



*Inspiring Voice, Empowering the Unheard*

## **VOLUNTEER FACILITATOR APPLICATION**

Thank you for your interest in volunteering with the **Toronto Writers Collective** to facilitate a writing workshop as part of the TWC's creative writing workshops. We currently provide creative/expressive writing workshops in Toronto, Mississauga and Ottawa for vulnerable community members. By creating a community of writers from all economic backgrounds, races, ages and sexual orientations, we encourage people to gain confidence and a stronger sense of self, find and expand their voices and discover the value of their own stories.

Our extensive training program supports volunteer workshop facilitators. Please be prepared to:

1) Read *Writing Alone and with Others* by Pat Schneider - a valuable resource that provides the core values and structure of what we do; 2) watch the introductory video on our website; 3) attend at least one virtual workshop before training; 4) complete the weekend of training; 5) attend a 1-hour post-training virtual workshop delivery information session; 6) report attendance and stay connected with the Director of Programming and the Outreach and Communications Manager.

**The next training session is:**

**Friday evening, December 22 through Sunday January 24 2021. Hours will be confirmed.**

Space is limited. Preference will be given to those who have:

1. A commitment to and understanding of TWC's philosophy of creating a respectful and positive environment where people can write and share their stories.
2. Availability to facilitate workshops (please review the calendar at [www.torontowriterscollective.ca](http://www.torontowriterscollective.ca) for our current workshops).
3. Ties to the community/ies you are interested in working with.
4. A history of community engagement.
5. Experience with writing groups as a participant or facilitator.
6. Facilitation, leadership or teaching experience.

Graduates will co-facilitate with experienced facilitators before leading their own workshops -- 1½ - 2 hours per week.

Please answer each of the questions on the following pages as fully and concisely as possible. Feel free to attach additional sheets of paper as necessary.

Thank you again for your interest.



@TorontoWritersC

[www.torontowriterscollective.ca](http://www.torontowriterscollective.ca)

[info@torontowriterscollective.ca](mailto:info@torontowriterscollective.ca)

Toronto Writers Collective Registered Charity Number: BN 84705 8831 RR0001



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Name:

Telephone: Day: Evening:

Email:

Preferred mode of communication: Email Phone Text Other (please specify)

Address:

Main intersection:

Are you over 21 years old? Yes No

Are you willing to have a Police Reference check? Yes No

Which training session are you interested in? Future dates

How long are you willing to commit to facilitating workshops with the TWC?

Are you fluent in any language other than English?

No Yes If yes, which one(s)?

When are you **available** to facilitate a workshop? X= Yes. Please specify your available hours.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Day							
Evening							

Are you away in the Winter or Spring?

Are you away in the Summer / Fall?

Dates (Approx.):

Dates (Approx.):

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Describe the role creative writing plays in your life.

Would you be comfortable writing with others in a confidential setting about your family, your history, your scars and your secrets? Can you write deeply and authentically without having to be the best writer in the room?

Briefly describe any previous volunteer and/or social service experience you have had.

What experiences have you had in writing workshops as a participant and/or as a facilitator?

What does the phrase “safe space for writing” mean to you?

In your opinion, what is the distinction between “teaching” and “leading” or “facilitating”?



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What life experiences have you had that will be helpful to you in leading writing workshops with the TWC, or that have led you to want to volunteer with us.

If you have previous facilitation or teaching experience, whether in writing or other areas, are you open to learning and practicing new ways of facilitating?

What groups are you most interested in working with? Are there any groups that you do not feel comfortable working with? (This question is purely to determine your interest and bears no weight in considering your application)

How did you hear about the TWC expressive writing workshops?

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If there is anything else you would like us to know about you, please attach a note with this application.

Thank you.

Please scan and email your completed application to: [info@torontowriterscollective.ca](mailto:info@torontowriterscollective.ca)

Contact Jesse Cohoon at 647-261-3720 if you have any questions.