

WRITING WORKSHOP

with Karen Otto

Two Sessions

Dates: June 20-23 and July 25-28

Times: 1-4 pm

Location: Carroll Middle School
Room # to be announced)

\$395

Take your child's writing skills to the next level this summer.

High school students are expected to read and respond to difficult texts by writing essays and short answer responses. In these written assessments, students must provide insightful commentary, show their stylistic maturity with concise and elevated word choice, and organize their ideas in a logical and sophisticated manner. A strong foundation of writing skills is imperative for success and achievement in high school and beyond.

Does your child struggle to write clearly and effectively?

The focus on state tests have left kids with a formulaic writing style and has hindered the basic writing process. As a result, many kids do not understand how to transfer writing skills to real-world applications. This leaves parents frustrated and students overwhelmed by the demands and expectations of an advanced writing curriculum.

This Writing Workshop will help your child find his/her own writing style.

As a way to strengthen the writing of sophomores and juniors, I am offering a summer writing workshop based on the principles of writing that have been shown to be effective for decades.

This writing workshop will focus on:

- A Strong Foundation: Getting and Organizing Ideas, Thesis and Topic Statements
- Beat the Clock: Top-Scoring Essays in Timed Situations
- High-Stakes Tests: Writing for the STAAR, ACT, SAT, and AP assessments
- Tricking Out Your Essay: Simple Techniques to Get Your Essay Noticed

Students will be guided through the foundational elements of the writing process so that they understand the steps and techniques of effective writing. Students will participate in mini-lessons on specific content and editing strategies.

Models of effective writing will be shown, discussed, and imitated. Time for drafting and revising, peer response, and teacher conferencing will also be incorporated in every session. This writing workshop will encourage young writers to discover their own style, voice, and potential, ultimately, helping students grow and build self confidence in their writing abilities.

About Karen Otto

As English department chair at Carroll High School, Karen is familiar with the rigors and expectations of the English courses in Carroll ISD. Her experience in the classroom (eighteen years and counting!), MA in English, doctoral work, and extensive knowledge of the writing process have taught her that all students can write if they are just given the tools to do so. Karen's presentations at state-level conferences and as a consultant for education service centers and districts in the DFW, San Antonio, and Waco areas have helped other teachers learn how to successfully improve their students' writing.



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Student Registration Form

Student Name:
Address:
Parent/Guardian Name:
Parent/Guardian Email:
Parent/Guardian Phone Number:

Choose a Session:

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------|---------|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | June 20-23 | 1- 4 pm | Limited to 15 sophomores & juniors | Registration: \$395 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | July 25-28 | 1- 4 pm | Limited to 15 sophomores & juniors | Registration: \$395 |

Registration is limited!

Due to the personalized instruction of the Writing Boot camp, there are a limited number of seats, which are expected to fill quickly.

Early Registration Discount

If you register before April 29, the cost of the Writing Workshop is \$350.
Registration closes five days prior to the camp start date or when the camp is sold out.

Payment

Mail this completed Student Registration Form with check or money order made out to "Karen Otto" to:

Karen Otto
309 Brasher Lane
Euless, TX 76040

Cancellation Policy

No refunds will be given past May 13 for the June session and June 1 for the July session.

Have Questions?

Contact Karen Otto at mrskarenotto@gmail.com or 817-217-8487.

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Testimonials from Students:

“Because of Mrs. Otto’s tips and feedback, I feel more confident as a writer.”

“Mrs. Otto has helped me so much! I am now able to write with more ease and confidence than ever before.”

“You’ve truly had a phenomenal impact on me and my writing. The amount of just... THINGS I learned (I know, things is very general, but words cannot even begin to describe the various lessons I took from your class) that I continue to use and hold onto outmatches that of any other class.”

Testimonials from Parents:

“My son has grown more confident in his writing because of Mrs. Otto’s writing camp. Mrs. Otto has been pivotal in my son’s development as a writer.”

“I give Mrs. Otto full credit for taking my son, who avoids reading and writing, and in some magical way made that child into one who tells me that he now actually enjoys writing. I attribute this to her skill at teaching and her ability to transfer some of her love and excitement for reading and writing to her students.”

“After reading the writing that my son wrote during your camp, I was blown away. It is a cut above any work that I ever seen him produce. It is so satisfying to see your children excel! I wanted to thank you for providing this writing camp and the challenge and support he needed to grow as a writer. He’s a great kid and works hard, so he definitely earns the grades, but I am also quite confident in saying that he could not have achieved this level of writing without the environment and guidance that you have provided him.”

“I spoke with my son this week as he was going into an intense period of exams and papers. He got A's on all of his papers and one professor actually read his introduction to the class. When I asked who could take credit for his successes, he said, ‘Otto all the way!!! I used the packet of information Mrs. Otto gave me during the summer writing camp, and it really helped.’”

“Just wanted to let you know my daughter really enjoyed the camp. She looked forward to going every day and happily told me what she did each day.”

“Thank you! My son feels that he is better prepared for high school English (although it might not have been his idea to sign up for your camp). Thank you for offering this camp and helping my son to feel more confident about writing. He came home after each class and told me about the various writing activities and discussions and how fun they were.”

“I have looked forward to and enjoyed your daily updates. They made me want to be in the class with the kids!! My son said he learned A LOT in your writing camp!!