

WiER creates new work for writers in Canada, and new learning opportunities for students and teachers. Working in partnership with education, business, government, and the arts, WiER raises funds to make the program accessible to participating schools and writers everywhere in our country.

- All writers are paid through funds raised by the Writers in Electronic Residence Foundation and school participation fees.
- Schools and writers connect to WiER through their local Internet providers, and/or education networks.

We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of provincial and territorial education networks and departments of education in who help bring WiER to teachers and schools.

At A Glance

Fees & Subsidies

School participation fees remain \$650 per class, per term. School fees represent about 20 per cent of the cost of running WiER. All schools accepted to WiER have the remaining costs paid on their behalf through generous corporate, foundation and government sponsors.

Who Pays The Rest?

The WiER Foundation is active in raising funds for WiER. The funds required to operate WiER come from the generous support of sponsors who share a commitment to literacy and writing in the education, arts, and IT communities.

Sponsors are profiled on our Website www.wier.ca



EMILY HEARN

Class Size: Middle & Secondary

At the intermediate or middle school level (7-8), and at the secondary level (9 and up), a class is considered to be the same group of 30 or fewer students for the duration of the term.



SOUKVANKHAM THAMAVONGSA

Class Size: Elementary

At the elementary level, primary level groups (K-3), up to a total of 60 students will be considered as a class for WiER participation. Junior level (grades 4-6) classes are considered as the same group of 30 or fewer students. Split-grade groups within these designations are acceptable for WiER's enrollment purposes.

Alternative Structures

It is possible to structure your WiER participation differently (e.g., as an extra-curricular creative writing group centered in a library) if that suits the school program better. These programs can be sponsored separately depending on your level of interest. Please discuss any of these types of participation proposals with WiER's Program Director.

Contact Us

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GEORGE ELLIOTT CLARKE

What People Say

When I was in school, I thought that every writer was English and dead. It never occurred to me that you could be a poet and be Canadian at the same time. Things worth writing about happened some place else—to other people.

My own experience as a student was one of the reasons I accepted the position of Writer In Electronic Residence. The program is one way of putting a writer in every writing classroom so that kids can see that books don't fall from the skies untouched by human hands.

Rather, they are created by ordinary people not unlike them, their neighbours, teachers or parents. Books come out of a specific time and place. Who you are and where you come from are the stuff that books are made of.

Lorna Crozier (Poet, Victoria)

A wonderful achievement in support of writing, learning, literacy and the future!

John O'Leary (President, Frontier College, Toronto)

The best professional development I've had in years.

Barbara (Teacher, Calgary)

What a WONDERFUL learning experience it has been. It has given me a new perspective on learning, and learning how to learn. With other writers of the world, we have all responded and contributed to one another. I see this as something that has changed my life. ...education shouldn't always be within classroom walls.

Yit Yin (Student, Toronto)

You have really hit upon some key issues that we should be communicating to the uninitiated. Suddenly, teachers get credibility after years and years of useless circling errors in insulting red. I have some of my best discussions with students online. Their comments surprise me and they seem to feel the same about some of the comments I make. You never hear us say, 'I promise I will answer that question eventually, but you are way ahead of the lesson right now,' in Wired Writers!

Sandra (Teacher, Williams Lake)

WiER provides an opportunity for students to participate in the type of collaborative online team which is becoming more a regular component of both education and work.

Michael G. Jeffrey (Director, Nova Scotia Education Learning Resources and Technology)

A teacher in Calgary left me a note online. She said that some parents of students involved in WiER had commented on it. One, who was seeking to be a writer herself, said that with all this help, her son would likely publish before she could. Another complained that she only got to read Susan Musgrave in her book club, while her daughter was engaged in regular online discussions with the author from school. WiER can present problems like that. Where it counts. In the classroom.

Trevor Owen (WiER founder)

My favourite time in all of school.

Chantelle (Student, Owen Sound)

I learned what a poem was.

