

WONDERWORKS

and the

Department of English and
Creative Writing Program,
University of Houston

present

a reading-intensive exploration
of fiction plus films based on
fiction and creative writing

11 JUNE – 13 JULY 2018

10 AM – 4 PM, MONDAY – FRIDAY
UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON



James McNeill Whistler (1834-1903),
Pink note – The Novelette, 1883/84.
Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian
Institution, Washington, D.C.: Gift of Charles Lang Freer, F1902.158a-c.
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STORY

LINES

STORY LINES is open to high school students of special promise and ability who will be entering grades 10, 11, or 12 next fall or who will just have graduated from high school this spring. Students admitted to the program must have at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average on a 4-point scale or its equivalent.

Tuition is \$500. Scholarships are available, but only for students demonstrating true financial need. Admissions are determined on a need-blind basis. No student will be prevented from participating in the program because of inability to pay tuition.

Classes are held at the University of Houston Central Campus, Monday – Friday, except 4 July. This program is meant to be enjoyable, but it is also challenging and requires focused effort and commitment.

To apply, fill out the student section of this form and then have a teacher or counselor who knows you well complete the recommendation section. Your teacher or counselor should then mail the completed form along with an unofficial transcript reflecting your grades and PSAT scores plus any additional documentation required for scholarship consideration to:

Wonderworks
PO Box 667550
Houston, TX 77266-7550

To ensure full consideration, applications must be received by 4 May; early applications are encouraged.

All applicants will be notified of acceptance by 28 May; early applicants will be notified earlier. Late applications will be considered only if space remains available. If you have questions or need additional information, e-mail info@wonderworkshouston.org or call 713.301.4882.

The house of fiction has in short not one window, but a million.

HENRY JAMES “Preface,”
The Portrait of a Lady (New York Edition), 1908

Reading is a very complex art – the hastiest examination of our sensations as a reader will show us that much. And our duties as readers are many and various. But perhaps it may be said that our first duty to a book is that one should read it for the first time as if one were writing it. [...] One should be an accomplice with the writer in his act, whether good or bad, of creation. For each of these books, however it may differ in kind and quality, is an attempt to make something. And our first duty as readers is to try and understand what the writer is making from the first word with which he builds his first sentence to the last word with which he ends his book. We must not impose our design upon him; we must not try to make him conform his will to ours. We must allow Defoe to be Defoe and Jane Austen to be Jane Austen as freely as we allow the tiger to have his fur and the tortoise to have his shell. And this is very difficult. For it is one of the qualities of greatness that it brings Heaven and earth and human nature into conformity with its own vision.

VIRGINIA WOOLF “The Love of Reading,” November 1931

Storytelling is inextricably linked to our DNA, and happily so. For millennia, we’ve entertained ourselves with all kinds of tales that, however conveyed and consumed, retold and remixed, drawn from life or fantastically imagined, manage to work their magic in every corner of the globe. This summer you’ll dive, head, eyes and heart first, into some of the most captivating stories ever to appear in print or on film, all in the air-conditioned comfort of Wonderworks’ digitally enhanced story cave just a hop, skip and a jump from the University of Houston’s Creative Writing Program, which helps keep us supplied with well-read, well-watched literary sherpas, year in and year out.

Each morning you’ll unpack the contents and meanings of a short story or two (or chapters from a novel) plus related commentary you’ve read – possibly even thrilled to – the night or weekend before, just like you would in a college seminar, only minus the anxiety of grades and papers. In the afternoons, you’ll give the same close attention to a film, thematically aligned with, though not necessarily adapted from, the readings in what amounts to a parallel “film studies” seminar (also anxiety-free). Most everything is taught from a writerly point of view, with an eye to what makes fiction work and resonate on page or screen.

Once you get into the flow, you may wish to try your hand at creative writing with some helpful coaching on the side. But when all is said and done and read and watched, you’ll have more than a handful of new stories in the memory bank and perhaps a few of your own in the offing. For avid readers (who may or may not be aspiring writers or critics) only!

1 GENERAL INFORMATION

To be completed by the student:

Which program are you applying for? (circle one)

- By Design: **ARCHITECTURE**
- Moving Pictures: **FILMMAKING**
- Closer Looks: **ART HISTORY/APPRECIATION**
- Story Lines: **FICTION/FILM STUDIES**
- Stranger than Fiction: **NONFICTION/JOURNALISM**
- Play by Play: **THEATER**

name (last, first, middle)

street address

city/zip code

e-mail (your own or that of a parent or teacher – specify)

home telephone cell telephone

date of birth sex

high school

grade you will enter next fall (10, 11, 12, college)

school district

mother/female guardian's name

address

telephone e-mail (if any)

occupation college graduate?

father/male guardian's name

address

telephone e-mail (if any)

occupation college graduate?

2 NEED-BASED FINANCIAL AID

To be completed by the student and parent or guardian ONLY if applying for financial aid:

Do you receive a federally subsidized free or reduced-cost lunch at school? yes no

If yes, have a school official verify below:

signature of school official

printed name of school official

title

As proof, please also attach a copy of the official determination of eligibility.

Are you enrolled in the Texas Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)?

yes no

• Be sure to redact Social Security numbers from all copies of documents submitted •

If yes (and you do *not* receive a free or reduced cost lunch), please attach a copy of the enrollment certificate.

If the answer to either question above is yes, you qualify for a tuition waiver, and need not provide family income information below.

If the answer to both questions is no, but your family cannot afford the tuition, please provide the following information:

My family's ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME for 2017 (or 2016 if the 2017 return has not been filed—circle one) was: \$ _____.

As documentation, you MUST attach a copy of a signed and filed first page of Form 1040EZ or the first two pages of Form 1040 or 1040A and, if self-employed, Schedule C "Profit or Loss from Business" from Form 1040. If parents are divorced and/or file separately, **both** must provide copies of tax returns.

For all tuition waiver applicants:

I affirm that the information provided above is true and correct and that this is a full disclosure of our family's financial circumstances and also that we truly need assistance.

signature of parent or guardian

printed name of parent or guardian

All information provided in this section is subject to independent verification. False or misleading statements and/or material omissions will cause the application for enrollment as well as financial assistance to be denied.

3 ACADEMIC PROFILE

To be filled out by a teacher who knows you well and/or a counselor. Your teacher or counselor should then mail this application, along with an unofficial transcript and unofficial copies of PSAT score reports plus any supporting documentation for financial aid, directly to:

**Wonderworks, PO Box 667550
Houston, Texas 77266-7550**

Your application cannot be processed without an unofficial transcript and PSAT scores.

Cumulative grade point average: _____
(If other than 4 point scale, please specify.)

Class ranking (approximate):

- top 10 percent other (explain)
- top 25 percent

PSAT	Score	Percentile
Reading/Writing	_____	_____
Mathematics	_____	_____
Combined	_____	_____

Month and year taken	_____	_____
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Please provide unofficial copy of score report.

The student's curriculum can best be described as: honors/gifted college prep regular

The student's behavior is:

- always courteous and respectful
- usually courteous and respectful (explain)

Overall I would recommend this student:

- most highly
- highly
- with reservations (explain)

Any additional comments you feel would help us assess the student's abilities. (Attach a separate sheet if necessary.)

signature

printed name

title

daytime and evening telephone numbers

e-mail address



***Have you remembered to include an unofficial transcript and an unofficial copy of PSAT score reports?**

EARLY DECISIONS FOR EARLY APPLICATIONS ☺