

Writer Information & Application



W R I T E R S I N E L E C T R O N I C R E S I D E N C E

L I T E R A C Y • M E N T O R S H I P • A R T S • T E C H N O L O G Y

The award-winning Writers In Electronic Residence program provides exciting opportunities to link professional Canadian writers with students in their writing and language arts classes using the Internet. This information sheet is for writers who are interested in working with WIER. We also invite you to visit our web site at www.wier.ca for program information, writer biographies, student writing samples and more.

Programs & Projects

Since our inception in 1988, scores of professional Canadian authors have worked online with hundreds of schools and teachers and, now, tens of thousands of students from every part of the country. WIER offers convenient part-time work for writers in 12-week terms each fall, winter and spring during the school year. Current term dates are posted at WIER's web site.

In addition to our school programs, WIER also administers other projects from time to time, normally in partnership with arts, education, or government programs.

What do you need?

To participate as a WIER author, you need to have been published in book form. Although WIER acknowledges the literary contribution of self-published works, writers who have only self-published titles will not normally be considered for our program.

It is not required that you have experience teaching writing, although this is helpful. You do need to have a computer, access to the Internet, standard office software and a printer. WIER uses and provides conferencing software for use on our systems, which can be set up easily on personal computers.

Highlights

Normally, WIER works with classes of K-12 students from schools across Canada. We also have some programs in the U.S.

Electronic Literary Salons

Classes are placed in groups comprising five or six classes, which WIER calls "*electronic literary salons*." Each salon is then grouped with at least one other salon to form a *conference*. This form of grouping provides the multiplicity of voice that is an integral characteristic of WIER.

Structure

Normally, WIER hires one professional writer for every six classes enrolled. Writers are paid a stipend of \$3,000 per term. In the first residency, writers also participate in a two-week online training period.

WIER operates with experienced moderators who take on additional duties in key areas. Moderators receive a stipend of \$500.

- *Writer Moderators* monitor and oversee literary and workload matters, and provide guidance to authors who are new to WIER.
- *Teacher Moderators* support the educational viability of the program, and serve as mentors to teachers.
- *Program Moderators* are experienced writer or teacher moderators who oversee general program guidelines and operations.

Middle School (Grades 6/7 to 9) and Secondary School Levels (Grades 9 and up)

At the middle school and secondary school levels, a group of 30 (or fewer) of the same students is considered to be one class for the duration of the term. Each twelve-week term for the middle and secondary levels is structured as follows:

- 2 weeks: orientation & introductions
- 3 weeks: new work & responses
- 2 weeks: student response period
- 3 weeks: new work & responses
- 2 weeks: final responses/closing activities

Elementary School Level (Grades K to 5/6)

Younger children need longer intervals to prepare new writing, so our program at the elementary level is structured differently:

- 2 weeks: orientation & introductions
- 8 weeks: new work & responses
- 2 weeks: closing activities

In the primary grades (K-3) up to a total of 60 of the same students are considered to be one class for WIER participation — even if they are split level classes. In the junior grades (4-6), groups of 30 (or fewer) of the same students are considered as one class for the duration of the term.

TOP (L-R): PAMELA MORDECAI, GEORGE ELLIOTT CLARKE, MARILYN BOWERING, DAVID McFADDEN, MARGARET CHRISTAKOS, DAVE MARGOSHES, CHRISTY ANN CONLIN.

Contact Us

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Wired Writer Application (Revised August, 2007)

If you are interested in applying to the WIER program, please fill out the form, below, and return it along with your current curriculum vitae. For current program dates, please visit our web site at <http://www.wier.ca>.

Samples of your work are welcome, of course, but not required.

Normally, WIER's complement of writers for a term or project is determined several weeks prior to the start of term, once WIER has received confirmation from participants. Your application will remain active in accordance with your wishes, but only those writers being considered for a specific vacancy in a term will be contacted. You are always welcome to update your C.V. or application and/or to inquire about any upcoming term or project by contacting the WIER office.

Thank you for your interest in the Writers In Electronic Residence program.

FAX BACK to (416) 591-5345 or EMAIL a completed PDF to wier@wier.ca

Name:

Address:

City:

Province:

Postal Code:

Phone:

Fax:

Email:

Available for Fall:

Available for Winter:

Available for Spring:

Web site:

Comments:

ABOVE: SUSAN MUSGRAVE IN HER FAMOUS TOY CAR!