

WordsWorth 2019

Participant Handbook

Week 1



This document should clarify any questions you may have about WordsWorth. Before inquiring at the office or with the director, please check this book—your question has likely already been answered. If you have any further questions, please call the Writers' Guild of Alberta at 780.422.8174 or email: mail@writersguild.ca.

REGISTRATION

Course registration for WordsWorth will be held at 4:00 pm on Sunday, July 14, 2019 for students aged 11 – 14 (Kamp Kiwanis, Bragg Creek, AB; see attached map, page 20). Aim for a 3:00 pm arrival so we can sort out your dorms.

Participants will select courses, meet the Creative Team and other writers and choose their dorm rooms. The remainder of the day will be devoted to awesome literacy-related, let's-get-this-week-rolling activities.

NOTE: Classes will not begin until the following day at 8:45 am.

WORDSWORTH 2019 PROGRAM SCHEDULE IS ON PAGE 5

One of the first things you'll notice when you arrive at Kamp Kiwanis is that WordsWorth days are full. A Creative Team Member will wake you no later than 7:30 am. Breakfast will be served at 7:45 am. After breakfast you will attend a day of amazing classes with breaks for writing, exploring, chilling and playing. The evenings don't slow down either! Jam sessions, followed by nightly shows, campfires and bedtime stories are what to expect each night. Your Creative Team have many exciting extra-curricular activities planned. In other words, be prepared for busy, full days!

PLEASE NOTE: Parents and guests are invited to our final **WordsWorth Camp Life Sampler Platter** on **FRIDAY July 19, 2019**. The experience runs from 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm. Tell your parents to be prepared to get involved in camp activities that you sign them up for. Refreshments will be served.

WORDSWORTH STAFF

As a WordsWorthian, you will work with the Creative Team and the Instructors during the program. The Creative Team Members will be responsible for you during all out-of-class activities, and will see to it that you get up in the morning and get to sleep at night.

WORDSWORTH AT KAMP KIWANIS

Nestled near the bank of the Elbow River, Kamp Kiwanis features hiking trails, an outdoor swimming pool, and a beautiful setting. The location offers hostel-style accommodation and a large cafeteria. All residences and activities at Kamp Kiwanis are supervised by our highly-qualified Creative Team.

Do not use Google maps to find Kamp Kiwanis. The Google map of the Kamp Kiwanis area is inaccurate.

CONTACT WHILE ATTENDING WORDSWORTH

If you need to contact the WordsWorth administration prior to arrival, phone the Writers' Guild of Alberta at 780.422.8174. Please note the Writers' Guild of Alberta's office hours are Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 4:30 pm and we might not be able to answer questions outside those hours.

Please do not bring cell phones to camp. Calling home from your dorm room while homesick (it happens) makes this feeling worse! So, I'll say it again. **We ask that you don't bring your cell phone.** If there is any sort of emergency, Colin Matty will share his phone and take incoming calls.

Kamp Kiwanis Phone Numbers

780.993.7878 Emergency/ Urgent Matters

403.686.6325 Messages for WordsWorth participants or staff. Please specify the WordsWorth camp in your message.

PLEASE NOTE: The telephone in the Kamp Kiwanis office is available on a limited basis. If you plan to make long distance calls, you must provide a TELUS calling card or call collect.

Letter Writing: Letter writing? What? We know it's quaint but it *is* camp and writing camp at that. Outgoing mail will be collected and sent daily, and incoming mail will be hand delivered (likely with some fanfare). Give it a try and bring some stamps and envelopes!

The mailing address for WordsWorth at Kamp Kiwanis is:

WordsWorth
c/o Kamp Kiwanis
241001, Range Road 42
Calgary, Alberta T3Z 2X5

WHAT SHOULD I BRING TO WORDSWORTH?

Clothing: (Sufficient clothing for one week).

