

Student Voice Lab

A Professional Learning Series from City Theatre

Student Voice Lab is a free, yearlong learning community for educators who believe that students deserve authentic opportunities to be heard. Through interactive workshops, discussion, and reflection, participants will explore the conditions that help young people take creative risks, tell meaningful stories, and connect with real audiences.

Join us for one session or the entire series. Each experience can stand alone, but together they create a yearlong exploration of student voice, authentic audience, creativity, and reflection. Participants who attend at least four of the five Student Voice Lab events will receive recognition as a Student Voice Lab Fellow, and a free 2-hour playwriting workshop for their students in the 27-28 school year.

2026-2027 WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Opening the Door

Virtual • September 29, 5:30-6:30pm

What stories are your students carrying, and what conditions help them share them? Together, we'll explore the possibilities and challenges of fostering student voice in the year ahead.

Young Playwrights Festival

In-person • October 17-18

Come see what happens when students experience the freedom to write their own stories. Our 27th annual festival will highlight six world premieres written by 7-12 grade students.

Why Teenagers Need Audiences

In-person • November 13, 9:30am-12:30pm

When student work reaches a real audience, engagement and ownership can transform. Explore strategies for helping young people create with purpose and share their ideas beyond the classroom.

The Stories Students Won't Tell Us

Virtual • January 14, 5:30-7pm

Students often have meaningful stories to tell but need the right conditions to share them. This session examines how trust, belonging, and classroom culture can create space for authentic expression.

Feedback That Fuels Creativity

In-person • March 6, 9:30am-12:30pm

How can we support revision without taking ownership away from young writers? Learn feedback practices that build confidence, encourage risk-taking, and help students strengthen their work.

Community Celebration

In-person • June 5, 2-4pm

We'll close the year through celebration by sharing stories from our classrooms and reflecting on the ways students found and shared their voices.



For information and to sign up, please email
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