

# 2019 UNH Writers Academy



## 2019 UNH WRITERS ACADEMY

	<b>JUNE 24-28</b>	<b>JULY 8-12</b>	<b>JULY 15-19</b>
Gr. 5-6	Karen Atherton & Pam Murphy	Alicia Spates-Messier & Alison Ritrosky	Ashley Healey & David McCormick
Gr. 7-8	Tomasen Carey & Mark Holt-Shannon	Tomasen Carey & Ashley Healey	Pat Boyle-Steed & Sarah Cook
Gr. 6-8		<i>Cartooning</i> (2 weeks)	
Gr. 9-12	Shelley Girdner, Clark Knowles	Sarah Cook, Christian Gompert, Mark Holt-Shannon	Lauren deConstant, Chris Pirkel, Dennis Magliozzi & Kristina Peterson

The University of New Hampshire is internationally known for its work in writing. Beginning in the 1960s, Donald Murray urged teachers to treat all students as writers: they need subjects that engage them and helpful responses from other students and the teacher. Murray's colleague and friend, Donald Graves, extended those ideas by showing how the elementary classroom could become a writer's workshop. His book *Writing Teachers and Children at Work* has transformed how writing is taught in schools.

The UNH Writers Academy is a place where students are treated as writers. They can put their creative juices to work and improve their skills in a relaxed yet challenging environment. Students will write daily and exchange ideas with other young writers. They will discover various writing styles and meet professional authors who will share their own experiences about becoming successful writers.

- **Session Dates:** June 24-28; July 8-12; July 15-19, and Cartooning July 8-19
- Program details can be found online at [cola.unh.edu/english/program/writers-academy](http://cola.unh.edu/english/program/writers-academy)
- For questions, please contact: Tomasen M. Carey, Director, [Tomasen.Carey@unh.edu](mailto:Tomasen.Carey@unh.edu) and Sabina Foote, Administrator, [NH.Literacy@unh.edu](mailto:NH.Literacy@unh.edu)
- A registration portal is available at: [www.unh.edu/youthprograms](http://www.unh.edu/youthprograms)
- Students are grouped according to the grade they will enter in the fall. Each middle school section (5/6 and 7/8) is limited to 20 students with 2 teachers; multiple high school sections (9-12) are offered each week in groups of 10 per instructor. Look for the instructor's name when selecting a high school section for enrollment.
- Cartooning (6-8) will be offered for 2 weeks (July 8-19) with 2 instructors, allowing 20 students to participate this year!
- All sessions meet 8:30AM-2:30 PM, Monday-Friday, in Hamilton Smith Hall, 95 Main Street, Durham, NH. Parking information will be provided after students are enrolled. NOTE: Before- and aftercare is not available. Please plan accordingly. Carpooling is strongly encouraged.



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**Student testimonials...**  
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- **8th grader:** My favorite experience was the blackout poetry and the 50-word writing pieces we did.
  - **6th grader:** I enjoyed writing the dialogue story.
  - **5th grader:** I liked filling up my book with memories.
  - **11th grader:** I really enjoyed the community and how active my teacher was.
  - **9th grader:** I loved learning new techniques and meeting new people.
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25 Years and Counting...



**8th grader:**  
 I was surprised to see that most of the kids were pretty smart. I made a lot of friends, but I have to say, my favorite part was going to the library to just go ahead and write.

**7th grader:** I enjoyed the barn on fire prompt.

## Friday Reading Day



### Featured Guest Author

**John Klossner** is a cartoonist and illustrator whose work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Reader's Digest*, and all the places fine cartoons can be found.

Check out his Website at: [www.jklossner.com/](http://www.jklossner.com/)



#### 5th grader:

My favorite experience was probably the 4 random ideas because it got my mind thinking. Those words really don't go together. I also liked the library. Since it was so quiet and calm my mind was forced on one thing only: writing.

#### 7th grader:

My favorite experience at Writers Academy was just getting feedback on writing, and just getting new ideas.

