One of your students is applying to the Iowa Young Writers’ Studio’s Summer Residential Program. In the summer of 2023, we will offer both in-person and online versions of the Summer Residential Program. The in-person and online programs will run concurrently from June 11-24, 2023 (Session 1) and again from July 9-22, 2023 (Session 2). During each of two sessions we'll offer an immersive writing experience that will include core courses in fiction, poetry, personal essay, TV writing, and playwriting; readings by exciting published writers; workshops and discussions on writing-related subjects taught by expert staff; as well as open mics, talent shows, social gatherings, icebreakers, and other events specifically designed to allow students to connect with other young writers like themselves.

We are looking for talented, creative students with a real desire to write. Our application process is designed to help us get to know our applicants as well as we can.

We are not simply concerned with a student's academic abilities; we are trying to form a community, so we are interested in how you think he or she will interact with the other writers in the program. Include any specific stories or other evidence that will help introduce us to this student.

In your letter, please comment on your student's writing ability, dedication to his or her studies, and his or her maturity level in the classroom. Does this student truly enjoy writing? Will he or she participate fully in the Iowa Young Writers' Studio? Is this an opportunity that he or she will make the most of at this time, or is it an opportunity better offered in the future? If the choice were up to you, would you ask this student to join the Studio?

Please upload your letter using Submittable, our application management software, using the link below. Because of the large volume of submissions, we can no longer accept letters of recommendation via e-mail.


Thank you for your time and attention. If you have any questions about the letter of recommendation or would like more information about the Iowa Young Writers' Studio please contact:

Stephen Lovely, Director, iyws@uiowa.edu