



Empower Writing Workshops

Writing Workshop 1: Survival Challenge

Course Description: This one-week creative writing workshop explores the theme of human survival. In conjunction with a series of outdoor adventure activities, students will examine their perceptions of survival and the survivor mind-set. Discussions, dialogue and writing exercises will delve into questions such as: what are the characteristics of survivors; what is the link between emotional, mental, spiritual and physical attributes in determining the will and capacity to survive; how do survival experiences shape character; what can we learn from survival experiences? Students will produce one piece of creative writing in the genre of their choice illustrating their personal concept of survival. This can be a short story, poem, rap song, script, memoir piece or essay. Format doesn't matter so much as the honesty and effectiveness of the piece in expressing students' perceptions of the survival concept, however they wish to construe it.

Writing Workshop 2: Stretching Boundaries and Expanding Vision: Writing "Home"

Course Description: This four-hour workshop explores the concept of home, which strongly influences and shapes us both as individuals and writers. Everyone has his or her own vision of "home." No matter what definition we subscribe to, the degree to which we understand the significance of home for us can enrich our vision, help us explore the influences of "home" in our lives and enhance the possibilities in writing about home. Students engage in discussions and writing exercises which explore the idea of home: how do we conceptualize home? What themes emerge and how do they influence both self-image and world-view? Students will produce one piece of creative writing in the genre of their choice to illustrate their personal vision of home. This can be a short story, poem, rap song, script, memoir piece or essay. Format doesn't matter so much as the honesty and effectiveness of the piece in expressing students' perceptions.