THE NEBRASKA WRITING PROJECT

The Nebraska Writing Project is a network of teachers, kindergarten through college, devoted to the improvement of writing and the teaching of writing. Our core beliefs are:

The best teachers of writing are writers themselves.

Teachers provide the best instruction for other teachers.

Anyone, no matter their ability level, can improve their writing in a supportive context with other practicing writers.

True school reform comes through democratic partnerships across grade levels.

Teachers, students and communities benefit when teachers form networks with other teachers and draw on collective expertise.

The mission of NeWP is to improve writing and the teaching of writing throughout Nebraska.
The Nebraska Writing Project 2016 Summer Institutes

The National Writing Project

NeWP is Nebraska’s oldest site of the National Writing Project. Currently, the National Writing Project has nearly 200 sites nation-wide, and generates over 100,000 program hours per year. For more information, visit the National website at: www.nwp.org

Lincoln Summer Institute

June 6th – July 1st 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Open to teachers of all disciplines and grade levels. This is NeWP’s premiere program, following the National Writing Project’s Invitational Institute model. Participants in the institute will:

- participate in their own writing;
- share their best teaching practices for writing;
- engage in inquiry and research into aspects of writing.

Institute activities include: writing exercises, visits with local experts in the teaching of writing, participant presentations on their best practices of teaching writing, professional development, practice using various computer technologies to support writing, writing workshops, institute anthology.

Facilitators

Dr. Lauren Gatti, UNL
Dr. Stacey Waite, UNL
Jennifer Long, Gretna High School, secondary facilitator
Tiffany Young, Pyrtle Elementary, Lincoln, elementary facilitator

Stipend

Nebraska teachers admitted to the Lincoln Summer Institute may qualify for up to $750 stipend which helps offset the cost of 6 UNL graduate credits in English or Teaching, Learning, and Teacher Education.

Service Learning Institute

June 6th – June 24th 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Open to teachers of all grade levels, and is for 3 UNL graduate credits in English or Teaching, Learning, and Teacher Education. Past participation in a NeWP Summer or Rural Institute is preferred. This institute explores service learning and community school partnerships.

Institute activities include: exploration of the purpose of education and possible links between teaching and building democracy; writing projects; collaborative inquiry into approaches for connecting schools and communities, service-learning resources, student-driven community research, and social justice teaching practices; shared examination of the challenges and opportunities of community-based learning across the content areas; brainstorming about program-building in our own schools; experiential learning at a community site in Lincoln.

Stipend

Nebraska teachers admitted to the Lincoln Summer Institute may qualify for up to $750 stipend which helps offset the cost of 6 UNL graduate credits in English or Teaching, Learning, and Teacher Education.

Facilitator

Dr. Rachael Wendler, UNL
Lauren Funk, Pius X High School

Location

Both 2016 Summer Institute will be held in Andrews Hall on the UNL City campus.

Writing is a gateway to students’ emerging role in our nation’s future as participants and decision makers in a democratic society. Because writing can support a high level of learning in all core subjects, it matters in any classroom where inquiry, knowledge and expression are valued and recognized by students and teachers.

—National Writing Project, Because Writing Matters

How to Apply

You will need to complete a two-page letter of application. Please include the following information:

- What Institute you are applying to.
- What you are currently doing with writing in your classroom.
- What you might have to share with other educators about teaching writing in your school and community.
- What you especially want to learn from other educators.
- Provide complete addresses, phone numbers for home and school and a current e-mail address.
- Open admission applications must be received by March 1st, 2016 with notification by April 29th, 2016.
- Submit applications to:
  Dr. Stacey Waite, Interim Director
  202 Andrews Hall, UNL
  Lincoln, NE 68588-0333
  or
  by Email: swaite2@unl.edu
  (402) 472-1807

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