As a way of maintaining and extending our deep-rooted commitment to emerging writers, The Adroit Journal’s Summer Mentorship Program aims to pair experienced Adroit editors and staff with high school students (as of the 2014-2015 academic year) interested in learning more about the creative writing processes of drafting, redrafting and editing. The program is free to all, and will cater to the literary genres of poetry and prose (short story, creative nonfiction, etc.). The aim of the mentorship program is not formalized instruction, but rather an individualized, flexible, and often informal correspondence. It is our hope that mentees will feel comfortable sharing work at their own leisure with their Adroit mentors and, ultimately, with each other.

We are very proud of our alumni from this program -- previous students have gone on to become recognized through the National YoungArts Foundation, the National Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, and the Foyle Young Poet of the Year Awards, among a plethora of others. This upcoming year’s program will be open for applications via our submission manager beginning mid-March until early May. The program will last from June 14, 2015 until August 1, 2015, and will be capped at forty-five students.

Applicants should possess firm work ethic and some familiarity with the writing and workshop process, and should be comfortable with receiving (and, to some extent, giving) commentary and critique. Applicants should also possess the will to explore and improve! Furthermore, this program can be completed by itself, or paired with another summer workshop or program, so long as the participant’s ability to be an active and participatory mentee is not jeopardized. The program is intentionally flexible, so as to cater to each individual’s goal for the workshop.

Please note that this opportunity will not offer academic credit (this is a friendship, not a class!), that participation in this workshop is not a route to publication in our journal, and that mentors and/or the program director have the right to terminate a mentee’s involvement with the program at any time, should issues arise. At the end of the day, we are looking for the best potential: the writers with the drive to explore and discuss, the courage to delete and leap, and the determination to apply what they discover to future writings.
How do I apply?

Applications for this year’s mentorship program consist of two mandatory parts—a Writer’s Statement and a Writing Sample, with the additional voluntary component of an academic transcript in .PDF form. The Writer’s Statement should detail the applicant’s specific interest in pursuing The Adroit Journal’s summer mentorship program—what is it about our program and mission that peaks your interest? Why this workshop? How would you spend your time with us? We want to know.

While we of course suggest mentioning your experience and accomplishment with the writing and workshop processes, we will evaluate applications looking primarily for demonstrated passion and interest. We’d also like to suggest that you review the mission, ambition, and content of the journal for inspiration, if you find yourself stuck.

The Writing Sample should consist of between four and five poems or between eight and ten pages of prose (excerpts acceptable). Please note at this time we are not considering applicants for the prose genres of novel/novella.

As noted above, applications should be sent via our submission manager. Please note that applications for this year’s program will be accepted until May 5, 2015. All decisions will be released by no later than May 23, 2015.

The selection process

Each mentor will carefully evaluate all applications, and will gather to ultimately select his or her mentees (a maximum of four per mentor). Please note that there will be no hierarchical method or process in this selection, and that mentors will be looking for not necessarily the ‘best’ work, but the work that they are most excited about pushing and pulling in new directions. At this time, while applicants may not conditionally apply to be included under a certain mentor’s instruction, applicants may discuss or indicate their preferences as part of their Writer’s Statement. Please direct any additional questions to the Editors at editors@theadroitjournal.org.
ARIA ABER lives and writes in London where she studies towards an English Degree from Goldsmiths College. Her work has previously appeared or is forthcoming in Wasafiri, decomP, Poetry Book Society, PANK Blog, Lighthouse Journal, and others. She was awarded the 2014 Wasafiri New Writing Prize in Poetry and is a recipient of a Dickinson House fellowship. At the moment, she serves as the poetry editor for [smiths] and as a poetry reader for The Adroit Journal.

FAVORITE WRITERS:
Rumi, Dorothea Lasky, Tarfia Faizullah

SAMANTHA BARES is concerned with the creation of the universe. It’s a little too serious for its own good. Her poem “smallness” won the 2014 Dara Wier Award. She’s a 2015 graduate of creative writing and literature at Louisiana State University, A&M, where she served as editor-in-chief of Delta Literary Journal. She’s a mentor and workshop facilitator for New South Story Lab. Her work appears when you’re looking over there, somewhere.

FAVORITE WRITERS:
Maxine Kumin, Patricia Lockwood, Zachary Schomberg
NICOLA CAYLESS

NICOLA CAYLESS is an English major at the University of Sydney, Australia, where she is the President of the campus Literary Society. She is currently a Poetry Reader for The Adroit Journal. She has edited for the campus literary journal ARNA, and worked with Winter Tangerine Review and Thistle Magazine. She has been published in various magazines, including Words Dance, Ricochet Mag, and Mia Magazine. More of her work can be found at moderateclimates.com.

FAVORITE WRITERS:
Margaret Atwood, Anne Carson, Richard Siken

ALEXANDER CENDROWSKI

ALEXANDER CENDROWSKI is a recent graduate of the University of North Florida, Bachelors in English, and is currently making MFA destination decisions. He is Prose Reader for The Adroit Journal, Fiction Reader for Fiction Fix, Editor for The Talon Review, and, most impressively, has received the sacred Rubber Chicken Award for excellence in workshop, twice. You can find his fiction in Crack the Spine, Perversion Magazine, and The Legendary.