- Clothing for use in movement: Tights, sweats or other loose-fitting clothing.
- Running shoes for walking and outside play. (Outside shoes should not be worn in the lodge, so please bring separate footwear for inside use.)
- Rubber boots for mucky conditions
- Casual clothing for out-of-class time – Kamp Kiwanis can be hot during the day and cold at night or when it rains (knock on wood it does not). Bring a jacket! Long sleeves will also protect you against mosquitoes during night time events.
- “Dressier” clothes for the dances and the open mic
- Swimsuit
- Costume for LARPing. This costume has to be safe for running (for your life) through the woods, so no masks or feet extensions.

Linens:

- 1 FITTED SHEET to go over the plastic gym-mat mattress
- 1 single sheet
- 1 pillow case
- 1 pillow
- 1 or 2 blankets or a sleeping bag
- 1 bath towel
- 1 hand towel
- 1 washcloth
- Soap, shampoo
- Other toiletries (including mosquito repellent and sunscreen)
- Mirror for your dorm room

Materials and Supplies:

- Writing notebook/journal, pens, pencils, erasers, paper, envelopes, postage stamps
- Your camera
- Sunscreen, bug repellent and a water bottle (labelled)
- Favourite board game
- Rubber boots for mucky conditions if weather suggests this will be appropriate (or if you are the kind of person who finds mucky conditions)

- **Guitars, flutes, drums and other musical instruments. You will definitely want to play!**
- Works in progress for Blue Pencil Café – photocopied section to give to the author (see word max) and synopsis if part of a larger piece. **WE DO NOT HAVE A PRINTER ON SITE.**
- Other short stories, novels, poems, ideas you've begun
- A football, soccer ball, frisbee (useful during free time)
- A fan and extension cord (hot stuffy dorm rooms etc) optional, but can be nice to have
- Dictionary and thesaurus
- A coffee mug for tea (if you drink tea)
- Flashlight (labeled with your name)
- **Did we say to bring your musical instruments? This is a very musical crowd with plenty of opportunity to make music. Don't forget sheet music for the piano!**

Money:

OPTIONAL Participants could bring approximately \$30.00 – \$60.00 (try to bring smaller bills and coins as making change is difficult) spending money for some/any of the following:

- T-shirts, if not pre-paid (\$20)
- Books/CDs/works for sale by our instructors

If you so choose, cash can be given to the WordsWorth Director, Colin Matty, for storage in a safe box. Please put money in an envelope with your name marked on the outside. When you require access to any of the items in your envelope, inform Colin.

Writing for the Blue Pencil Café

Do you have specific questions about a piece of writing that you would like to ask an author, a poet, a playwright, an editor? Consider signing up for a Blue Pencil Café session. Some of the writers on staff will be available through the week to review, discuss and offer you one on one advice on your writing. But you have to be prepared. **Bring a copy of your work on paper. We do not have access to printers at Kamp Kiwanis!**

WHAT NOT TO BRING

Please keep in mind that part of the mandate of WordsWorth is to foster a nurturing, creative environment and this can be negatively affected by the distractions caused by plugging in and tuning out. We ask that there be no texting, game playing or internet surfing during class time or during any large group activities such as meal times or Jam Sessions.

Unless you require a device to assist your writing process, do not bring laptops, tablets, handheld gaming devices or consoles, and other expensive electronics at home. Leave your cellphone at home. Where

you're going and what you're doing there, it would only be an interference, and you will be told to put it away. You will gain more from your experience if you leave it at home. Go the week without texting or talking to your parents.

ABSOLUTELY NO CONTRABAND (alcohol, drugs, weapons)

NOTE: Please understand that we are not responsible for items lost or left behind at the conclusion of WordsWorth, although we make every effort to return those items we do find. Attaching a permanent or semi-permanent label to your belongings is a good idea.

WORDSWORTH RULES AND REGULATIONS

(The fun stuff)

The success of the WordsWorth program depends upon the strength of the community formed each year. Participants and staff gather in a retreat-like setting to share common interests and ideas and to develop skills. In order to create this community, the following rules apply:

- Participants are encouraged to associate with all members of the WordsWorth community outside of class.
- Bring your best self to WordsWorth! Treat others as you would like to be treated. You'll be amazed at and inspired by the atmosphere we collectively create.
- We ask that you try all the activities and events even if what we offer is something you don't typically do or it causes some sort of social anxiety. At WordsWorth we will provide a safe environment, but we will challenge you and we hope you accept challenges as writers do with the intent of gathering materials for stories, develop the character required to be a writer AND to develop fictional characters. REMEMBER, you can't write all the time. Living is important, too (this advice was given by the late Robert Kroestch to Aritha van Herk).

