

What is the **Louisville Writing** **Project?**

**We are a teacher network focused on developing teacher leaders in writing and all other aspects of literacy. LWP is affiliated with the National Writing Project (federally funded 1991-2011), a network of 175 sites across the country and abroad (www.nwp.org).**

**LWP works with schools to provide and promote professional development in literacy for teachers of all grade levels and content areas.** We seek to

—improve literacy skills among students;

—support teachers in understanding and implementing standards- and research-based literacy practices in all contents and grade levels.

—increase understanding of literacy assessment methods;

—recognize and promote teacher expertise in the teaching of writing and reading; and

—increase literacy collaboration and communication among all teachers, P-12.

**In addition to the Summer Institute for Leadership Development, we offer contracted teacher professional development to schools to promote best practices in literacy and to enhance student achievement in all grade levels and contents.**

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| Basic Assumptions of the Writing Project Model |

* Writing is fundamental to learning. Summer Institutes therefore involve teachers from all disciplines and levels of instruction, primary through university.
* As the process of writing can best be understood by engaging in that process, teachers of writing should write. The summer institute focuses in part on teachers as writers.
* Teachers are the best teachers of teachers; successful practicing teachers have greater credibility with their colleagues than outside experts. A central part of the summer institute involves participants presenting their best lessons to one another.
* Real change in classroom practice happens over time. Working as partners, universities and schools can articulate and promote effective school reform. The school year component of the institute therefore involves teachers sharing what they have learned with their colleagues.
* Effective professional development programs are on-going and systematic, bringing teachers together regularly throughout their careers to examine successful practices and new developments (NWP, 1998). LWP therefore offers lifelong PD, with members taking on leadership to sustain the network.

**LWP also sponsors in-school professional development, mini-conferences, advanced institutes, graduate courses, study groups, book groups, writing groups, teacher publications, and social events for our members.**

**https://louisville.edu/education/centers/nystrand/lwp**

## Eligibility for LWP Invitational Institute

LWP seeks P-20 educators/ (both teachers and administrators of any content area) from a 10-county service area around UofL. We recommend that candidates have some classroom experience, but will accept strong pre-service teachers.

Criteria for selection include

—strong recommendation plus commitment from principal/supervisor to provide candidate with leadership opportunities;

—potential for and commitment to improving teaching practices in writing and in assuming leadership roles;

—well-prepared application and successful interview; and

—commitment to share your expertise through a demonstration lesson; to develop your skills as a presenter; to read, write, and research in order to improve your teaching; and to participate actively in the network.

