



THE YOUNG CRITICS WORKSHOP

The Young Critics Workshop gives young writers the opportunity to explore critical journalism, meet and learn from professional critics and artists, and hone their critical writing skills in the company of peers. The YCW is a challenging and rigorous writing course. Classes will be held twice a month for five months. Approximately three quarters of the class periods will be devoted to writing instruction, with the other quarter dedicated to guest speakers and field trips to see art. Students will be asked to attend and review at least three shows over the course of the five-month workshop in addition to completing writing assignments both in and out of class. The class will be conducted in a seminar style, and students will be expected to participate in class discussions and to read and respond to one another's work.

- The Young Critics Workshop is **free** of charge and open to all **11th & 12th graders**.
- All classes will be held at the **Center House at Seattle Center**.
- Classes will be held approximately twice a month for five months. The class schedule is as follows. All classes will be held from 5 – 7 p.m. on Thursdays.

November 13th
December 4th
December 11th

January 8th
January 22nd
February 12th
February 26th

March 12th
March 26th
April 9th

IN THE WORDS OF PREVIOUS PARTICIPANTS:

"Nitty-gritty discussions about writing in the first few classes fried my brain in the best way, while keeping things funny and casual."

"When you know what you are supposed to do you can write ok, when you know why you are supposed to do it you can write better, but when you understand that you are the middle man, the mediator, between the artist and the audience, then that's when you can write a piece of excellent criticism."

"Not only did this workshop improve my writing and my confidence in it, YCW led me to explore Seattle's rich culture; I saw plays and exhibits I never would have on my own."

"...when [Brendan] was just talking about working at *The Stranger* or telling stories about being a theatre critic, it was the most entertaining, memorable, and engaging part of the class."

"At the end of the short five-month run, I can proudly say that not only have my critical writing techniques improved exponentially, but my way of looking at, and reacting to, art has evolved into a more cognizant and analytical brand. "

ABOUT THE TEACHERS:

Brendan Kiley was born in Alaska and is the Performance Editor at The Stranger, Seattle's alternative weekly newspaper. His writing has also appeared in the Boston Globe, New York Magazine, and the gently pedagogical pages of Education Update.

Pete Rush is an actor, designer, and teacher in the theatre. His work has been seen locally at Seattle Shakespeare, Book-It, ArtsWest, and Youth Theatre Northwest, and nationally at Berkshire Theatre Festival, George Street Playhouse, and The Hangar. He has coordinated teachers for Seattle Center Academy for two years, and holds a degree in theater from Boston University.

ABOUT TEEN TIX

Seattle Center's Teen Tix is a revolutionary arts access program for teenagers. Teen Tix partners with arts presenting organizations to make it possible for teenagers to purchase \$5 day-of-show (or, at our museum partners, anytime) tickets to the arts. Teen Tix's participating venues include many of the Puget Sound region's preeminent arts venues, and represent a wide range of art forms, including theatre, dance, music, opera, and film. Teen Tix's mission is to serve young people by making Seattle's rich cultural life affordable and accessible to them and, through programs like the Young Critics Workshop, to introduce more young voices to the larger arts community.

More than 12,000 teenagers from throughout the region call themselves Teen Tix members. Teen Tix registration is free, and anyone who is 13 to 18 years old can sign up. Visit us at:

<http://www.seattlecenter.com/teentix>

Questions? Drop us a line at teentix@seattle.gov or give us a ring at 206-233-3959.



Students who are interested in applying for the Young Critics Workshop should complete the attached application. **All applications must be postmarked by Thursday October 23rd in order to be considered.** Applicants will be notified by November 3rd as to whether or not they have been accepted. The first class is November 13th.

Mail applications to:

Teen Tix
Young Critics Workshop
305 Harrison St.
Seattle, WA 98107

Or email electronic documents to:

teentix@seattle.gov with "YCW Application" in the subject line