



## Spartan Writing Camp

June 19 – July 20, 2017

### Audience

This year Spartan Writing Camp (SWC) offered 32 sessions for 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade, and 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students.

The following camps were offered:

- **Sports & Media Writing** Intermediate-Middle 5-8
- **Creating Comics** Elementary 3-5
- **Creative Writing** Elementary 3-5 and Middle 6-8
- **Creative Writing: Starting with Pictures** Elementary 3-5
- **Growing Young Writers** Elementary 1-2
- **Digital Storytelling** Elementary 3-5 and Middle 6-8
- **Exploring Genres** Elementary 3-5
- **Kids for Causes** Intermediate-Middle 5-8
- **Geeking Out: SciFi and Fantasy Writing** Middle 6-8
- **Fiction in a Flash** Middle 6-8
- **Historical Fiction Writing** Middle 6-8
- **Photo Essays** Middle 6-8
- **Maker Spaces: Art & Writing** Elementary 3-5

Full- and half-day camps were offered Monday – Thursdays over the weeks of June 19<sup>th</sup>, June 26<sup>th</sup>, July 10<sup>th</sup>, and July 17<sup>th</sup>.

The 2017 participants included:

- 15 Red Cedar Writing Project (RCWP) Teacher Consultants. The RCWP is MSU's chapter of the National Writing Project (NWP).
- 294 young writers, 1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade



### Funding

Spartan Writing Camps are funded primarily from registration fees: 'Early bird' rates of \$125 and \$225 for full & half-day camps, respectively; or \$140 and \$240 for regular registration fees. SWC also receives financial support from Red Cedar Writing Project, which provided scholarships for 2 full day students and one half day student. A grant from The Arts Council of Greater Lansing, in the amount of \$1250, provided scholarships for 5 students based on free or reduced lunch eligibility.

Spartan Writing Campers receive a Spartan Writing Camp t-shirt, a writing journal, a treat from the MSU Dairy Store, and a handout of writing tips and activities to take home.

### Objectives

Spartan Writing Camp is designed to create an atmosphere of community to help campers lead a writerly life and to gain new "writing tools" and experiences for their "writing toolboxes." Teachers and campers model how to collect ideas from the world around them to use in their writing. Campers are introduced to a variety of authors through mentor texts and try their hand at writing alongside these distant mentors.

### Outcomes

Camper Feedback:

- "Don't change anything!"
- "[Camp] reminds us of how we all need to work together in order to run a world of our own."
- "You're going to love it! Especially if you like writing!"
- "Thank you for being such great teachers."
- "I really enjoyed taking pictures by the river, because I got to practice my photography."

Contact hours between Teacher Consultants and campers totaled 6314.

### Additional Significant Information

- SWC has a high rate of returning attendees, which bodes well for future recruitment efforts.
- We serve a high number of faculty children and youth, which contributes to faculty retention and investment in the community.
- RCWP received a \$1425 grant from the Arts Council of Greater Lansing to provide 6 scholarships to underserved youth.
- A fall writing camp is currently in the planning stages.

### Contact Information

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