

Young Writers Project manages *youngwritersproject.org*, a supportive, creative online community that operates with one rule: **be respectful**. Youths should know that when they submit work for comment or potential publication they will not be judged and feedback they may receive will be supportive and helpful. YWP has found that active participation in the site has helped thousands of youths gain skills and confidence.

This permission form is designed for youths under the age of 13 to receive parental consent to:

- Join *youngwritersproject.org* to share work, create new work and exchange feedback, and/or
- Have their work published with their real names in print, broadcast and online media.

Youths are encouraged to sign up on *youngwritersproject.org* with a “pen name” or username that does not reveal their true identity. When signing up, each youth must provide YWP their name, address, phone number, **active personal email address**, parent name and school. YWP verifies this information before approving an application to ensure safety, that the applicant is, in fact, a real youth. All personal information must be **accurate** for the youth’s account to be approved. YWP does **not share** a youth’s street address, email address or phone number. If a youth’s piece is selected for publication, YWP reserves the right to publish the piece with the user’s real name, age/grade, school and/or town in partner newspapers, radio, TV, selected websites (*vt-digger.org*, *vpr.net*, *cowbird.com*, *medium.com*) and YWP’s annual Anthology. Its digital magazine, *thevoice.youngwritersproject.org*, only publishes usernames except when a youth is chosen Writer of the Month, at which point YWP will contact the writer to gain permission to use his/her real name.

YWP regularly monitors *youngwritersproject.org* and mentors participating youths. Every effort is made to ensure that all users’ experiences are positive. It is the **parents’** responsibility to make sure their children use the site in a responsible manner, do not respond to unusual requests and exercise common sense to ensure their own safety, including not publicly revealing personal information such as addresses and phone numbers.

Teachers may submit work on behalf of their students. YWP discourages teachers from having all of their students sign up on the site at once. Instead, we encourage teachers to obtain permissions in advance and encourage youths to sign up on the site when they have writing/digital media worthy of sharing or for potential publication.

I, the undersigned, have read YWP’s statement. I give permission for my child to participate on *youngwritersproject.org* AND to allow my child’s work to be submitted to YWP for potential publication in YWP’s publications or with YWP’s media partners. I understand that the only personal information that would be made public is my child’s name, grade, age, school and/or hometown. I also understand that it is my responsibility as a parent to ensure that my child is behaving in a respectful manner and is using common sense to ensure his or her safety. I also understand that it is my and my child’s responsibility to notify YWP of any unusual event or activity on the site.

My child, _____, born ____/____/____ has my permission to participate on *youngwritersproject.org* and to submit work for publication by YWP with its media partners.

He/she attends _____ and is in grade _____

Her/his personal email address: _____

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent’s Information

Name: _____ Email: _____

Street address: _____

Town: _____ State _____ Zip _____ Parent’s phone: _____

Send completed form to: **Susan Reid, Young Writers Project, 47 Maple St., Suite 106, Burlington, VT 05401**

Thank you! (Questions? sreid@youngwritersproject.org)