A major facet of our mission is education. Each year, we host over 300 classes in the literary arts for youth and adults and offer a setting and a forum in which writers and readers can meet and exchange ideas.

**Adult Education for Lifelong Learners**

Four times a year, Writers & Books produces a catalog with a diverse and eclectic group of literary workshops for adults. Workshops are held at our 740 University Ave location, at Gell: A Finger Lakes Creative Retreat, and online, allowing us to reach an interested and engaged audience in Rochester and beyond. Classes are offered to writers and readers of all levels and include workshops in fiction, poetry, memoir, creative nonfiction, the business of writing, stage/screen, professional development, and reading settings.

**Youth Education: Planting the Seeds**

Writers & Books offers classes for creative young readers and writers throughout the year. Our programs support reading and writing skills that students learn in school, but also reach further, tapping into creativity and inspiration, as young people discover their own passions and develop their own voices. Our 9-week summer camp program, SummerWrite, is based on evidence that fostering learning in youth beyond the traditional school environment is beneficial, manifesting its positive effects well into adulthood. Among the classes offered are the essentials like fiction, poetry, and reading seminars based on popular book series, unique workshops that integrate the literary arts with cooking, filmmaking, the outdoors, and more.

**Internships & Apprenticeships**

As an extension of our educational programs, Writers & Books offers valuable and competitive internships and apprenticeships to high school and college students. Students can earn credit and gain first-hand knowledge of literary programming, editorial work, and arts administration through an internship, while the SummerWrite Apprenticeship offers aspiring writers and educators an opportunity to gain meaningful experience in the classroom.

**Scholarships**

In 2016-2017, Writers & Books gave $17,805 in scholarships to both adult and youth students. We firmly believe that literary programs are essential in helping people become better readers, thinkers, citizens, and learners, and our scholarships help low-income students reach higher levels of achievement.

Since 1981, Writers & Books’ programs have reached a growing audience of thousands, making us one of the oldest literary organizations in the country.

Our programs receive national recognition while inspiring generations of Rochesterians to make literature a part of their everyday lives. We offer a wide variety of programs and events designed to help people discover the important part that literature plays in our individual lives and in the life of our community.

Our programs include:

**The Ladder Literary Conference** is a new annual event conceived and implemented by Writers & Books. The purpose of the conference is to connect writers, editors, agents, and publishers, and to support writers at every stage of the writing process. Held at the Rochester Riverside Hotel, The Ladder attracted roughly 240 attendees and panelists in its first year. In the days preceding the conference, Writers & Books sponsored numerous readings held around Monroe County featuring local writers and artists.

**Rochester Reads** recently completed its 18th year, with over 15,000 community members participating in Rochester’s largest book club. The book of choice for the 18th year was The Distance Between Us by Reyna Grande, who held readings and discussions as part of her residency at the end of the program.

**Author Visits, Readings, & Other Events** including the monthly Genesee Reading Series presenting and celebrating local talent from the Genesee region, small community reading circles, Rochester Reads, First Fridays, A Night at Hogwarts, and the Big Pencil Awards.

**Collaborations with local arts organizations** such as the Neighborhood of the Arts, The Little Theatre, Geva Theatre Center, Genesee Center for the Arts, The Memorial Art Gallery, Blackfriars Theatre, and the annual KeyBank Rochester Fringe Festival.
Literary Events and Attendance
- Total Number of Public Readings and Events Offered: 352
- Participation for Rochester Reads: 20,000

Literary Education and Attendance
- Total Number of Adult Classes Offered: 423
- Adult Classes Attendance: 1,671
- Total Number of Youth Classes Offered: 177
- Youth Classes Attendance: 1,940
- Scholarships Awarded: 247

Gell: A Finger Lakes Creative Retreat
- Number of Days Facility in Use: 306
- Total Attendance for Retreats, Workshops and Events: 1,142

Writers & Books promotes reading and writing as lifelong activities for people of all ages and backgrounods, through educational programs, publications, community events, & author appearances.

740 University Avenue
Our urban center, located in the heart of the Neighborhood of the Arts, is a converted early twentieth-century police precinct station designed by famed Rochester architect Claude Bragdon. This handsome three-story brick building was updated to become a twenty-first-century arts facility housed within a well-preserved exterior. The building contains a bookstore, a 70-seat performance space, four classrooms, and offices for our staff.

Gell: A Finger Lakes Creative Retreat
Our creative retreat and conference center, located 35 miles south of Rochester in the majestic Finger Lakes region, sits on 24 acres of beautiful hiltside land. Gell includes the Gleason Lodge, a facility that accommodates up to 75 people for meetings and classes; the original Gell House, a two-bedroom residence used for extended creative retreats; and the Thoreau Cabin, a small seasonal writer’s cabin in the woods.

Statement of Financial Position
For the Year Ended:
September 30, 2017 | September 30, 2016
---|---
Assets: | |
Current Assets: | |
- Cash and Cash Equivalents, Grants Receivable: $158,200 | $130,772
- Other Current Assets: $0 | $0
- Property and Equipment, Net: $614,106 | $665,327
Other Assets: | |
- Investments, Financing Costs: $191,474 | $198,947
Total Assets: $963,780 | $1,000,710

Liabilities: | |
Current Liabilities: | |
- Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses: $25,361 | $21,547
- Deferred Revenue: $20,973 | $21,661
- Current Portion of Long-Term Debt: $0 | $0
Total Current Liabilities: $89,534 | $43,208
Long-Term Debt: | |
- $0 | $0
Total Liabilities: $89,534 | $43,208

Net Assets: | |
- Unrestricted: $736,332 | $668,183
- Temporarily Restricted: $108,914 | $254,848
Total Net Assets: $874,246 | $957,502

Revenue and Support: | |
- Earned Revenue: $323,774 | $318,267
- Contributions, Grants & Support: $308,284 | $321,153
- Capital Campaign: $7,950 | $137,183
Total Support & Revenue: $640,008 | $764,881

Expenses: | |
- Program Services: $576,171 | $593,458
- Management & General: $106,280 | $108,751
- Fundraising: $40,833 | $58,201
Total Expenses: $723,264 | $760,410
Excess/(Deficit) of Support and Revenue Over Expenses: $(583,256) | $(34,477)
Net Assets Beginning of Year: $957,502 | $923,031
Net Assets End of Year: $874,246 | $957,502