



young writers project



ANNUAL REPORT

July 2024 - June 2025



YOUNG WRITERS PROJECT ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 2024 – JUNE 2025

Young Writers Project (YWP) is an independent arts nonprofit that started in Burlington, Vermont, in 2006, and continues today with a mission to inspire, mentor, publish, and promote young writers and artists.

Through the generous support of foundations, individuals, and businesses, YWP is able to provide all programming free of charge so that any young person between the ages of 13 and 19 can join us. The YWP community is made up of creative teens who are mostly from Vermont and other New England states, but we have members from across the U.S. and as far away as Australia.

The heart of YWP is our interactive website, youngwritersproject.org, where teens post writing and art, and connect with other young artists through comments and chat forums. They also engage in contests, challenges, workshops, and publication opportunities with our media partners, in our monthly digital magazine, and annual printed anthology. In August 2025, we published our 16th anthology, a collection of the exceptional writing and art that was submitted to our website in 2024-25.

Young Writers Project
47 Maple St., Suite 216
Burlington, VT 05401

(802) 324-9538

Cover art: "Self Portrait" by Sienna Mardy, Hempstead, NY

• YWP'S YEAR IN REVIEW	PAGES 4-5
• THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS	PAGES 6-7
• FINANCIAL STATEMENT	PAGE 8
• YWP STAFF AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS	PAGE 9
• HOW TO SUPPORT YWP	PAGE 10



"Before It Rains" by Sophia Brooks, Essex Junction, VT

YWP'S YEAR IN REVIEW

Young Writers Project is an online community of more than 4,000 active users – teen writers and artists who post their creations, share meaningful feedback, and experience the joy and affirmation of being published.



Writing and Art Contests: This piece, "The Lake's Trap," by Sophie Li, Coconut Creek, FL, was among the award winners in the Teenager Contest, one of YWP's three writing and art contests in 2024-25.

Artist's Statement: *"As a teenager, I have decided to express myself through the purest and most exposed manner, deviating from the ever-increasing superficiality of our modern, technological age. Pictures, originally used to document truth, are now contaminated by the technology of AI and editing. Impressionable teenagers specifically become largely impacted by these risky developments. Yet, as the hands frame the face, my desire to mask the insecurities is revealed — an evident representation of the teen experience in 2025."*

Anthology 16 Young Writers Project



Anthology 16: Our collection of the best writing and visual art of 2024-25. The cover art, "Nature Girl," is by Amelia Van Driesche of Burlington, VT. To order copies, please go to [Donate at youngwritersproject.org](https://Donateat.youngwritersproject.org).



The Voice: YWP's digital magazine highlights new writing and visual art every month, such as "Common Ground," above, by Evvi Tower-Pierce of East Burke, VT, the cover art for the April 2025 issue.

Media Partners: VTDigger publishes YWP writing and art each week from September to June. Vermont Public lets the state know about us with a series of in-kind radio spots. And our poets also appear in Seven Days' quarterly Kids VT.