ALCOHOL AND DRUGS ARE FORBIDDEN: Any participant found to be in possession of alcohol or any illegal substance will be sent home immediately without refund.

CLASS ATTENDANCE: Participants must attend classes and arrive on time, participate fully and learn without interfering in the learning of others. Staying up late at night must not affect class participation.

ILLNESS: In the case of illness, participants must notify a Creative Team Member immediately. If the condition is serious, the participant will be accompanied to a medical clinic or the hospital. We are unable to provide long-term medical treatment and supervision for ill participants during the program, and, therefore, if a medical condition prevents a participant from attending more than one day of classes, arrangements will be made for the participant to return home.

RESIDENCE AREA: Rooms must be kept neat and tidy. Certain areas of the site are off limits to participants (e.g. East Hope, staff residences and offices, and the Director and Creative Team accommodations).

MISCELLANEOUS:

- Smoking is permitted in designated smoking area only. You must have parental permission to smoke, or be of legal age. Also, don't smoke.
- Participants who bring their cars to WordsWorth are NOT permitted to use them during the program or to give rides to other WordsWorth participants during the program.
- Participants are expected to attend all evening activities and are not to leave the Kamp Kiwanis grounds at any time day or night.
- We operate on a buddy system—talk to your Creative Team Member if you'd like to plan a group hike or walk.
- Any questions regarding these rules should be directed to Colin or any Creative Team Member.

CAFETERIA:

Matt Prosser and the cafeteria staff provide nutritious and appetizing meals and snacks.

NOTE: Any special dietary needs or restrictions must be brought to our attention prior to your arrival at camp: Contact the Writers' Guild of Alberta at mail@writersguild.ca if further information is needed

And now...for what is happening! For more information on the courses being offered, go to <https://writersguild.ca/2019-wordsworth-instructors-courses/>

Sunday Night Kick Off:

Always something fun, writerly, community building and outdoors!

Week One

***Schedule subject to change**

	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI *afternoon shortened to accommodate WordsWorth Camp Sampler Platter
7:45 – 8:15 am	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
8:30 – 8:45 am	Warm up Activities follow breakfast before first class, led by Creative Team Members				
Block 1 8:45 – 10:15	<u>Colin Martin – “We are Legion(d)”</u>				

am	<u>Louise Casemore – Fact and Fiction</u>				
10:15 – 10:30 am	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
Block 2. 10:30 am – Noon	<u>Ainsley Hillyard – Movement/Dance</u> <u>Marcelo Di Cintio – Writing Wrongs</u>				
Noon – 1:00 pm	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:00 – 2:00 pm	Blue Pencil Café! Swimming and Death Polo! Larping! Hiking! Sports! Other Stuff!				12:30 – 2:00 pm Block 3 Classes
Block 3 2:00 – 3:30 pm	<u>Brandon Wint – Poetry Writing Through Poetry Reading</u> <u>Kim Firmston – Radio Plays</u>				
3:30 – 3:45 pm	Break	Break	Break	Break	Camp Life Sampler Platter And Sendoff!
3:45 – 5:15 pm	Camp Wide Writing Time Homework? Need to nail down that earlier bout of inspiration? Now's the time!				
5:30 – 6:30 pm	Supper	Supper	Supper	Supper	
3:45 – 5:15 pm	Jam Sessions! One off activities lead by the Creative Team, Instructors, and possibly...you!!				
8:00 – 9:30 pm	The Mentors Performance	TBA	Open Mic Night At the Spotlight Cafe!	Dance Party!	
9:30 – 10:30 pm	Campfire and bedtime story				

--ZZZZZ--

COURSE SELECTION THINGY

Hey look! You can use the chart below to keep track of and remember your choices. This is NOT a form that you will hand in for class selection, it is simply a device for you to make notes about which courses in which you wish to enroll.

