

Imagine. Envision. Write. Revise. Submit. Read.

The process of writing is quite solitary, but the process of finding an audience for your writing requires reaching out - convincing someone else that what you have written is worth reading. Here are a few tips and resources to help you improve your writing, discover your voice and find an audience.

ASK AND LEARN

Most authors have websites with email addresses. Many authors, especially those who write for children and teens, respond personally. Ask how they started to publish their writing, where they get their ideas, how to solve a particular problem in your own writing, if they offer writing workshops for young people. In the Washington area, you can find many children's authors on the website for the [Children's Book Guild of Washington, D.C.](#), as well as advice for aspiring authors and illustrators.

SUBMISSIONS TO MAGAZINES AND CONTESTS

Click publication to learn more.

[**The Apprentice Writer**](#) – Publishes fiction, poetry, personal essay, memoir, and photography; grades 9-12

[**B'nai B'rith International**](#) – Diverse Minds Writing Contest; grades 9-12

[**Cicada**](#) – An archive of submissions, tips and resources. Ages 14+

[**F. Scott Fitzgerald Festival**](#) – Short Story Contest

[**New Moon**](#) – Ad-free magazine for girls. Ages 8+

[**NANOWRIMO Young Writers Program**](#)

[**One Teen Story**](#) – Literary magazine for YA readers. One Teen Story Teen Writing Contest (accepting unpublished submissions Sept 1 - May 31)

[**Penguin Random House Creative Writing Awards**](#) – A college scholarship program for high school seniors

[**Potluck**](#) – A diverse collection archive of creative media. All ages

[**Stone Soup**](#) – Print magazine written and illustrated by young writers and artists. Ages 8-13

[**Teen Ink**](#) – National teen magazine, book series, and website devoted entirely to teenage writing, art, photos, and forums. Ages 13-19

[**Write the World**](#) – A community of young writers hailing from over 120 countries. Ages 13-18

OODLES OF IDEAS

Click resource to learn more.

[Montgomery County Public Libraries Teen Site](#)

[Friends of the Library Montgomery County](#)

[Student Board Member](#) – Open to incoming 11th graders

[Local Book Festivals](#) (often have writing contests) –

[Baltimore Book Festival](#)

[Bethesda Literary Festival](#)

[College Park Arts Exchange](#)

[F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Festival](#)

[National Book Festival](#)

[Virginia Festival of the Book](#)

[Maryland Humanities](#) –

[Maryland Center for the Book](#)

[Letters About Literature Writing Contest](#)

[Maryland Writer's Association](#) –

[Writing Contest](#)

[Teen Writing Program](#)

[Young Authors Guide from NewPages](#) –

Contests, magazines, tips.

[Pencil Tips Writing Workshop](#) – Writing tips, resources, strategies, practice activities.

[Noodle Tools](#) – Online tools for young writers.

[This is Not a Writing Manual](#) – A young adult writing memoir by Kerri Majors, YARN founder/editor. ISBN 978-1599636887

[Hunger Mountain](#) – Vermont College of Fine Arts Journal of the Arts.

[StudioPAUSE](#) – Creative workshops in Arlington; founded by Sushmita Mazumdar

PROGRAMS/CLASSES FOR YOUNG WRITERS

Click resource to learn more.

[The Johns Hopkins Center for Talented](#)

[Youth \(CTY\)](#) – Preparing students to make significant contributions. Open to all grades. Resources, programs, courses.

[The Writer's Center](#) – Workshops, classes, poetry journal (Poet Lore). [Workshop Calendar](#)

CELEBRATING POETRY

Click resource to learn more.

[Split this Rock](#) – Cultivates, teaches, and celebrates poetry that bears witness to injustice and provokes social change

[Power Poetry](#) –
[How to Enter a Power Poetry Poetry Slam](#)