

2018 Summer Writing Camp with Denver Writes!

Denver Writes is proud to present our 10th annual Summer Writing camp!

This summer we're offering two camps:

Novel Writing BootCamp @ BookBar

June 18-22 for ages 12-15

Instructor: Debbie Vance

Writing a novel is a lot like building a house... inside a black hole... with mismatched bricks and mortar made of beeswax and cantaloupe and fire. Which is to say, writing a novel is incredibly hard and different every time and the only way to learn how to write one is to try. In this one-week novel-writing bootcamp, we will take our best story-dreams and build them into novels. We will learn about character and conflict and setting and plot, but mostly we will write. This bootcamp is for any teen who thinks that sounds fun.

Debbie Vance's fiction has appeared in *Black Warrior Review*, *Crazyhorse*, *Blue Mesa Review*, *Flyway*, and elsewhere. She received her MFA in fiction from Colorado State University and is at work on a collection of linked stories and a novel. In addition to working with Denver Writes, she teaches fiction at Colorado State University, Loveland School of the Arts, and The Loft Literary Center.

Novel Writing BookCamp @ BookBar

July 16-20 for ages 8-11

Instructor: Melissa Savage

Calling all future authors! Do you love to create stories? Do you want to learn more about developing real life characters, unforgettable settings and awesome plots? Come join us as we learn what makes a great story, share ideas, WRITE WRITE WRITE and most importantly have fun in the process. For those who choose to share their completed works at the end of the week, we will celebrate all workshop attendees with a public reading for family and friends at the BookBar.

Melissa Savage is a licensed therapist and a graduate of Hamline University's MFA Program in Writing for Children and Young Adults. Her debut novel, *Lemons*, acquired by Penguin Random House, was included on the Indie's Introduce List for Winter/Spring 2017 and was also acquired by Barry Cunningham of Chicken House Books for simultaneous release in the U.K. and Commonwealth under the title *Bigfoot, Tobin & Me*. Her next novel, *The Truth About Martians* comes out Fall of 2018! Even though she's never seen a Bigfoot or a Martian in person, Melissa love to learn and write about the mysteries of cryptozoology for children. You can follow Melissa on her website www.melissadsavage.com and Twitter @melissadsavage

Each camp will run from 10am-2pm at Bookbar, 4280 Tennyson Street, Denver 80212.

These camps are for anyone who loves to write. You don't have to be good at writing, you certainly don't have to get good grades in writing, but you have to LIKE TO WRITE. Otherwise, things might be a drag.

Our home base will be Bookbar on Tennyson Street, but we will go on walking field trips in the neighborhood for real-life inspiration.

Each camp will have a special end of camp party and reading, final times will be announced during camp:

Saturday, June 23rd for Novel Writing BootCamp, with special guest author Avi, to coincide with the release of his newest novel, *The Button War*.

Friday, July 20th for BookCamp for Kids.

Finally, we will publish a book of your writing! We want you to see new things, think new thoughts, and write new stories to share with the world. Once your book has been published, Denver Writes will have a book release and reading party at Bookbar to celebrate! Copies will be available for purchase. More details to follow.

Join us, if you dare. Space is limited!

The Details:

What is Denver Writes?

We are a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide young writers in the Denver area with a supportive community and creative opportunities to express themselves through writing.

How much does camp cost?

Camp costs \$250 for each student. Cost includes high-caliber instruction from published authors and lunch for all five days. We are able to offer a few scholarships and partial scholarships for camp. If the cost is a concern of yours, email our program director, Kevin, at hello@denverwrites.org

How long is camp?

Camp will be from 10-2, Monday through Friday at Bookbar. It is important that you stick with us all five days. Please don't show up more than 15 minutes before camp begins, or stay more than 15 minutes after camp ends, because adults need more sleep than even y'all do.

Do I have to bring my own food?

Lunch will be provided by Bookbar. Because Bookbar is a venue that serves food, we ask that no outside food be brought in. Water, of course, is fine! (And we do recommend y'all bring water bottles.) We can accommodate food allergies with advanced notice.

Will we stay in the same place all of the time?

