ABL Writing Workshop for Educators 2020

Sunday, July 5–Saturday, July 18
Orientation begins at 10 a.m. on Sunday, July 5, and includes a special luncheon that ends at 3 p.m. Classes are held Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Saturday, July 11, from 9 a.m. to noon. Afternoons are reserved for writing, and there are several optional evening sessions. The workshop ends Saturday, July 18, at noon.

Participants traveling from out of state or a great distance will board in dormitories (single rooms) on the Phillips Academy campus and should arrive Friday, July 3. Local participants should plan to commute.

Program funding
The ABL Writing Workshop for Educators is funded through contributions from individuals, foundations, businesses, schools, and school systems.

All costs and fees are covered by Andover Bread Loaf, including travel for those outside Massachusetts, room and board for boarders, tuition, books, meals (lunches for day participants), trips, and entertainment. Please note that funding usually is reserved for specific school districts.

For more information: Lou Bernieri, ABL director, 978-884-8452 or lbernieri@andover.edu

Applying is easy
To apply for the 2020 ABL Writing Workshop for Educators, please email the following three items to lbernieri@andover.edu—or send by regular mail to:

  Lou Bernieri
  Director, Andover Bread Loaf
  Phillips Academy
  180 Main Street
  Andover MA 01810-4161

1. A cover sheet that includes:
   • Your name, address, and phone number
   • Name and address of school or community education program where you teach
   • Grade level(s) you teach
   • Number of years you’ve been teaching

2. A letter of interest that highlights your teaching experience and tells why you would like to attend the workshop (approximately 500 words)

3. A letter of recommendation from a colleague or administrator who is familiar with your role as an educator

Please note: The workshop requires a lot of walking, but this does not have to limit your participation! If you need accommodations, please tell us when you apply so that we can plan your housing accordingly.

We look forward to receiving your application!

Application deadline: May 15, 2020

“ABL is such a generative space, a really humanizing space. Now that I’ve experienced it, I’m changed—as is everybody in the group—and I’m eager to go home and bring this kind of teaching to my classroom.”

— Anna West (ABLWW 2014)
Educator, New Orleans
What is the ABL Writing Workshop for Educators?

Educators and community organizers committed to creating spaces for emancipatory education and community wellness are invited to apply to ABL’s intensive Writing Workshop for Educators, which takes place on the Phillips Academy campus. Participants choose either a $400 stipend or graduate credit for one course from Middlebury College’s Bread Loaf School of English. Since 1987, more than 500 participants have engaged in writing and arts workshops, read and discussed educational theory, and explored critical approaches to teaching and learning, and, perhaps best of all, collaborated with youth in ABL’s Lawrence Student Writers Workshop. Program alumni report that the workshop restores a sense of hope and possibility, awakens creative capacities, and provides a supportive community that enriches professional and personal lives.

Who participates?

Most workshop participants hail from U.S. urban centers. However, the program also regularly draws educators from Native American reservations, rural schools, community organizations, and internationally from El Salvador, India, Pakistan, and Haiti. Educators from all disciplines are welcome!

What is the workshop’s focus?

The course of study involves a series of workshops—led by teachers, professors, scholars, writers, and artists—that focus on three areas:

1. Youth Development
2. Writing Workshop
3. Educational Theory and Method

Along with acquiring skills in proven teaching methods that inspire students and adults to write and become agents of change, workshop participants will have the opportunity to accomplish the following:

- Learn how to develop youth as educational and social activists
- Learn how to lead a writing workshop or program for students and/or adults
- Learn how to liberate the writer within themselves and others
- Learn ways of bringing social justice issues into the classroom
- Interrogate forms of oppression and discuss how to dismantle them
- Work with teachers in a think tank to critique educational theories and methods
- Visit the Bread Loaf School of English at Middlebury College in Vermont (an all-expenses-paid overnight trip), where many ABL Writing Workshop alumni have earned master’s degrees
- Visit the historic city of Lawrence, Mass. (an all-expenses-paid day trip)
- Join the Bread Loaf Teacher Network, an international network of activist educators
- Network with a diverse array of teachers, professors, writers, artists, community organization staff, and social activists through the Bread Loaf Teacher Network’s national and international reach. This network provides ABLWW alumni with the opportunity to create national and international projects that link their classrooms and organizations.

Program awards and recognition

The Andover Bread Loaf Writing Workshop for Educators has received numerous awards, including a National Council of Teachers of English Award as a Center of Excellence in the Language Arts. Workshop alumni have been featured in various regional, national, and international media—and more than a dozen alumni have been recognized as local or national “Teacher of the Year.”

“I came to you a teacher who was ready to give up. I came to you alone and out of options. I came to you as a woman full of fear. You will never know how much you have saved me. I have cried, shared, and created friends and visions for transformation.”

— Tangela Hamilton (ABLWW 2014)
Teacher, Springfield, Mass.