



Encouraging Voice, Empowering the Unheard

VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

Thank you for your interest in volunteering with the TWC to facilitate a writing workshop as part of the Toronto Writers Collective's creative writing workshops. We provide creative writing workshops throughout the GTA to vulnerable communities. By creating a community of writers from all economic backgrounds, races, ages and sexual orientations, we encourage people to gain confidence and a stronger sense of self, find and expand their voices and discover the value of their own stories.

Volunteer workshop facilitators are required to participate in our extensive training and support program. This program includes: 1) a full weekend of training; 2) attending meetings of workshop facilitators; and 3) regular correspondence with the Program Manager. Graduating facilitators will work with experienced facilitators and co-facilitate at workshops shortly after their training is completed.

Workshops are held for 1 ½ - 2 hours per week at locations throughout the city.

Our next training session will be in September (location to be confirmed). The training is a full weekend: Friday from 7 to 10 PM and Saturday and Sunday from 10 am to 6 PM.

Space is limited, so not everyone who applies to volunteer will be accepted. Preference will be given to those with:

1. availability to facilitate workshops (please review the calendar at www.torontowriterscollective for our current workshops);
2. experience in writing groups of some sort;
3. a history of community involvement;
4. ties to the community they propose to serve;
5. facilitation, leadership or teaching experience; and,
6. a commitment to and understanding of TWC's philosophy of creating a respectful and positive environment where people can write and share their stories.

Please answer each of the questions on the following pages as fully and concisely as possible. Feel free to attach additional sheets of paper as necessary.

Thanks again for your interest.

Toronto Writers Collective Registered Charity Number: BN 84705 8831 RR0001



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Date _____

Name _____

Daytime Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Address _____
(main intersection: _____)

Email _____

Are you over 21 years old? Yes _____ No _____

Are you willing to have a Police Reference check? Yes _____ No _____

Which training session are you interested in? April 2019 _____ Future dates _____

How long are you willing to commit to facilitating workshops with the TWC (many workshops are 90-minute sessions once a week for 10 weeks)?

Two horizontal lines for text entry.

Are you fluent in any language other than English?
Yes _____ No _____ If yes, which one(s)? _____

What is your availability for workshop facilitation?

Table with 8 columns (Monday-Sunday) and 2 rows (Day, Evening).

Are you away during?

Form with fields for Summer and Winter dates.

Describe the role creative writing plays in your life.

Four horizontal lines for text entry.



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Would you be comfortable writing about your family, your scars, your secrets with others in a confidential setting? Can you write deeply and authentically without having to be the best writer in the room?

Briefly describe any previous volunteer and/or social service experience you have had.

What experiences have you had in writing workshops as a participant and/or as a facilitator?

What does the phrase "safe space for writing" mean to you?



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In your opinion, what is the distinction between “teaching” and “leading” or “facilitation”?

What life experiences have you had that will be helpful to you in leading writing workshops with the TWC, or that have led you to want to volunteer with us.

If you have previous facilitation experience whether in writing or other areas, how comfortable would you be practicing guidelines and principles that are significantly different from the way you might have experienced facilitation?

What groups are you most interested in working with? Are there any groups that you do not feel comfortable working with? (This question is purely to determine your interest and bears no weight in considering your application, so please answer honestly)?



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How did you hear about the TWC expressive writing workshops?

Signature: _____ Date: _____

If there is anything else you would like us to know about you, please attach a note with this application.

Please scan and email your completed application to:

jesse@torontowriterscollective.ca

Feel free to contact Jesse Cohoon at 647-261-3720 if you have any questions. Thank you!