



Encouraging Voice, Empowering the Unheard

VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

Thank you for your interest in volunteering with the **Toronto Writers Collective** to facilitate a writing workshop as part of the TWC's creative writing workshops. We currently provide creative/expressive writing workshops in Toronto and Mississauga for vulnerable community members. 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 Director of Programming and Outreach & Communications Manager.

Workshops will begin shortly after the training. 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.

Our next training session is scheduled from February 7-9 (location to be confirmed). The training is a full weekend. Friday: 6:30-9:30 pm. Saturday: 9am-5pm. Sunday: 9:30am-5pm.

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

1. A commitment to and understanding of TWC's philosophy of creating a respectful and positive environment where people can write and share their stories.
2. Availability to facilitate workshops (please review the calendar at www.torontowriterscollective.ca for our current workshops)
3. A history of community involvement
4. Ties to the community/ies they propose to serve
5. Experience with writing groups
6. Facilitation, leadership or teaching experience

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.



@TorontoWritersC

www.torontowriterscollective.ca

info@torontowriterscollective.ca



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Name:

Telephone: Day: _____ Evening: same

Email:

Preferred mode of communication: Email _____ Phone _____ Text ___ Other (please specify)

Address:

Main intersection (s):

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? 2020 - Feb 7-9 ___ Future dates _____

How long are you willing to commit to facilitating workshops with the TWC?

Are you fluent in any language other than English?

No ___ Yes ___ If yes, which one(s)?

When are you **available** to facilitate a workshop? =Yes Indicate available hours during that day

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Day							
Evening							

Are you away in the Winter or Spring?

Are you away in the Summer / Fall?

<p>Dates (Aprox.):</p>	<p>Dates (Aprox.):</p>
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Describe the role creative writing plays in your life.

Would you be comfortable writing with others in a confidential setting about your family, your history, your scars and your secrets? 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?

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



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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 are you open to learning and practicing new ways of facilitating?

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)

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.

Thank you.

Please scan and email your completed application to: info@torontowriterscollective.ca

Contact Jesse Cohoon at 647-261-3720 if you have any questions.