Racquel (Student, Toronto)

It was an odd pleasure to be taken so seriously.

"helga" (Student, Toronto)

Every year there is work I admire in WiER—stories and poems I wish I'd written myself.

Susan Musgrave (Poet, Sidney)

In Appreciation

The WiER Sponsorship program reflects your community goals in several key areas. For example:

- The development of writing, reading & IT skills
- Professional development through mentorship
- Devising models for new forms of employment
- National context
- Linking learning and literacy with new media
- Fostering community relations
- Staying abreast of new technologies
- Local implementation

\$100,000 and above
TransCanada PipeLines

\$25,000 and above
Bell Canada
Pearson Educational
Viacom
Canada's SchoolNet
Centrinity
Ontario Arts Council

\$1,000 and above
Toronto Arts Council
Birks' Family Foundation

Special Program Support
Alberta Foundation for the Arts
Bank of Montreal
British Columbia Arts Council
Canada Council for the Arts
Canada Post
CBC
Canadian Conference of the Arts
Canadian Education Association
Chawkers Foundation
Compucentre Toronto Inc.
Doubleday Canada
Frontier College
George Cedric Metcalf Charitable Foundation
George Lunan Foundation
Grolier
Harold Crabtree Foundation
J.P. Bickell Foundation
Laidlaw Foundation
Lionel Gelber Foundation
Maclean's
McClelland & Stewart
McLean Foundation
OISE/UT
Reader's Digest Foundation
Secretary of State
Somerville House
TeleLearning Network of Centres of Excellence
UniTel
York University

Sponsorship of WiER: An Invitation

We invite your organization to become a sponsor. We currently offer two general sponsorship models: *Adopt A School*, and *Projects*.

ADOPT A SCHOOL MODELS

Individual Schools

Sponsorship of individual schools at \$3,325 per class, allows schools to participate in WiER at a fifty per cent reduced fee.

Canada-wide

\$50,000 will sponsor 15 classes or up to two classes in ten-fifteen schools in provinces across Canada.

\$30,000 will sponsor nine classes or up to two classes in five-nine schools in provinces across Canada.

Regional

\$10,000 will sponsor three classes in schools in a particular region, such as Atlantic Canada, Western Canada, or Northern Ontario and Quebec.

Local

\$3,325 will sponsor one class in one school anywhere in Canada.

PROJECT MODELS

Specific projects, such as the *Book Donations Program*, are available. Books written by professional writers are purchased and distributed to all of the participating schools so that students can read the work of the Canadian authors they study through WiER. Descriptions of other project examples appear on our web site at www.Wier.ca, and a brief description of some projects is included in this proposal.

Our sponsors receive major advantages from WiER, as do our students, teachers and writers. Aside from the satisfaction of knowing that you are involved in both the literacy and literary development of our young people, we give extensive credit to our sponsors online at the WiER web site and in our many public presentations. Parents appreciate the involvement of the corporate world in a new and innovative project which has such obvious benefits for their children, and communities as a whole recognize the interest and participation of these business partners.

BENEFITS & EVALUATION

Project evaluation may vary according to the sponsorship model chosen. For school sponsorships, it is reasonable to consider the program a success if the requisite number of schools in a targeted community sign up and participate fully. Full participation in itself involves ongoing and summative assessment, as follows:

- critical responses of the professional Writers In Electronic Residence
- teacher assessment of the professional impact of their participation
- classroom assessment of the students as part of their normal curricular activity
- student and teacher evaluation of the term through the completion of WiER evaluation questionnaires

At the conclusion of each term, WiER offers a variety of closing activities in which participating schools create and communicate their assessment activities. Classes may summarize their experience including a list of their 'favorite works', or create web sites, audio tapes, journals of student work, etc.

At the end of the school year, WiER publishes an online and print version of selected student work, known as *The WiER Tap*. Student work published in the *Tap* is chosen by the professional writers at the end of each term.



LAWRENCE HILL & SUSAN MUSGRAVE



writers_in_electronic_residence