Never! We believe that writers need to experience as much of the world as possible so that they can feed their imaginations AND write stuff about the world. We will go on a walking field trip most days. This means that you need to wear clothes and shoes that are comfortable and modest (no flip-flops), and bring sunscreen.

Can I bring a friend/sister/brother/parent/pet?

We would love to have friends/sisters/brothers if they turn their own applications in on time and convince us they really want to go. Parents, grandparents, guardians, and pets are not really part of this. Prepare yourself to meet new people! Oh -- a warning. If cell phones become a problem, we will ask you to turn them off or not bring them. Be independent! Be free!

Who are the adults who will be hanging out with us?

The adults are Denver Writes volunteers. Many of them are teachers on summer break, or college students, or working writers. All of them are fun and knowledgeable. Parents: Our volunteers are background-checked and kids are never left alone with a volunteer in a private place.

How many kids can participate, and how will those kids be chosen?

We would like to admit every kid who loves writing, but we want to make sure we have space

and attention for each of our writers, so we will take the first fifteen kids who turn in their applications, completed, with tuition.

Where and how do I turn in my application?

1. Please email your application: hello@denverwrites.org, and mail your tuition check: PO Box 12256, Denver CO 80212 OR use Paypal on our website: www.denverwrites.org/summer-camp.
2. You can mail your application and your check: PO Box 12256, Denver, CO 80212.
3. You can drop off your application and tuition check at Bookbar: 4280 Tennyson Street.

How will I know if I my application is accepted?

We will call or email you one to two weeks after our application deadline (June 1st, 2018) to let you know if you will be one of our 15 writers.

If I get in, what comes next?

We will send you an information packet a few weeks before camp, and we will probably call you, too. You'll get to know us.

What is your cancellation policy?

If you cancel two weeks in advance, we will refund your tuition. If you cancel less than two weeks before camp begins, we will keep your tuition. (Unless there's an emergency, of course.)

What if I have more questions?

Email us at hello@denverwrites.org.

Summer Camp Application

Part One: Contact Info

So we can get to know you and contact you!

Part Two: Demographics

So we can get grants to do all kinds of cool writing projects.

Part Three: What We Expect & Liability Waiver

So you know what we expect from good campers.

Part Four: Medical Emergency Consent Waiver & Contacts

So we know what to do if you get hurt.

Part Five: Tuition and Scholarships

So we know you will show up every day and we can pay our fabulous lead instructors!

Part Six: Transportation Permission Form & Waiver

So we can bring you to our field trip locations!

Part Seven: Media Release Form

So we can share what we do at Denver Writes!

Part Eight: Show Us Your Stuff!

So we can tell that you will have a great time with us this summer!

Application

We only have space for 15 students per camp, so fill out ALL pages of the application and return it, with tuition, at your earliest convenience to be considered as one of our participants. Please read carefully and be sure to complete all information!

First, please indicate which week you're interested in:

Novel Writing BootCamp @ BookBar
June 18-22 for ages 12-15
Instructor: Debbie Vance

BookCamp for Kids @ BookBar
July 16-20 for ages 8-11
Instructor: Melissa Savage

Part One: Contact Info

Student Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email

Parent/Guardian Name:

Relationship to Student:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Part Two: Demographics

The following **optional information** will help us write grants in order to fund our programs.

Student Date of Birth:

Student Gender:

Student Nationality:

Student Race:

Does the student receive free & reduced lunch at school?

What language does the student speak at home?

Part Three: What We Expect & Liability Form

Students are the most important part of Denver Writes Summer Writing Camp, and we expect our students to be the best writers and people that they can be. We ask all students and their parents to agree to our expectations below so that we can all enjoy the opportunities that Denver Writes strives to provide.

STUDENT AGREEMENT:

I agree to work with the group on all projects and assignments while at Summer Writing Camp. If I finish before others, I agree not to act in a way that might disrupt others or keep them from working. I agree to respect the other students, the volunteers, and the staff of Denver Writes and Bookbar. I agree to follow the reasonable directions of all staff and volunteers of Denver Writes. I agree to listen to others and to respect their opinions, even if they are different from my own. I agree to arrive at camp on time and leave on time. I understand that if I do not follow this agreement, I will be asked to leave, my parents/guardians will be called to pick me up, and I will not be able to participate in camp anymore.