FAVORITE WRITERS:
Kurt Vonnegut, Amber Sparks, George Saunders
ALEXA DERMAN (Managing Editor) is a student at Yale University, majoring in English and Women’s Studies. Her most recent play *Hamlet & Ophelia* is a current semifinalist for the Eugene O’Neill National Playwrights Conference and will premiere with Semicolon Theatre Company in June. She has been recognized as a Notable Selection for *Best American Nonrequired Reading 2014*, a four-time Scholastic Art & Writing Awards Gold Medalist, a YoungArts Finalist for Creative Nonfiction, and a winner of national playwriting competitions held by Young Playwrights Inc., International Thespian Society, and The Blank Theatre. Publications include *Dramatics, Word Riot, SOFTBLOW, 2 Bridges Review*, etc.

**FAVORITE WRITERS:**
Sarah Ruhl, Lorrie Moore, Jennifer Egan

ALINE DOLINH is sixteen years old and serves as the poetry editor for her high school’s literary magazine, *OPUS*. On a national level, she has won Gold and American Voices Medals in Poetry from the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. She also served as the 2013-14 National Student Poet for the Southeast, during which time she taught free poetry workshops to audiences ranging from non-native English speakers to elementary schoolers to her own classmates!

**FAVORITE WRITERS:**
Pablo Neruda, Margaret Atwood, Junot Diaz
MICHELLE DONAHUE is a current MFA candidate in Creative Writing & Environment at Iowa State where she was the 2012 Hogrefe Fellow and the managing editor of Flyway. Her poetry has appeared or is forthcoming in Word Riot, Bayou Magazine, Poecology, and others. Her fiction won Treehouse’s contest for unusual prose and has appeared or is forthcoming in Beloit Fiction Journal, Cutbank, Paper Darts, and others. She holds a B.S. in Environmental Biology from Beloit College.

FAVORITE WRITERS:
Margaret Atwood, Natalie Diaz, Elizabeth Bishop

CODY ERNST’S work is appearing in Witness, Redivider, Forklift Ohio, Hayden’s Ferry Review, and elsewhere. He teaches creative writing at The Writing Seminars at Johns Hopkins University where he is pursuing an MFA in poetry. Since 2014, Cody has served as one of The Adroit Journal’s poetry editors.

FAVORITE WRITERS:
D.A. Powell, A.R. Ammons, John Berryman
JACKSON HOLBERT


FAVORITE WRITERS:

~nobody knows~

KAITLIN JENNRICH

KAITLIN JENNRICH is a Wisconsin native living in Illinois, where she attends Northwestern University and majors in Communication Studies. Her work can be found in The Best Teen Writing of 2009, The Best Teen Writing of 2011, and The Claremont Review, among others. She has won multiple national awards from The Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, attended the Iowa Young Writers’ Workshop, mentored a magical group of high school writers through The Adroit Journal’s 2014 Summer Mentorship Program, and currently serves as Prose Editor for The Adroit Journal.

FAVORITE WRITERS:

Tana French, Joanne Harris, Alice Hoffman
PETER LABERGE


FAVORITE WRITERS:
Terrance Hayes, Gertrude Stein, Li-Young Lee

LUCIA LOTEMPIO

is a poet studying literature at SUNY Geneseo, and hailing from Buffalo. She is starting her MFA this fall. Her poetry has been/will be featured in Bayou Magazine, The Boiler, Weave Magazine, Thrush Poetry Journal, and more. She was the 2014 winner of the Mary A. Thomas Poetry Award and a finalist for the Black Warrior Review 10th Annual Contest. Currently, she is counting for VIDA, reading for Slice, and working publicity for H_NGM_N. She’s also done graphic design work. Her website is lucialotempio.com.

FAVORITE WRITERS:
Rebecca Lindenberg, Terrance Hayes, Richard Siken
AMANDA SILBERLING is an English student at the University of Pennsylvania, where she is the Music Editor of The Daily Pennsylvanian’s 34th Street Magazine. Her poetry, essays, and reviews have appeared in PANK, The Rumpus, Crab Orchard Review, and The Los Angeles Times, among others. She is the Blog Editor at The Adroit Journal and regularly writes and photographs for Rock On Philly.

FAVORITE WRITERS:
Ann Powers, Emily Nussbaum, Eduardo C. Corral

ZOE STOLLER is a rising sophomore at the University of Pennsylvania, studying English with a concentration in Creative Writing. At Penn she is a member of Teatron Theatre Co. and Quadramics Theatre Co., as well as a Design Editor for The Penn Review. Her writing has been recognized by organizations such as the American Scholastic Press Association, the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, and Teen Art Gallery, and one of her original plays was produced in a theater festival Off-Broadway.

FAVORITE WRITERS:
Daphne du Maurier, David Ives, Bertold Brecht
TALIN TAHAJIAN grew up near Boston. Her poetry has recently appeared in Salt Hill Journal, Indiana Review, Kenyon Review Online, Best New Poets 2014, DIAGRAM, Columbia Poetry Review, and Washington Square Review. Her chapbook, MOVIE STAR WITH RAINBOW SNOW CONE, was a finalist in the Fall 2014 Black River Chapbook Competition. She serves as a poetry editor for The Adroit Journal, and co-edited Poets on Growth (Math Paper Press, 2015). She is currently an undergraduate student at the University of Cambridge, where she studies English literature and attempts to assimilate.

FAVORITE WRITERS:
Bianca Stone, Shane Jones, Ocean Vuong

ORIANA TANG is a high school senior from New Jersey. A 2015 YoungArts Finalist in Writing for short story and poetry, her writing has also been recognized by the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, the Poetry Society of the United Kingdom, Bennington College, Columbia College Chicago, and others. Her work appears in The Best Teen Writing of 2014, The Sierra Nevada Review, Winter Tangerine Review, and The Adroit Journal, where she now reads poetry as part of the staff.

FAVORITE WRITERS:
Yiyun Li, George Saunders, T. C. Boyle, Leslie Jamison