



SHARE THE EXCITEMENT!

Dear High-Stepping, Strong-Hearted Daughters and Sons of the Word Road:

Yes, indeed. Can you hear it? That's right. Once again, it's time to blow your silver horn. Enclosed you will find an application for the 2015 Champlain College Young Writers' Conference (CCYW), May 29–31, 2015. Please share this information with your most trusted cohorts and friends. Applications should be postmarked no later than **February 17, 2015** and are available at [champlain.edu/write](http://champlain.edu/write).

As most of you know, our doors are open to high school students who want to share their passion for story, drama and song with an extended writerly family. We offer more than ten hours of peer-focused workshops and a chance to study the craft of storytelling, songwriting and performance with celebrated New England authors and teachers.

This year's workshop leaders include the following award-winning authors and performers: Paige Ackerson-Kiely, Howard Axelrod, Philip Baruth, Audrey Bohanan, Sarah Braunstein, Tim Brookes, Michael Chorney, Jim Ellefson, Lucas Farrell, Rose Gorman, Geof Hewitt, Jenny Land, Tom Paine, William Patrick, KL Pereira, Lewis Robinson, Anne Sanow, Ryan Walsh and Dana Yeaton.

OUR 2015 KEYNOTE SPEAKER, AWARD-WINNING NOVELIST AND MEMOIRIST, DIANA ABU-JABER, is the author of *Arabian Jazz*, *Crescent*, *The Language of Baklava*, *Origin* and *Birds of Paradise*. Reviewers have called her prose "gorgeous" and "bitingly humorous," and her stories and editorials have appeared in *Ploughshares*, the *North American Review*, *Kenyon Review*, *Ms.*, *Salon*, *Vogue*, *The New York Times*, the *Washington Post* and elsewhere. A frequent contributor to NPR, Diana is the daughter of a Jordanian immigrant whose passion for food and folktales exerted a "powerful influence" over her work.

And there's more: the all-inclusive **\$365 fee** for this three-day literary extravaganza includes not only the workshop experience, housing and all meals, but also a poetry slam, contra-dance, literary-jazz fusion, all-you-can-eat open mic, high-voltage improv theater and faculty readings.

Teachers and interested parents are encouraged to join us as chaperones and are invited to attend their own workshop with novelist and award-winning commentator Philip Baruth. Enrollment fees are waived in exchange for light duties.

So get right on it. This year we will leave no writers behind; we are committed to finding everyone a seat on the bus. Please feel free to contact us with questions and know how much we look forward to seeing many of you again.

Sincerely,

Jim Ellefson, Director  
Lesley Wright, Co-director  
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