If you are an emerging writer; if you’ve ever dreamed of studying the craft with celebrated authors; if you’ve ever longed to meet others who share your passion for story, drama, and song; this conference is for you.

Now in its 15th year, the Champlain College Young Writers’ Conference (CCYW), a residential writers’ weekend for high school students, convenes this May 29–May 31 on the hillside campus of Burlington’s Champlain College. Participate in over ten hours of intensive fiction, poetry, songwriting, creative nonfiction, dramatic writing and environmental writing workshops; exchange and critique manuscripts; attend faculty readings and craft sessions; and meet one-on-one with your workshop leader. On Friday, go to the good place with our keynote speaker. And there’s more: Friday evening, read to jazz with Michael Chorney’s celebrated literary jazz ensemble, or read poems and prose to open mic.

On Saturday, slam the night away with our own in-house oracle, the renowned Vermont Slam Champion, Geof Hewitt. Later, let the badger out with the Young Writers’ Improv Theater, and kick up your heels at the spectacular Young Writers’ Contra Dance. Special note: high school teachers and writerly parents are encouraged to apply as chaperones and are invited to attend their own adult writing workshop.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

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.
WHO’S QUALIFIED?

APPLICATION to the Champlain College Young Writers’ Conference is open to all high school-aged students. We’re interested in serious, talented young writers who also show a level of maturity and responsibility appropriate for attending a weekend workshop on a college campus. Along with the application, poets/songwriters are asked to submit two copies of a one-page writing sample. Songwriters are encouraged (but not required) to forward a CD or MP3 of their work. Fiction, non-fiction, and dramatic writing applicants should submit two copies of a writing sample of no more than three pages. Application forms are available on our website: champlain.edu/write. If you have questions regarding the application process, please contact Lesley Wright: ccyw@champlain.edu or 802.865.8456.

DEADLINE Applications should be postmarked by February 17, 2015. Early submissions are encouraged.

FEE The all-inclusive fee for the 2015 Champlain College Young Writers’ Conference is $365 and is due after acceptance.

CHAPERONES Teachers and writerly parents are invited to attend all events and participate in their own workshop, free of charge.

SCHEDULE For a full schedule of CCYWC 2015 events, please visit our website at: champlain.edu/write

FOR MORE INFORMATION

CONTACT:
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WORKSHOP LEADERS

PAIGE ACKERSON-KIELY
HOWARD AXELROD
PHILIP BARUTH
STEVEN LEE BEEBER
SARAH BRAUNSTEIN
TIM BROOKES
MICHAEL CHORNEY
J.C. ELLEFSON
LUCAS FARRELL
ROSE GORMAN
GEOF HEWITT
JENNY LAND
KERRIN MCCADDEN
NINA LOUISE MORRISON
TOM PAINE
KL PEREIRA
ANNE SANOW
LINDA SCHLOSSBERG
CAMERON STRACHA
DANA YEATON

For faculty bios, please visit: champlain.edu/young-writers-conference/workshop-leaders