

## The National Writing Project

The National Writing Project is a network of local sites across the country dedicated to improving the teaching of writing.

Sites sponsor summer invitational institutes and other professional development activities for teachers of writing and reading across grade levels and professional settings.

While the Summer Institute is considered the “heart” of any local writing project, teachers who participate in the SI are then connected to NWP and NWP@KSU through ongoing professional development opportunities for both themselves and colleagues who have not yet participated in the SI.

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**The National Writing Project is authorized under NCLB, Title II, Part C as providers of standards-aligned professional development for teachers and administrators.**

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*[NWP is] The best large scale effort to improve composition instruction in operation in this country.*

—The Carnegie Corporation

*[NWP] has been by far the most effective and ‘cost effective’ project in the history of the Endowment’s support for elementary and secondary education programs.*

—The National Endowment for the Humanities

## Professional Development

NWP-KSU offers a variety of in-school professional development programs on the teaching and assessment of writing and reading.

All programs are tailored to meet the needs of local buildings and districts.

Interested districts and schools are encouraged to contact Dr. Deb DeBenedictis at (330) 672-0636 or [ddebened@kent.edu](mailto:ddebened@kent.edu) to design a professional development program for their teachers.

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### To learn more...

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Visit:

[www.nwp-ksu.org](http://www.nwp-ksu.org)

The National Writing Project  
at Kent State University

[www.nwp.org](http://www.nwp.org)

National Writing Project  
University of California, Berkeley

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**THE  
NATIONAL  
WRITING  
PROJECT  
AT KENT STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

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## Summer Invitational Institute

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**June 14 – July 9, 2010**

The National Writing Project  
at Kent State University



A National Writing Project site since 1997

## NWP-KSU Summer Invitational Institute (SI)

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The National Writing Project at Kent State University, directed by Dr. Alexa Sandmann, offers a four-week Summer Invitational Institute:

### Where:

Kent State University, Kent campus

### When:

June 14-July 9, Monday-Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. An evening orientation for participants will take place in late April.

### Who:

Teachers working at any grade level in any subject may apply to attend the Institute. Admission is based on an application and an interview.

### Purpose:

To improve the achievement of Northeast Ohio students by enabling teachers to work with colleagues from across the region toward their development as writers and as teachers of reading and writing in all areas of the curriculum.

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Teachers accepted into the Institute are eligible for six graduate credits, which will be offered at a discounted rate through the Graduate School of Education.

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## Summer Institute Topics

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- Meeting the Academic Content Standards with Writing and Reading
- Writing to Learn Across the Curriculum
- Writing for Academic Success
- Writing Assessment
- Research in the Teaching of Writing
- Coaching Writing
- Guided Curriculum Planning for Standards Based Instruction
- Developing Teacher Leaders
- Writing Through the Arts

## National Writing Project Basic Assumptions

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**Teachers are the best teachers of teachers;** successful teachers have greater credibility with their colleagues than outside experts.

**Writing is as fundamental to learning** in science, mathematics and history as it is to learning in English and the language arts.

As the process of writing can best be understood by engaging in this process, **teachers of writing should write.**

**Real change in classroom practice doesn't happen all at once,** but rather, over time.

**Effective professional development programs are ongoing and systematic,** bringing teachers together throughout their careers to examine successful practices and new developments.

## Impact on Participants

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### 2009 SI Participants say...

*Being part of the NWP has opened my eyes to see more clearly that all of our students have strengths [...] and that any student can learn to love reading and writing.*

*It's the absolute best professional development that I have ever been a part of!*

*I view teaching writing differently now. I have developed an air of professionalism that I did not have before.*

*The most valuable part of S.I. was the connections between like-minded teachers! In the future, I have people to ask for resources, lesson ideas, help, response to my writing, etc.*

*The most important thing I gained from the institute is [the knowledge] that I am a teacher and a WRITER.*

*I gained confidence in teaching writing and in my own ability to write [...] I will never approach teaching the same again.*

### 2008 SI participants say...

*The experiences I have had here are amongst the finest professional development I have ever been part of... Amazing!"*

*This has truly been the most beneficial professional development I've ever attended! I have grown as a writer and am renewed for the fall.*

*I feel validated that what I have done here connects to what I've read about and what I do in my classroom.*

**To apply to the NWP-KSU Summer Invitational Institute, visit:**

**[www.nwp-ksu.org](http://www.nwp-ksu.org)**

**Applications due  
March 15**

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