



Internet and Submission Permission Form

The Young Writers Project, is an independent Vermont non-profit that aims to help students write better. Its primary method of receiving submissions – and encouraging additional student writing – is through its Web site at www.youngwritersproject.org. The site provides material for registered and non-registered users: student writing and art, tips from teachers and professional authors, resources for improving writing, forums and more.

The Web site is where students, teachers or parents submit student work for consideration for publication in the daily newspapers partnering with the YWP and on the YWP Web site. In the submission process, information about the student author is required: Full name, school, grade level and contact e-mail address. Phone numbers are also requested. These submissions can be made by registered or non-registered users; all submissions are withheld from public view and are reviewed by student judges and other YWP volunteers. If a submission is selected for publication – in the newspaper or on the YWP Web site – a student’s name, school and grade are made public. That is an important part of why the YWP has been a success – students receive real feedback from their peers, neighbors and relatives. **E-mail addresses and phone numbers are NOT shared or made public.** However, YWP may use that information to make contact with the student, teacher or parent to announce the student’s selection, request revisions or discuss the work with the student. YWP occasionally sends e-mails about changes or new features at YWP. **In addition, YWP will use the e-mail addresses to provide the student occasional, specific feedback on his or her submission or Web writing.** If a student does **NOT** want to receive those e-mails, he or she can e-mail ggevalt@youngwritersproject.org.

The Web site allows registered users – Vermont and N.H. students and teachers – to write “live,” to comment on students’ writing and art, to participate in forums, to vote on polls, to contribute to group-written stories, to upload files and more. In order to register, students must be 13 years old or, if younger, have parental permission. Students are requested to supply name, school, grade, phone and e-mail address; they are also free to adopt a username. **NONE of the personal information is visible to the public or is ever made public or shared.** Again, the YWP will contact the registered user from time to time to announce important changes on the site. **In addition, YWP will be using the e-mail addresses to provide the student occasional, specific feedback on his or her submission or Web writing.** If a student wants to opt out of receiving those e-mails, he or she can do that by e-mailing: ggevalt@youngwritersproject.org.

The YWP makes every effort to verify that users are students or teachers in Vermont or N.H. The YWP monitors the site several times each day. In addition, YWP looks at the content to ensure that the language and content is appropriate and is **not** offensive or disrespectful. Given that most of the students participating are teenagers, there will be some “edgy” content regarding how they view their lives, but YWP makes an effort to ensure that all writing is respectful. If a user is not following basic guidelines of respect, he or she is blocked.

While YWP makes a diligent effort to maintain a safe Web community for young writers, it cannot take responsibility for any activities that might take place on the site. It is the parent’s responsibility to make sure their children use the site in a responsible manner, do not respond to unusual requests or approaches and exercise common sense to ensure their own safety. Because YWP intends to create a positive, constructive environment on its Web site, it expects all users – or parents or teachers – to notify YWP in a timely manner if any unusual event takes place that raises concerns with a student, teacher or parent.

I, the undersigned, have read the YWP’s statement. I give permission for my student’s work to be submitted to the YWP for potential publication in Vermont newspapers and/or the YWP Web site. I understand that the only personal information would be, in the event my child’s work is selected for publication, my child’s name, grade and school. I also understand YWP’s statements with regard to the YWP Web site; I understand that it is my responsibility as a parent to monitor my child’s activities to ensure he/she is behaving in a respectful manner and is also using common sense to ensure his or her safety. I also understand that it is my and/or my child’s responsibility to notify YWP of any unusual event or activity on the site. Please send completed form to Geoffrey Gevalt, YWP Editor, Young Writers Project, 69 Swift St., Suite 300, South Burlington, VT 05403.

My child, _____, has my permission to submit work to the YWP and DOES/DOES NOT have my permission to register on the Web site. He/she is _____ years old, attends _____ School and uses the following email address: _____

Signed, _____ Date: _____

Parent’s name: _____ Parent’s email: _____