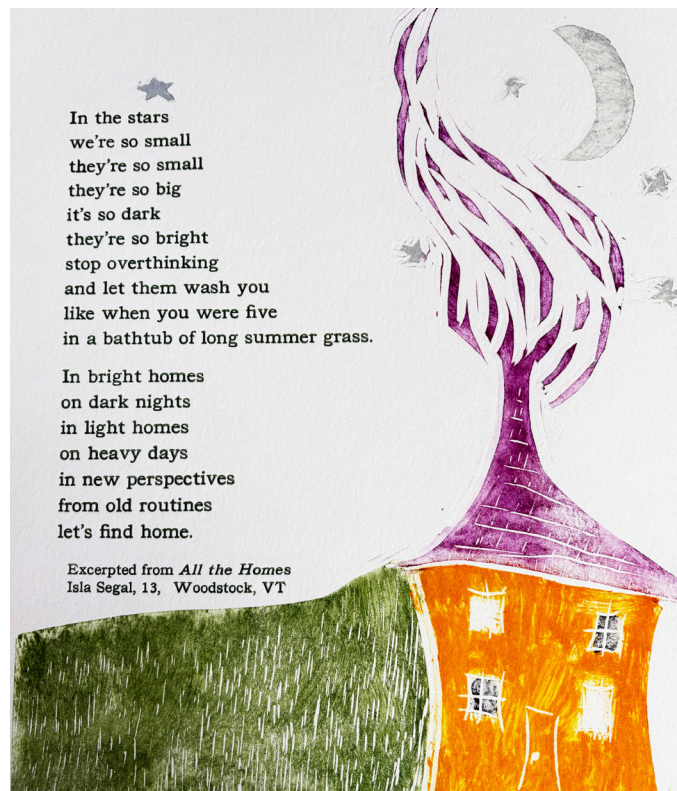


Online Workshops & Resources: The YWP website is full of inspiring ideas and information about writing and art, including our Resources library, ArtSpace hub, Great Writers and Artists features, and our series of online photography and writing workshops.

YWP'S YEAR IN REVIEW



The Tomorrow Project: YWP's new civic engagement initiative addresses issues of human rights, democracy, ethics, community, and climate with a series of writing and visual art challenges, contests, publication opportunities, and exhibits. We launched the first phase in winter 2025, capped with an exhibit at Burlington City Hall in May with our partners, Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO) and A Revolutionary Press of New Haven, VT. Writing and art awards will be announced in fall 2025 and the project will continue with a second phase, including an exhibit at the Karma Bird House gallery at 47 Maple Street, Burlington, VT, in December 2025.



Letterpress print created by artist Jen Berger and A Revolutionary Press, printmakers in New Haven, VT, to illustrate the YWP poem, "All the Homes," by Isla Segal of Woodstock, VT, for The Tomorrow Project.



Zinnia Hansen

YWP Alumni Advisors and Interns: Our alumni advisors joined YWP as teenagers, and now, as young adults, they want to give back to the community that helped shape their lives. For 2025-26, Zinnia Hansen, left, returns for her fourth year as an alumni advisor, and Isabella Daignault-Bailey, right, begins her first year. Joining them are Jadyn Mardy, in her fourth year, Sam Aikman, in her second year, and Charlotte Dodds, in her first year. Charlotte also interned with YWP in summer 2025 as the creative force behind our weekly writing and art challenges. Our winter intern was Alex Bregy, a Bennington College junior, who fulfilled a work-study internship for credit by developing a series of online workshops called "Wondrous Writers." YWP's internships offer high school and college students a chance to explore their interests in publishing, writing, editing, visual art, journalism, and leadership.



Isabella Daignault-Bailey

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

Young Writers Project wishes to thank the following individuals, foundations, and businesses for generously supporting our organization in 2024-25.

Bonnie Acker and John Davis
Cathy and William Aikman
Caroline Anderson
Erin Anderson
Kim Anderson
Peter Anthony
Richard Aubrey
Jacques Bailly and Leslyn Hall
Sean Balon
Dennis Boggs
Rich Boyers
Kathleen Brooks
Burlington City Arts
Kathleen Cheney
Mindy Clawson
John Cleary
Corey Cook
April Cornell
Anne Cramer
Jack and Vicky Cupp
Harold and Kimberly Dauerman
Julie Davis
Staige Davis
Gary De Carolis
Marydale DeBor
Susan Dinitz
Giovanna Di Paolo Jager
Frank and Joan Donath
Susan Donnis
Bari & Peter Dreissigacker Philanthropy
Ian Eatock
Evelynn Ellis
Ellen Fallon
Foley Services/MKF Properties
Cris and Kathy Folley
Patricia Fontaine
Valerie Gardner
Geoffrey Gevalt

Anna Grady
Valerie Graham
Joan Grundhauser
Lauren Guza Brown
Recille Hamrell
Edith C. Hawksworth Trust
Gale Hurd
Jessica Hutcheson
Jessica Hyman
The Rona Jaffe Foundation
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Joseph Kiefer and Amy Goodman Kiefer
Glenn King
Kingdom County Productions
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Peter Lewis
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Rookie Manning
Michael Mathon
Valerie McDonald
The George W. Mergens Foundation
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The Philip and Patricia Muck Charitable Foundation
Clare Mundell
Deena Murphy
The National Life Group Foundation
Anna Niemiec
The Oakland Foundation
Paramount Gives
Bobbe Pennington
Physician's Computer Company
Aimee Picchi
Bernard and Nancy Picchi

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

Young Writers Project wishes to thank the following individuals, foundations, and businesses for generously supporting our organization in 2024-25.

