



“Not only did this workshop improve my writing and my confidence in it, YCW led me to explore Seattle's rich culture; I saw plays and exhibits I never would have on my own.”

THE YOUNG CRITICS WORKSHOP

The Young Critics Workshop gives young writers the opportunity to explore critical journalism, meet and learn from professional critics and artists, and hone their critical writing skills in the company of peers. The YCW is a challenging and rigorous writing course. Classes will be held twice a month for five months. Approximately three quarters of the class periods will be devoted to writing instruction, with the other quarter dedicated to guest speakers and field trips to see art. Students will be asked to attend and review at least three shows over the course of the five-month workshop in addition to completing writing assignments both in and out of class. The class will be conducted in a seminar style, and students will be expected to participate in class discussions and to read and respond to one another's work.

- The Young Critics Workshop is **free** of charge and open to all **11th & 12th graders and college/university freshmen.**
- All classes will be held at the **Center House at Seattle Center.**
- Classes will be held approximately twice a month for five months. The class schedule is as follows. All classes will be held from 5 – 7 p.m. on Thursdays.

November 5th
November 19th
December 3rd

December 17th
January 7th
January 21st

February 4th
February 25th
March 4th
March 25th

IN THE WORDS OF PREVIOUS PARTICIPANTS:

“Nitty-gritty discussions about writing in the first few classes fried my brain in the best way, while keeping things funny and casual.”

“When you know what you are supposed to do you can write ok, when you know why you are supposed to do it you can write better, but when you understand that you are the middle man, the mediator, between the artist and the audience, then that's when you can write a piece of excellent criticism.”

“. . .when [Brendan] was just talking about working at *The Stranger* or telling stories about being a theatre critic, it was the most entertaining, memorable, and engaging part of the class.”

“At the end of the short five-month run, I can proudly say that not only have my critical writing techniques improved exponentially, but my way of looking at, and reacting to, art has evolved into a more cognizant and analytical brand. “

ABOUT THE TEACHERS:

Brendan Kiley was born in Alaska and is the Performance Editor at The Stranger, Seattle's alternative weekly newspaper. His writing has also appeared in the *Boston Globe*, *New York Magazine*, *Newsweek*, and the gently pedagogical pages of *Education Update*.

Holly Arsenault is a playwright, dramaturg, and teaching artist. She has taught theatre and writing to students from kindergarten through college. She is also the director of the Teen Tix program.

ABOUT TEEN TIX

Seattle Center's Teen Tix is a revolutionary arts access program for teenagers. Teen Tix partners with arts-presenting organizations to make the arts accessible and affordable for teenagers. Teen Tix's participating venues include many of the Puget Sound region's preeminent arts venues, and represent a wide range of art forms, including theatre, dance, music, opera, and film. Teen Tix's mission is to serve young people by making Seattle's rich cultural life affordable and accessible to them and, through programs like the Young Critics Workshop, to introduce more young voices to the larger arts community.

More than 16,000 teenagers from throughout the region call themselves Teen Tix members. Teen Tix registration is free, and anyone who is 13 to 19 years old can sign up. Visit us at:

seattlecenter.com/teentix | teentix.blogspot.com | facebook.com/theteentixpage
myspace.com/teentix | twitter.com/teentix

Questions? Drop us a line at teentix@seattle.gov or give us a ring at 206-233-3959.



Students who are interested in applying for the Young Critics Workshop should complete the attached application. **All applications must be postmarked by Thursday October 15th in order to be considered.** Applicants will be notified by October 23rd as to whether or not they have been accepted. The first class is November 5th. **The application can also be downloaded at seattlecenter.com/teentix**

Mail applications to:

Teen Tix
Young Critics Workshop
305 Harrison St.
Seattle, WA 98107

Or email electronic documents to:

holly.arsenault@seattle.gov with "YCW Application" in the subject line