

## Season 15 Poetry Drive Press Release



PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### WRITEGIRL ANNOUNCES 5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL POETRY DRIVE

#### ***Creative Writing Nonprofit Honors Donations with Brilliant Custom Poems Created by Young Female Writers***

LOS ANGELES, CA, January 25, 2016 — As part of WriteGirl's momentous 15th Season, the 5th Annual Poetry Drive will kick off this February to fuel funding for WriteGirl's upcoming 16th season. The yearly drive delivers something extraordinary to its recipients—a unique poem written specially by a WriteGirl teen!

WriteGirl, a Los Angeles-based creative writing organization for teens, spotlights the power of a girl and her pen. The Poetry Drive gives supporters the opportunity to purchase poems at various donation levels—as little as \$10 and as high as \$5k— to directly support WriteGirl's efforts in helping teen girls cultivate their creativity, confidence and critical thinking skills. The Poetry Drive will help support the recruitment of WriteGirl mentees, mentors and resources for WriteGirl workshops in its 16th season. During the drive, WriteGirl teens will meet for two full-day Poetrypaloozas at the WriteGirl headquarters in downtown Los Angeles, where girls will write fresh poems for the drive. Donations can be made at [www.writegirl.org/poetry-drive](http://www.writegirl.org/poetry-drive).

Like past Poetry Drives, 100% of raised funds support WriteGirl's mentees, recruitment of mentors, and resources. This drive contributed to four awe-inspiring seasons, including several Posse Scholarships for the girls, a trip to the White House to receive a National Arts and Humanities award from Michelle Obama, WriteGirl founder Keren Taylor being named a "CNN Hero" and support from artistic icons, including Lykke Li, Lisa Loeb, Troian Bellasario, Wilson Bethel and many others.

The Poetry Drive encourages supporters to buy a poem for their spouse, friends, family, coworkers or anyone who could use an inspirational boost, just in time for Valentine's Day and Women's History Month in March. These poems make the perfect gift for sweethearts, and also encourage recipients to create a chain of support for WriteGirl and its mentees.

“WriteGirl is where I learned to express myself and let my voice rise. I learned to let my feelings flow and not hide anything,” said Eva, WriteGirl mentee.

## ABOUT WRITEGIRL

Since 2001, WriteGirl has been giving girls the power of the pen to help them write their way to brilliant futures. We have guided 100% of our teen girls to not only graduate from high school, but also enroll in college. Through workshops, readings, publications and mentoring relationships with professional women writers, the WriteGirl program offers girls techniques and insights into poetry, songwriting, fiction, journalism and more. WriteGirl encourages girls to develop communication skills, confidence and to develop a positive outlook of themselves and their futures. With fifteen years of helping girls write their way to brilliant futures, WriteGirl continues to grow and transform lives. For more information, visit [www.writegirl.org](http://www.writegirl.org) or 213-253-2655.

In 2013, WriteGirl was [honored by First Lady Michelle Obama](#) with the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award, an initiative of the President’s Committee on the Arts & the Humanities and the highest national honor awarded to exemplary after-school and out-of-school time programs from across the country. The President’s Committee partners with the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to administer the program.



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