Queen City Printers
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Jeanne Ripp
Shannon Ripp
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Lisa Schamberg and Patrick Robins
Bill and Kate Schubart
Christine Sherry
Margaret Skinner
Smugglers' Notch Resort
Barbara Sorce
South Burlington Rotary Charities
Stephanie Spencer
Tanya Stone
Town Fair Tire Foundation
Rebecca Valley
Dana and Marc vanderHeyden

Bruce and Lillian Venner
Vermont Arts Council
Vermont Business Roundtable
Vermont Children's Trust Foundation
Vermont Electric Power Co.
Vermont Humanities
Vermont Mutual Insurance Group
Vermont Public
VTDigger.org
Susan Wallis
Sean Walsh
Walter Wells
Deborah Wilde
Leslie Williams
Meg Williams
The Windham Foundation
Frances Wood
Anne Yates
Karl Zygarowski
Our kind anonymous friends

If we have missed anyone, please accept our apology and allow us to update the information by contacting Susan Reid, YWP executive director, at (802) 324-9538 or sreid@youngwritersproject.org.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

**Young Writers Project Inc.
Profit & Loss
July 2024– June 2025**

INCOME

Contributed Support	\$134,167
Other Revenue	\$2,365
Total Income	\$136,532

EXPENSES

Salaries & Related	\$101,602
Professional Services	\$11,073
Occupancy Expenses	\$1,489
Printing, Publications	\$6,845
Program Expenses	\$18,818
(including business overhead, insurance, taxes, fees)	
Total Expenses	\$139,827
Net Income	-\$3,295

Year ending June 30, 2025 - Cash Basis. Does not include in-kind donations of \$8,840. See FY24 990 on Donate page, on our website, youngwritersproject.org.

Young Writers Project, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit located at 47 Maple St., Suite 216, Burlington, VT 05401. Donations are tax deductible. Our federal tax ID is 20-5231693. Website: youngwritersproject.org. Contact: Susan Reid, YWP executive director, sreid@youngwritersproject.org; (802) 324-9538

YWP STAFF AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

YWP STAFF 2024-25

Susan Reid – Executive director since 2018; (802) 324-9538, sreid@youngwritersproject.org

William Anderson – Editor, web support, grant writer; william@youngwritersproject.org

Anna Forsythe – Publications co-ordinator; anna@youngwritersproject.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jacques Bailly – University of Vermont Classics professor, Scripps National Spelling Bee's official pronouncer since 2003, YWP parent

Erin Bundock – Vermont visual artist, longtime member of YWP community, UVM alumna

Giovanna Di Paola Jager – Designer, entrepreneur, owner of Karma Bird House, 47 Maple Street, Burlington, VT

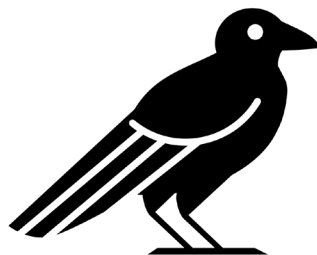
Kathy Folley – Board Record Keeper. Retired teacher at Charlotte Central School, YWP mentor and editing support for YWP anthologies

Aimee Picchi – Board Vice-President. CBS MoneyWatch associate managing editor, science fiction writer, YWP parent

Hillary Read – Board President. Independent marketing and communications consultant, fiction writer, former journalist

Shannon Ripp – Digital account manager, social media developer, former YWP intern, Champlain College professional writing alumna

Doreen Wright – Board Treasurer. Former editor and page designer at USA Today and Burlington Free Press



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HOW TO SUPPORT YOUNG WRITERS PROJECT



Photo by Kevin Huang, YWP archive

YOUNG WRITERS PROJECT is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that relies on the generosity of foundations, individuals, and businesses to provide all programs free of charge so everyone has a chance to participate. When you support Young Writers Project, you are investing in teen writers and artists who are making a positive difference in the world. Donations are tax deductible. Our federal tax ID is 20-5231693. **We are deeply grateful for your support!**

TO DONATE

Please send your gift by mail to:

Young Writers Project
47 Maple St., Suite 216
Burlington, VT 05401

Or by PayPal or credit card online at:

<https://youngwritersproject.org/donate>

THANK YOU!

For more information, please contact Susan Reid, YWP executive director, sreid@youngwritersproject.org; (802) 324-9538