Student Name (please print): _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN AGREEMENT:

I would like my student to participate in Denver Writes Summer Writing Camp, and I agree with the expectations of each student. I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the statements in this application are true and correct. I give Denver Writes permission to assess my child's academic skills. I give my child permission to participate in Denver Writes Summer Writing Camp and will ensure that he/she attends the program Monday through Friday, June 18-22 OR July 16-20, 2018. I understand that failure to attend by the second day of camp will result in the forfeiture of my child's place in the program to a student on the waiting list, as well as the forfeiture of my payment. I understand that I am responsible for updating all contact information and parent guardianship, should they change prior to or during the course of the camp. I understand that my child will be undertaking certain activities, including walking on city streets, hiking through parks, taking public transportation, or riding in a rental van, and that he/she can undertake those activities successfully. I understand that written communication expresses personal opinions, and that writing produced at camp is not necessarily the opinion of Denver Writes. I understand that Denver Writes and Bookbar cannot assume responsibility for injury or death and I agree to hold harmless Denver Writes, their directors, officers, employees, and volunteers, from any liabilities, demands, or claims for damage.

Parent/Guardian Name (please print): _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

Part Four: Medical Emergency Consent Form & Contacts

(must be completed by parent or guardian)

In the event that my child, _____, has a medical emergency, I authorize the adult workers at Denver Writes to consent to any examination, x-ray, anesthetic, medical or surgical diagnosis or treatment, and hospital care my child may require, as long as it is rendered under the supervision of a physician or surgeon who is licensed under the Medical Service Act and serves on the medical staff of a licensed hospital -- whether or not the diagnosis or treatment is rendered at that physician's office or hospital. In addition, please initial each box):

- I consent to transportation for my child to a medical facility via ambulance or private vehicle, whichever is necessary in an emergency.

- I grant permission for my child to receive emergency medical treatment from any physician, hospital, or other medical center, as stated above, without first notifying me.

- I agree to hold blameless any physician, hospital, or other medical center for rendering such services.

- I release MDPL/Denver Writes from liability for injury or accident, and grant permission for MDPL/Denver Writes adult workers to secure proper medical attention for my child should the need arise. I understand that I will be financially responsible for any expenses incurred due to medical care, travel, and other expenses related to my child's injury, accident, or illness.

Parent/Guardian name (please print): _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student's date of birth:

Permission to apply sunscreen:

Does your student have any of the following conditions?

- Allergies? To what?
- Dietary restrictions? Please explain:
- Diabetes?
- Take any medication during the day? If so, what & when? Other? Please explain:

Name of Child's Physician:

Phone Number of Child's Physician:

Emergency Contact #1

Name:

Relationship to child:

Phone Number/s:

Emergency Contact #2

Name:

Relationship to child:

Phone Number/s:

Part Five: Tuition

Denver Writes is a nonprofit organization and part of our mission is to provide students with great experiences -- at a low cost. To ensure your child's spot is reserved, tuition must be received with the application.

You can pay by attaching a check to this page or through Paypal on our website: www.denverwrites.org/summer-camp.

1. Please attach a \$250 check to this page (or let us know you paid with Paypal)
2. Make it payable to: Metro Denver Promotion of Letters
3. Please write the student's name in the notes section of the check.

* If the tuition is a barrier for your child's participation, please contact our program director, Kevin, at hello@denverwrites.org.

Part Six: Transportation Permission Form & Waiver

We believe that having many different experiences in life is just as important to writers as imagination. So we are taking students on as many field trips as possible, but that includes getting them to and from, which requires a student's guardian's permission.

Here are the details of our anticipated trips: We will be walking and taking transportation from BookBar to several locations this week. There may be one or two times when a student might need to be transported in the car of a volunteer, but this is unlikely. Still, we need your permission.

