

Van Buren District Library Teen Writers Journey to Publication

What is it?

Teen Writers Journey to Publication is sort of a class (with no homework), and sort of a club, in which members from different library branches connect with Skype and Google Drive. Each week, you learn about writing short stories and share your work with other writers. If you finish a story by next June, we publish the story in a book. If your story is one of two chosen as the best of the year, you might be published in an eBook collection available worldwide!

When is it?

It begins on Wednesday, October 18, 2017, happens about every other Wednesday (see full schedule below) from 5:30 pm to 7 pm, and ends on June 6, 2018.

Where is it?

It's happening at every VBDL branch library: Antwerp Sunshine (Mattawan), Bangor, Bloomingdale, Covert, Gobles, Lawrence and Webster Memorial (Decatur).

How do I join?

Anyone in grades 7-12 and homeschooled students working at that grade level may join. Just visit or call your local VBDL branch library and sign up, then show up on October 18! Signup is not required, and you can always join us later if you cannot make the first session.

Do I need to bring anything?

Bringing a laptop is helpful, but not required. At least bring paper and pen or pencil.

What are we going to learn?

This is a tentative schedule of the topics:

10/18/17	Basics of the Short Story
11/1/17	Story & Plot (with virtual guest teacher author J.L. Panagopoulos)
11/15/17	Character Development (with virtual guest teacher author J.L. Panagopoulos)
11/22/17	Steampunk Workshop (Reasons to Research)
12/13/17	Point of View (POV)
1/10/18	Writing from the Senses (Imagery in Literature)
1/24/18	The Little Things (Sentence Structure, Grammar, Etc.)
2/7/18	Dialogue
2/21/18	Writing Action!
3/7/18	Sleight of Hand (The Art of Exposition)
3/21/18	Tools of Language and Expression
4/11/18	First & Last Words (Hook Line & Ending)
4/25/18	No-No's in Literature
5/9/18	Self-Editing (with virtual guest teacher author Yi Shun Lai)
5/23/18	Creating an Author Bio
6/6/18	Book Design & Wrap-Up

What if I have questions?

Contact Jeffrey Babbitt by phone at 269-668-2534 or by email at jbabbitt@vbdl.org.