

# 2021 JEAN E. MILLER YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS PROGRAM



**Do YOU** know an educator who could use a new activity for a student? **Do YOU** know a student with tons of ideas who could use some help figuring out how to get them on the page, **OR** finding what ideas are hidden in their imagination and experience?

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## LEARN TO WRITE A PLAY!

For the past 7 years Dorset Theatre Festival has provided opportunities for regional middle and high school students to learn about playwriting and create a play of their own. This year, Dorset has taken their classes online for the first time, making the annual Vermont tradition available to students and teachers everywhere.

Young Playwrights Program allows our participating young playwrights a hands-on experience working not only with professional theatre educators, but also professional playwrights and up-and-coming playwrights from top masters degree programs around the country.

Using the art of dramatic writing in theatre, our program seeks to engage students' imaginations, broaden their means of expression, foster a sense of community, and increase their sense of self worth, literacy skills, and appreciation for the arts.



**This year's teaching artist, Heidi Armbruster, is a New York City-based playwright and actor. She is also a founding member of Dorset Theatre Festival's Women Artists Writing Group and wrote MRS. CHRISTIE, which received its world premiere at Dorset Theatre Festival in 2019.**

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## CUSTOMIZE THE PROGRAM FOR YOUR STUDENT AND TEACHER NEEDS



This year's program offers multiple options for educators to choose how to incorporate this program into their existing lesson plans. All options will give your students an opportunity to explore the fundamentals of playwriting: character, dialogue, structure, and conflict.

- **Schedule a one-day workshop for your whole class!**
- **Schedule on-going workshops on a weekly or bi-weekly basis!**
- **Create a writers club for interested students and schedule work sessions with Heidi during or outside of classroom hours.**
- **Or follow along with our digital classes with writing prompts and assignments available for download online!**

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## THE COMPETITION



Participating students have the option of submitting their final drafts to a panel of professional playwrights and theatre artists who pick winning submissions and provide feedback. The winning pieces are presented in a public reading at the annual awards ceremony.

- **Contact Heidi to set up a schedule for your students - available on a rolling basis starting November 1.**
- **Anyone interested in participating can contact Heidi by email at [HeidiYP@dorsettheatrefestival.org](mailto:HeidiYP@dorsettheatrefestival.org)**
- **The first classes are already available online through our website at [dorsettheatrefestival.org/young-playwrights-program](http://dorsettheatrefestival.org/young-playwrights-program)**