

Quick Facts FY16

WHO WE SERVED

- ◆ 2,774 unduplicated youth in grades K-12 & 127 teaching professionals
- ◆ Youth come from 91 schools and 33 communities across Greater Cleveland
- ◆ 30% of youth come from low-income communities and households and qualify for free or reduced lunch

HOW IT'S ALL POSSIBLE

- ◆ 2 full-time and 9 part-time staff with additional support from contract teachers
- ◆ Private donations, foundation and government grants, corporate sponsors, and in-kind contributions
- ◆ 71 volunteers and interns contributed 1,522 hours of service
- ◆ \$299,000 FY17 budget

CONTACT US

Amy Rosenbluth
Executive Director
arosenbluth@lakeerieink.org

Ashlie Dyer
Program Director
adyer@lakeerieink.org

2843 Washington Blvd.
Cleveland Heights, OH 44118

(216) 320-4757



MISSION + VISION

Lake Erie Ink: a writing space for youth (LEI) provides creative expression opportunities and academic support to youth in the Greater Cleveland community. During after-school, evening, weekend, and summer creative writing programs, Lake Erie Ink gives youth a voice and an audience, a safe space to experience the power of creative expression, and the skills required to communicate effectively. Our programs support creative expression through the written word by exploring diverse genres, including poetry, nonfiction, playwriting, personal memoir, fiction, graphic stories and comics, journaling, and multi-media projects.

PROGRAMS

The Ink Spot, LEI's afterschool program, provides homework support and guided creative writing activities to inspire and encourage creative thinking and literacy enrichment in youth in 3rd through 6th grades throughout the school year.

Weekend Ink workshops are monthly Saturday workshops open to all ages that feature fun writing activities across a variety of genres with guest writers and artists.

At **Teen Ink**, youth in grades 6-12 come together to write and share their work during weekly drop-in writing sessions, Open Mic nights, and college essay workshops.

Summer Ink programs provide week-long summer workshops that intensely explore creative writing through a chosen theme or genre.

Off-site workshops and residencies: Lake Erie Ink works with teachers and staff at schools and other youth-serving organizations on fun and motivating writing projects that fulfill and exceed the educational state standards and meet the needs of students creatively, academically and developmentally. Lake Erie Ink's support of students and teachers contributes to improved academic success rates and college and/or career readiness.

Lake Erie Ink believes that teachers who write are better able to teach their students. Consequently, we offer **professional development workshops** in writing across the curriculum for teaching professionals to improve their ability to offer more comprehensive and motivating writing opportunities for their students.

Our programs derive from academic evidence about "what works" and are based on a clear theory of change. **At Lake Erie Ink, youth will...**

IMPACT

...improve in areas of academic weakness, especially critical literacy skills such as reading and writing fluency ♦ improve their self-expression, self-reflection, public speaking and listening skills ♦ increase the amount of time spent in self-directed and relevant writing ♦ acquire new narrative structures and apply them to various projects ♦ be able to successfully work together for a shared purpose and develop life skills for working with others to make decisions and solve problems ♦ have increased self-esteem and confidence ♦ develop positive attitudes towards learning and positive goals for their future ♦ contribute to and value their connection to the community ♦ value each other as artists and value the diversity of their community

Life is what you make it, so live your life. One key to life is to do what's right. - Lamontay, age 14