



What to Expect from Weekly Mentoring For WriteGirl Mentees

Thanks for your interest in weekly mentoring! We know you have some questions, so we'll do our best to answer them!

What is weekly mentoring?

Every year we are able to match a limited number of WriteGirl teens with professional women and gender-expansive writers to mentor teens in their creative writing. This is an incredible opportunity for WriteGirl teens to receive guidance from accomplished writers and learn about their career paths. Our mentors are all inspiring, creative and here to help you unleash your creativity! Our mentors go through a comprehensive training to make sure they are not only inspiring you in writing, but also adhere to our guidelines and standards because your safety and well-being is our top priority. Our goal is to help inspire your creative voice and support you on a positive path forward. All WriteGirl mentoring is offered online, and teens who live in the Los Angeles area have the option to meet with their mentor in-person, if the mentor is available to do so..

How do I schedule a mentoring session with my mentor?

Your mentor will contact you directly to schedule your mentoring session. If the mentor hasn't reached out to you, please reach out to your mentor. Please remember that our mentors are all volunteering their time to help our mentees, so it is REALLY important that you respect your mentor's time and respond to any communication as quickly as possible! Also, if your contact information changes, please be sure to update your mentor, as well as the WriteGirl staff.

How often do I meet with my mentor?

Our goal is for you to meet with your mentor for about an hour on a weekly basis, but we know you're busy (and your mentor is probably busy too) so don't worry too much if you can't meet every week. But if you are unable to make it to a mentoring session, please give your mentor as much advance notice as possible.

What will we be doing during our mentoring session?

Mentors and mentees will use Zoom, FaceTime or Skype to connect for about an hour every week to do some creative writing, discuss writing techniques and share each other's writing.

The purpose is just to help you get writing in your journal! If you and your mentor both live in the Los Angeles area, you are welcome to meet in person for your mentoring sessions if that works for you and your mentor.

Will my mentor criticize my work?

Your mentor has gone through a special training to learn how to help guide and inspire you in your writing. Your mentor may help you edit your work, but they are not supposed to be critical or make you feel bad. If you ever feel like your mentor is being overly critical of you or your writing, please contact Katie Geyer at membership@writegirl.org or 213-253-2655.

Can my mentor help me with my homework?

We try to reserve the mentoring sessions to help you with your creative writing since it's the one hour a week dedicated just to your creativity! If your homework assignment is related to creative writing, feel free to ask your mentor for help.

How long will I be matched with this mentor?

You will be matched with this mentor through June. Please communicate with your mentor in June to discuss whether the two of you are available to continue working together in the next season. Many pairs continue working together for years, but some only work together for a season (Dec. - June). Please note that while the mentors do their best to commit, occasionally our mentors have to end their mentoring before the end of the year due to work and family commitments.

Who are the WriteGirl mentors?

WriteGirl mentors are women and gender-expansive writers who have strong writing skills and have gone through WriteGirl's volunteer training. We have screenwriters, journalists, novelists, songwriters and more. They have all completed a background check.

What happens if I can't get ahold of my mentor?

If you can't reach your mentor, or if you have any questions or concerns regarding your mentor, please contact us at 213-253-2655 or membership@writegirl.org.

What do I do if I am no longer available for weekly mentoring?

If you're no longer able to continue on with your mentor, it's really important to let your mentor know that. If you would prefer, you can notify WriteGirl staff member Katie Geyer and she can let your mentor know. You can reach Katie at membership@writegirl.org or 213-253-2655.