectations for participants:

- 1) Furnish **11 copies** of your manuscript for distribution among the participants at the sharing session. The AEA will not be collecting copies this year.
- 2) Copies should be **clear and sharp, preferably typed and limited to 500 words**. Manuscripts may be illustrated. If your manuscript is poetry, please have at least 2 poems.
- 3) During your sharing session, you will be playing the role of audience most of the time. This will involve **listening and showing appreciation** for another's work for a majority of the sharing session.
- 4) **Come prepared to read your own manuscript.**
- 5) **Circle the parts you like** about someone's manuscript while they are reading it.
- 6) After the author reads, share with the writer your response to the piece. Some of the following statements may help to solicit **positive** and honest responses.
 - *I liked the part when you said...*
 - *I liked the characters' names because...*
 - *You had a good description of...*
 - *I thought the _____ part was funny.*
 - *I could clearly see the...*
 - *The way you said _____ was good.*
 - *Your choice of words was good in...*
 - *I liked the ending because... or when...*
 - *I was surprised by...*
 - *I felt sad when...*
 - *I liked the title because...*
- 7) Sometimes questions can offer student writers a positive response and cause them to look at their piece in a different way. Examples include:
 - *How did you get this idea for your story?*
 - *What is especially clear about _____'s piece?*
 - *What did you especially like about _____'s writing?*
- 8) The sharing session is meant to be enjoyed. We hope it will be viewed as a celebration of your creativity. So be enthusiastic about your writing and present it with the spirit it deserves!
- 9) **Teachers – Do not release students early from your sharing sessions. Plan ahead!**