



New York State Summer Writers Institute Program Information 2026

Arrival and Check-in

Welcome to the New York State Summer Writers Institute at Skidmore College. Residential students may check-in Sunday, June 21 (Session 1) or July 5 (Session 2) from 3 – 6 PM at the Whitman Apartments in Northwoods Village on the Skidmore College campus (see directions below). Please make every effort to arrive at that time when our staff will be there to greet you. At check-in you will receive a Skidmore I.D. card, room assignment and be notified of any last-minute schedule changes. If you are delayed, or you absolutely must arrive past 6 PM, you should go to the Apartments if it is between 6 and 6:30 PM, or straight to the Dining Hall any time after 6:45 PM (so you don't miss dinner). The first meal served will be dinner Sunday evening from 5-7:30 PM. All students should plan to attend an opening night Orientation and reception at 7:30 PM in the dining hall upstairs. Commuting students, who are attending the Institute but living off campus, are also required to check-in with our staff at the Orientation on Sunday evening.

Travel and Preparation

In making your travel arrangements there are a few things you may wish to consider. If you are traveling by air, the closest airport is [Albany International in Albany, New York](#), approximately a 40-minute ride from campus. There is a bus and train station in [Saratoga Springs](#), about a 10-minute drive from campus, that provides service to [Amtrak Trains](#) and [Greyhound Bus](#) lines.

Drivers should follow directions to [815 North Broadway, Saratoga Springs, New York 12866](#). From the Clinton Street entrance to campus, drivers should turn left at the first stop sign and very soon after turn left again at the sign for Northwoods Village. Once in the Village, drivers should turn left at the first stop sign (Cane Crossing). The 10 and 12 Whitman Apartment Buildings are located on Dayton Drive, the first street on your right.

If you are entering campus from the North Broadway entrance, drivers should turn left at the first stop sign and continue along the perimeter road, stopping and then continuing straight through 2 additional stop signs until they see the sign for Northwoods Village on the left. Continue as directed above. A map of campus with this route highlighted is available on the [Accepted Students](#) website.

Please refer to our [Packing List](#) on the [Accepted Students](#) website for suggested items to bring to campus.

Our [Summer Student and Guest Information](#) site has helpful details about campus life and resources.

The Institute

The deadline for **submitting workshop manuscript(s)** to be read and discussed in your workshop is **May 25**. The deadline to send a **manuscript for a private tutorial** is **June 1**. Enrolled students will receive specific instructions regarding submissions by email in April, or immediately after they receive enrollment confirmation if that is later.

Classes begin Monday, June 22 or Monday, July 6. Students are expected to read and notate their fellow students' manuscripts prior to the day they will be discussed in class. Ample advance reading time will be given and reading schedules will be provided. All workshops meet on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 1 to 4 PM (ET). A reminder your enrollment in the program affirms your agreement to abide by the [Skidmore Honor Code](#) and all Academic and Residential Policies for [Students](#).

Faculty and students will utilize Skidmore's online Dropbox for accessing your fellow classmates' manuscripts for review and discussion. You will receive an email invitation to view your online workshop folder in June. Faculty may also assign additional writing exercises or recommend brief readings not written by students for classroom discussion. Students enrolled in a two-week workshop with two different instructors will have their manuscript reviewed by one instructor only (**not both**). Students are encouraged to review electronic copies of manuscript but, if necessary, free printing is available on campus in the [Lucy Scribner Library](#) and Lanzitt Writing Center (Rm. 302) on the 3rd floor of Palamountain Hall.

Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at 2 PM, panel discussions and craft sessions will be conducted in-person by visiting writers-in-residence. Public readings, panels and other events by faculty and visiting writers-in-residence are held Monday-Friday evenings at 8 PM. The schedule can be found on the [Accepted Students](#) website. Students will have the opportunity to read from their own work weekends during the program. More information on this and other optional social activities will be forthcoming.

Students residing on campus will be living in the [Northwoods Village](#) apartments. Individual apartments have 3 or 4 bedrooms and each student will have a private bedroom, but share a bathroom and common spaces. Although the apartments are furnished, and there is a kitchen in the apartment, the residencies do not come stocked with anything but 1 blanket and 1 pillow. Students are responsible for supplying their own bed linens and towels and you may wish to pack optional kitchen items (such as a coffee maker or a kettle) or other creature comforts if space allows. The apartments are air-conditioned and have wi-fi; other amenities are listed on the Northwoods Village website. See the suggested Packing List for more information.

While you are on campus, we invite you to enjoy all our campus and community have to offer. Our [dining hall](#) has an award-winning culinary staff that offers a broad array of freshly made items, including ample vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free and other special dietary options. Participants will also have access to the College's [library](#) and [recreational facilities](#), including swimming pool, weight and fitness rooms, track, [North Woods](#) hiking trails, and the [Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery](#). The campus has many outdoor paths, benches, and plenty of green space for inspiration and reflection. The College's bookstore, [The Skidmore Shop](#), is open weekdays and will have a selection of books for sale by the program's faculty and visiting writers.

Saratoga Springs is renowned for its [mineral springs](#), [Saratoga Race Course](#), and other points of [historical interest](#). The city is home to the [Saratoga Performing Arts Center](#), [Caffé Lena](#), [Northshire Bookstore](#), [Lyrical Ballad Bookstore](#), and many shops, cafes and restaurants. The College is located just one mile north of the historic downtown. Discover more of what Saratoga Springs has to offer by visiting the [Saratoga Chamber of Commerce](#).

Departure

Check-out time is by 11 AM on the Saturday after your session ends, either July 4 or July 18. The last meal served will be breakfast that morning.