### Instructors (listed alphabetically)

**Tomasen M. Carey** is a Senior Lecturer in the English Department at the University of New Hampshire where she is the Field Coordinator of UNH Learning Through Teaching and the Director of UNH Writer's Academy. She is the voice behind the blog, Conversation Education: [conversationeducation.com](http://conversationeducation.com)

**Karen Atherton** was a student of Donald Graves at UNH where she learned to use the Writing Process in her classroom. She has over 30 years of experience teaching elementary and middle school, currently in Barrington, NH.

**Pat Boyle-Steed** has been an educator for more than 30 years, sharing her passion for writing with both children in classrooms and adults in corporations. She recently taught middle school writing and reading in Plaistow, NH.



**Sarah Cook** taught middle and high school in Roxbury and Brookline, MA, as well as rural Vermont. She was also a GED instructor for the Exeter Adult Education program. She currently teaches middle school in Stratham, NH.

**Lauren de Constant** has been a literacy educator for more than 25 years and currently teaches middle school in North Hampton, NH. She loves working with young adults as they develop their individual voices through the power of language.

**Shelley Girdner** teaches at the University of New Hampshire. Her poems have been published in several journals, including most recently Hunger Mountain and Painted Bride Quarterly, as well as The Indiana Review, Mid-American Review, Poet Lore and others. She's been a featured poet in the Aureorean, a finalist for the Slapering Hol Chapbook Prize, and has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize in poetry. More recently, she was featured for PBS News Hour's Poetry spotlight.



**Christian Gompert** has 14 years of experience as a high school educator, currently teaching literacy skills and movie making at Coe-Brown Northwood Academy. He believes that choice, risk-taking, and positive feedback are essential in bringing the movie of our minds onto the page.



**Ashley Healey** is a proud graduate and educator of UNH. She currently teaches elementary school in Stratham, NH, where she enjoys working with students who share her passion for reading and writing.

**Mark Holt-Shannon** has taught middle school for more than ten years. He has published a scattering of essays and stories and works as a freelance photographer in the New Hampshire Seacoast.

**Clark Knowles** teaches writing at the University of New Hampshire. The Arts Council of the State of New Hampshire awarded him an Individual Fellowship in 2009. His fiction has appeared or is forthcoming in issues of: *The New Guard*, *RE:AL*, *Outlook Springs*, *The Collagist*, *Northern New England Review*, *Harpur Palate*, *Conjunctions*, *Limestone*, *Nimrod*, *Eclipse*, and *Glimmer Train Stories*.



**Dennis Magliozzi** and **Kristina Peterson** both teach high school in Exeter, NH. Dennis has an MFA in Poetry from Vermont College of Fine Arts and is currently enrolled in the Philosophy of Education program at UNH. Kristina is an avid reader of YA fiction and believes in the importance of student choice in both reading and writing.

**David McCormick** has been an elementary school educator for more than 20 years. He currently brings his experience to Lee, NH, building learning communities in a multi-grade classroom.

**Pam Murphy** has taught elementary school in Barrington, NH, for more than 20 years. Her classroom was a research site for Donald Graves. She works hard to see and honor the individual strengths in all her students.



**Chris Pirkel** has been teaching middle school for ten years. He is an avid reader especially young adult fiction (check out what he's reading at: [bit.ly/PirkelGoodreads](http://bit.ly/PirkelGoodreads)). He enjoys nurturing his students' creativity and sharing his passion for reading and writing.

**Alison Ritrosky** is currently a language arts teacher at Dover Middle School. She enjoys working with students of all ages to help them find their individual voices through reading and writing.



**Alicia Spates-Messier** has been teaching for over ten years mostly as a middle school language arts teacher. She also taught creative writing, public speaking, and technology. Most recently, she is a consultant for the Learning Through Teaching program at UNH and loves to combine the arts and technology with writing.

**Branden Wood** and Clark Knowles (see p. 4), will be offering a two-week *Cartooning* session. Branden has been a middle school teacher for more than 15 years. He is currently writing the *Letters of Charles R. Ziegler*, which is accompanied by Brian Defferding and Thomas Mauer (2009 Harvey Award Nominee for Best Letterer).