8:45 – 10:15 am	First Choice:	_____
	Second Choice:	_____
10:30 – noon	First Choice:	_____
	Second Choice:	_____
2:00 – 3:30 pm	First Choice:	_____
	Second Choice:	_____

PLEASE NOTE: WordsWorth registration begins at 4:00 pm. We will draw names from an impartial hat to decide who selects their classes first. Example; for the 8:45 time, whoever's name is drawn first chooses their class first, and we will continue until everyone has selected their class. We will then start the process over for the next series of classes. So there is no need to come early. You can sleep in, say a long good-bye, stop for doughnuts (Canadian spelling, eh?) and we'll see you at 3:00 pm. sharp. *Remember*, creativity often erupts unexpectedly with fantastic results when you move out of your comfort zone. Don't get the class you want? Then take on the challenge of the class you get. I guarantee you will benefit in ways you couldn't have imagined.

PARENTS' PAGE

WordsWorth 2019

(Week 1, July 14 – 19, 2019)

Sunday, July 14: Check in from 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm. Haul in their bags, make sure you're at the right camp, say good-bye to your young writer.

Friday, July 19: Pick up and Camp Life Sampler Platter at 3:00 pm!

Bring your outdoor shoes and sense of adventure...your young writer is going to sign you up for some camp fun! Food and refreshments follow with the more Now-I-Sit-And-Listen-to-the-Literary-Brilliance-that I'm used to kind of reading.

PLEASE NOTE: The WordsWorth staff cannot be responsible for participants beyond 6:00 pm Friday, July 19, 2019. After that we teach anyone left behind how to build a lean-to, give them a good book and hope for the best.

PHONES: We highly encourage our campers to leave their cell phones at home during camp. Opportunities for people, especially youth, to unplug and be in one place for an extended period of time are so rare. Camp is a place for people to connect with one another, with nature, with themselves, and their craft. Cell phones act as a portal away from the immediate environment and bring with them all the intrusions of daily life. Please consider sending your child to camp without a cell phone—an idea that was not so strange even a few years ago. There will be a phone available to receive incoming and send outgoing emergency calls 24 hours a day.

Important Contact Information:

WordsWorth Director: Colin Matty

P: 780.993.7878—emergencies only

E: colin.matty@writersguild.ca

Writers' Guild of Alberta

11759 Groat Road

Edmonton, AB T5M 3K6

780.422.8174

1.800.665.5354

mail@writersguild.ca

Kamp Kiwanis:

403.686.6325—Messages for WordsWorth participants or staff. Please specify the WordsWorth camp in your message.

Dietary Concerns:

Matt Prouseur: chef@kampkiwanis.ca

Map to Kamp Kiwanis



DO NOT use Google maps to plan your drive to Kamp Kiwanis. To view or book the Centre contact
Kamp Kiwanis at 403.686.6325

Kamp Kiwanis is located 12 minutes (20 kilometers) west of Calgary at Highway 8 & 22, nestled near the
bank of the Elbow River.

To view or book the Centre contact Kamp Kiwanis at 403.686.6325

WordsWorth 2019

would not have been possible without contributions from the following people and organizations:



Amber Webb-Bowerman Memorial Foundation

We acknowledge the support of the Canada Council for the Arts, which last year invested \$204.3 million to bring the arts to Canadians throughout the country.

Nous remercions le Conseil des arts du Canada de son soutien. L'an dernier, le Conseil a investi 204.3 millions de dollars pour mettre de l'art dans la vie des Canadiennes et des Canadiens de tout le pays.

And to the following people who have contributed funds, time and donations in kind to years of WordsWorth past:

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Don't you feel the love?

From all the WordsWorth participants, instructors, and staff:

Thank you very much for your generosity!!

Tag us on Instagram: WordsWorth_2019 or Twitter: @WritersGuildAB with the hashtag #WordsWorth2019 and share your favourite WordsWorth 2019 moments!