

CREATIVE WRITING is an integral part of the **Educational and Therapeutic** Regime for **Alabama's adjudicated youth** at the **Department of Youth Services**

Begun in 1997, **Writing Our Stories** takes place through a cooperative arrangement between the **Alabama Writers' Forum**, a partnership program of the **Alabama State Council on the Arts**, and the **Alabama Department of Youth Services (DYS)**.

Funding for Writing Our Stories, which includes **nine months of instruction**, as well as **in-service training and published anthologies of student work**, is provided by the Department of Youth Services, with additional assistance from the Alabama State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Alabama Writers' Forum and the Department of Youth Services have also collaborated on the Writing Our Stories **Curriculum Guide**. In 2002, the guide was published with help from a generous grant from the **Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention**. A resource for both new and experienced teachers of **creative writing, language arts, and English**, the guide is being updated for use with all Alabama 7-12th grade students. For information about **teacher training** with the Writing Our Stories **Curriculum Guide**, contact: writersforum@bellsouth.net.





"I love to write so others can know how I feel inside of my heart. Mt. Meigs is not the best place for anyone to be, but it helped me find myself."

- *I.L.*, student, Mt. Meigs Campus

Writing Our Stories

a creative writing program for Alabama's adjudicated youth

facilitated by
The Alabama Writers' Forum
on the campuses of
The Alabama Department of Youth Services

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