I give permission for my child (_____) to be transported via RTD, ridesharing service, and/or in a motor vehicle driven by a Denver Writes volunteer to any camp sponsored activities between the dates of June 18-22 OR July 16-20, 2018. I understand that my child is expected to follow all applicable laws regarding riding in these forms of transportation and is expected to follow the directions provided by the driver and/or other adult volunteers. I have read, understand, and discussed with my child that: (1) They will be traveling in a motor vehicle driven by an adult and they are to wear their safety-belt (when available) while traveling; (2) They are expected to respect each other, the vehicles they ride in, and the people they travel with during the trip; (3) They are to remain in their seats and not be disruptive to the driver of the vehicle; and (4) Riding in a motor vehicle may result in personal injuries or death from accidents, collisions or acts by riders, other drivers, or objects.

I recognize that by participating in this activity, as with any activity involving motor vehicle transportation, my child may risk personal injury or permanent loss. I hereby attest and verify that I have been advised of the potential risks, that I have full knowledge of the risks involved in this activity, and that I assume any expenses that may be incurred in the event of an accident, illness, or other incapacity, regardless of whether I have authorized such expenses. As a condition for the transportation received, I, for myself, my child, my executors and assigns, further agree to release and forever discharge Denver Writes, its Board of Directors, and their agents, officers, employees and volunteers from any claim that I might have myself or that I could bring on my child's behalf with regard to any damages, demands or actions whatsoever, including those based on negligence, in any manner arising out of this transportation. I have read this entire waiver and permission form, fully understand it, and agree to be legally bound by its terms.

Parent/Guardian name (please print): _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

Part Seven: Media Release Form

As part of our programs, we sometimes take photos, audio and video recordings of children in action as they participate in the classrooms, workshops, events, etc. We also love to highlight the talent of our young writers by publishing their written work on our website or in other media.

We would like you to indicate below what uses of images, audio and video of your child(ren) and written products by your child are permissible. This is completely up to you. We will only use these in ways in which you agree. With any use of these images, audio and/or video, student names and other personal information will NOT be identified, unless first discussed with the parent or guardian. Please initial next to the statements you endorse:

Initials – Images, Audio and Video Use

- Images, audio and video of my child may be used as part of Denver Writes and/or BookBar pamphlets, brochures, and informational booklets.
- Images, audio and video of my child may be used for newspaper publications announcing Denver Writes and/or BookBar programs, events, or activities.
- Images, audio and video of my child may be used at meetings, lectures, and workshops designed to educate donors, volunteers, and the community about Denver Writes and/or BookBar activities.
- Images, audio and video of my child may be used on the Denver Writes and/or BookBar website and associated digital media sites.
- Please do not use ANY images, audio and video of my child in ANY way.

Initials – Written Product Use

- The written products of my child may be used as part of Denver Writes and/or BookBar pamphlets, brochures, and informational booklets.
- The written products of my child may be used for newspaper publications announcing Denver Writes and/or BookBar programs, events, or activities.
- The written products of my child may be used at meetings, lectures, and workshops designed to educate donors, volunteers, and the community about Denver Writes and/or BookBar activities.
- The written products of my child may be used on the Denver Writes and/or BookBar website and associated digital media sites.
- Please do not use ANY written products of my child in ANY way.

I acknowledge that since participation in publications and websites produced by Denver Writes is voluntary, neither the minor children nor I will receive financial compensation. I further agree that participation in any publication and website produced by MDPL confers no rights of ownership whatsoever. I release Denver Writes, its directors, officers, committee members, employees, volunteers, and agents from liability for any claims by me or any third party in connection with my participation or the participation of the below named minor children. I have read the above description and give my consent for the use of the images, audio, video as well as written product as indicated above.

Child's Name (please print) _____

Parent/Guardian name (please print): _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

Part Eight: Show Us Your Stuff!

The most important part of our camp is that you want to be here. We don't want you to come because your parents want you to come. We want you to come because you like to write! This is your chance to demonstrate that to us! Type or handwrite your response to the following prompt and submit it with your application.

Imagine you woke up in a place you've never been. Maybe it's an organic farm in Kansas, maybe it's a haunted house, maybe it's a planet on the farthest reaches of the galaxy! Let your imagination go wild!

Describe this place. How did you get here? What objects do you have with you? Who do you meet? What do you do next? And next? And next? Tell us about your adventure!

Once you've finished, please sign the following statement:

I wrote this all by myself and promise to put forth the same amount of thought and effort at Summer Writing Camp!

Student Signature _____