



In School Residencies



THE BASICS

Teaching Artists teach an existing class of students to critique, write and perform poetry, spoken word, or hip-hop.

Teaching Artists collaborate with the classroom teacher to connect student writing to existing curriculum, to prepare students for the Citywide Jam and Anthology, and to help teachers adapt the Teaching Artists' lessons for their own use.

10 sessions: 2-3 sessions per week for 3-5 weeks.



PRE WORK

Pre-workshop: Classroom teacher meets with Teaching Artist to share existing themes, forms, skills, or traditions the students are learning that the Teaching Artist may incorporate into the residency.

"I have students writing all different genres of poetry now with ease, and some students keep coming up to me with additional poems that they have written at home. They are truly inspired by telling their words in poetry form! Thank you all for giving us this opportunity, and I look forward to working with you again next year!"

~ Paula Langlois, Fair Haven Middle School



The Word is a transformative literary arts program for New Haven young people. The Word partners experienced teaching poets, award-winning spoken-word artists, and emcees with creative students, teachers, and administrators across the city to equip youth to become stronger poets and culture creators.

The Word is a collective of professional writers and performers committed to increasing youth access to safe spaces for expression, creative community, professional arts development, and exploring new modes of expression. Our teaching artists are passionate about writing, performance, and New Haven youth. The Word values youth organizing and youth culture. When possible we pair our up-and-coming High School Teaching Poets with our professional level Jedi Wordsmiths to co-teach and co-lead our programs.

www.thewordpoetry.org // thewordpoetry@gmail.com

Sessions 1-6

Students read, analyze and write multiple poems. The six sessions may center around:

- theme (Identity, Place, Body, Personal Story, etc.)
- form (tanka, sonnet, verse-chorus rap, etc)
- poetic tradition (Latinx, hip-hop, Arab-American, etc)
- skill (specificity, rhythm, strong verbs, etc.,

Each session includes a warm-up (often a free-write inspired by *The Word's Secrets of Good Poems*), a text listening and analysis, a prewrite, independent writing, and sharing aloud.

Sessions 7-8

Teaching Artist helps students identify poems or raps to revise and finish, using *The Word's Secrets of Good Poems* as a basis for self-critique and revision.

Sessions 9-10

Teaching Artist prepares each student to perform a poem or rap in a school sharing or at the Citywide Poetry Jam (Friday April 28 @ 6pm for middle schools, Saturday April 29 @ 6pm for high schools). Students work on volume, tempo, articulation, visualization, connecting to audience, body language, etc

OTHER WAYS TO BRING THE WORD TO YOUR SCHOOL:

AFTER SCHOOL RESIDENCES

Teaching Artists help a group of self-selected student poets and rappers hone their writing and performance skills in after-school workshops, which may culminate in in-school poetry slams and/or participation in the Citywide Jam and Anthology. Unlimited sessions, usually one afternoon per week.

INTRO TO THE WORD

Teaching Artists lead a one-time introduction to spoken word during or after school, focusing on igniting student passion for poetry through a performance, writing prompt, conversation, and information about ways to get involved.