**Strong writing skills impact everything, from academic performance to workplace readiness. Our workshops empower participants with the skills to write well and to communicate a message important to them. Gemini Ink’s WIC workshops are about sharing the human story, because we believe in the value of every voice.**

**Gemini Ink’s mission, to help people create and share the human story, reflects our commitment to addressing the dynamic needs of San Antonio writers and readers. As the city’s only independent literary arts center, we believe that the human story, in all its diverse and complicated forms and genres, is essential to developing compassion and richness in both individual and community life. We encourage focused reading, writing, and exchange at every level, from elementary school students to incarcerated youth to elders who have always wanted to record their family stories.**

**Writers in Communities**

**WHY WRITING MATTERS**

**COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

**ABOUT GEMINI INK**

WIC programs are held in a variety of local community setting, including:

- Family Services and Wellness Centers
- Juvenile Correctional Facilities and Courts
- School Districts throughout San Antonio
- Youth Health and Empowerment Programs
- Libraries
- Migrant Children’s Centers
- Senior Community Centers
- Arts Organizations

** GET INVOLVED**

Gemini Ink is always interested in nurturing partnerships and extending our reach around San Antonio. If you’d like more information about WIC, contact Florinda Flores-Brown at fbrown@geminiink.org

**FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

Twitter: Gemini Ink
Facebook: Gemini Ink
Instagram: Gemini Ink

Gemini Ink is a 501C3 nonprofit organization

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Gemini Ink is San Antonio’s Literary Arts Center

**San Antonio’s Literary Arts Center**

**Writers in Communities**
OUR STORY

Gemini Ink’s Writers in Communities (WIC) program sends professional writers into community settings—schools, shelters, neighborhood centers, detention facilities—to provide writing workshops that are always free to participants.

The art and practice of storytelling in all its forms is an essential part of building happy, healthy communities. We seek to create lifelong learners with the courage to express themselves.

Participants in our programs share stories, confidently present their own work, support each other at public readings and discover the power of effective self-expression and the joy of lifelong learning.

"I commend Gemini Ink for its outreach to young people across the city, for its far-reaching vision to bring literature to ALL citizens, readers and non-readers, writers and those who fear writing. Bravo for enriching our San Antonio!"
—Sandra Cisneros

WHAT WE DO

In WIC workshops creative writing is taught by having participants respond imaginatively to literary models through stimulating and challenging prompts.

- The writer-instructor leads the participants through a reading and discussion of a compelling literary model—generally a poem, short story or short essay.
- Participants write their own creative pieces in response to an imaginative writing prompt.
- Everyone joins together to read aloud the pieces produced, followed by constructive feedback from instructors and peers.

Prompts for WIC Workshops do double work: they provide exciting imaginative tasks for the participants, and they teach specific language techniques. Yet the exercises are about more than just meeting a skill. Instead, they are designed to increase joy and engagement with the literary arts. At many WIC sites, we also publish anthologies of the participant’s work.

OUR INSTRUCTORS

WIC hires working writers who are also excellent teachers of writing. By providing ongoing support and professional development to our WIC instructors, we build a strong sense of teamwork among WIC faculty, encouraging them to share their challenges, discoveries, and best practices.

We also provide them with the opportunity to study with nationally known writers such as Denise Chavez, Barbara Jane Reyes, Laura Kasischke, Robert Flynn and others.

The end result is that WIC workshops are always of high artistic quality, making them highly effective at promoting a lifelong engagement with reading and writing.