

Songwriting for Kids

Learning from Traditional Songs:

Songwriting for Kids uses traditional folk songs such as “Oh Susannah,” “Red River Valley,” and “Shenandoah” to teach the basics of songwriting. Learning and singing these old songs not only helps students absorb fundamental concepts in songwriting, but also gives students an opportunity to make a connection with history and show how music written 100 and 200 years ago can still hold meaning and depth for people living today.

What parents have to say:

★ *“This was his best week of the summer! The performance at the end of the week was a great finale, and we made it a special day for him with his grandparents and special friends.”*

★ *“It was good for [my daughter] to sing in front of a crowd and be able to introduce herself. I’ve noticed her writing down songs in her book in the last few weeks!”*

★ *“She had a great time—she enjoyed the music, singing, games, and time with other children!”*

★ *“In the words of my daughter...it was wonderful! She gained confidence in her singing voice.”*

★ *“Miss Josie, a huge thank you for your patience and professional playful nature with your students.”*

“If I had influence with the good fairy who is supposed to preside over the christening of all children I should ask that her gift to each child in the world be a **sense of wonder** so indestructible that it would last throughout life, as an unailing antidote against the boredom and disenchantments of later years, the alienation from the sources of our strength.”

~Rachel Carson

from *A Sense of Wonder*

Listen to the songs students have written at
Songwriting for Kids programs:
www.songwritingforkids.com



Josephine Cameron
Songwriting for Kids
P.O. Box 301
Brunswick, Maine 04011
josie@songwritingforkids.com

2009
Summer Programs

**Songwriting
for Kids**

New! **Fiction &
Poetry Writing
for Kids**



with
Josephine Cameron
at
BOWDOIN COLLEGE

*Songwriting
for Kids*

&

I developed my love for writing when I was a kid. I started writing my first songs and stories before I was seven years old. The great thing about being a kid is that you are so open—your internal “censor” has not yet fully developed, and very often, creativity just comes naturally if you are given the opportunity to tap into it. One of my goals is to help children develop and enrich that sense of wonder and creativity so that they will be able to hold onto it and use it as a strength when they grow older.



About Josephine

Josephine Cameron has a Masters in Fine Arts in Creative Writing from the University of Notre Dame, where she taught a poetry workshop for UND undergraduates. She has recorded four CDs. Her song “Long Track Blues” was recently included in the New York Times bestseller, *Hip Hop Speaks to Children: A Celebration of Poetry with a Beat*.

Josephine has been writing, performing, and working with children for the past 10 years. For more information and to listen to her music, please visit:

www.SongwritingForKids.com
www.JosephineCameron.com



Summer 2009 Workshops

SONGWRITING FOR KIDS VOL. 1

Students entering grades K-3. Through games, singing, and exercises, we will explore 5 components of basic songwriting: rhythm, rhyme, song structure, lyrics, and melody. A strong emphasis is placed on collaboration. Using the tools they have learned, students will join together to write an original song from start to finish.

NEW! SONGWRITING FOR KIDS VOL. 2

Students entering grades K-3. In Vol. 2, we will experiment with various songwriting forms and structures: the blues, the “hooky” pop chorus, the bridge. Students will work in small groups and individually to write a number of “song sketches” throughout the week. *This workshop may be taken as a stand-alone, but students who have taken Vol. 1 will benefit from having a knowledge of the vocabulary and traditional song structure we will use as a base.*

FICTION WRITING FOR KIDS

Students entering grades 3-5. This workshop will teach core concepts of fiction writing including in-depth sessions on Character, Plot, Imaginative Writing, and the all-important skill of Revision. During the workshop, students will study character development, plot structure, and setting in popular children’s literature and will write and illustrate their own individual stories.

NEW! POETRY WRITING FOR KIDS

Students entering grades 3-5. This workshop teaches the basics of writing poetry in both form and free verse. Students will study and analyze poems by poets from Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and Robert Frost to Gwendolyn Brooks and Robert Hayden. They will use class time to write and illustrate their own short book of poems.

Class Schedule & Rates

July 13-17: SONGWRITING Vol. 1: 8:30am-12:00pm
 FICTION WRITING: 1:30-5:00pm

July 20-24: SONGWRITING Vol. 2: 8:30am-12:00pm
 POETRY WRITING: 1:30-5:00pm

\$125/session; \$110 sibling rate. All workshops will be held at Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME.

If you intend to claim the cost of this class for a Child Care Credit on your taxes, please use Federal ID # 32-001-7855 (JCE, Inc.)

2009 Registration Form

Registration deadline is June 1, 2009.

Sessions are limited to 15 students.

Parent’s Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Email: _____

Child 1 Age: _____

Name: _____

Child 2 Age: _____

Name: _____

Songwriting Vol. 1 (grades K-3)

Songwriting Vol. 2 (grades K-3)

Fiction Writing (grades 3-5)

Poetry Writing (grades 3-5)

\$125/session: Single Child Rate

\$110/session: Sibling Rate

Total Cost Due: _____

Please send this form along with your check or money order to:

Josephine Cameron
 Songwriting for Kids
 P.O. Box 301
 Brunswick, Maine 04011
josie@songwritingforkids.com



www.songwritingforkids.com