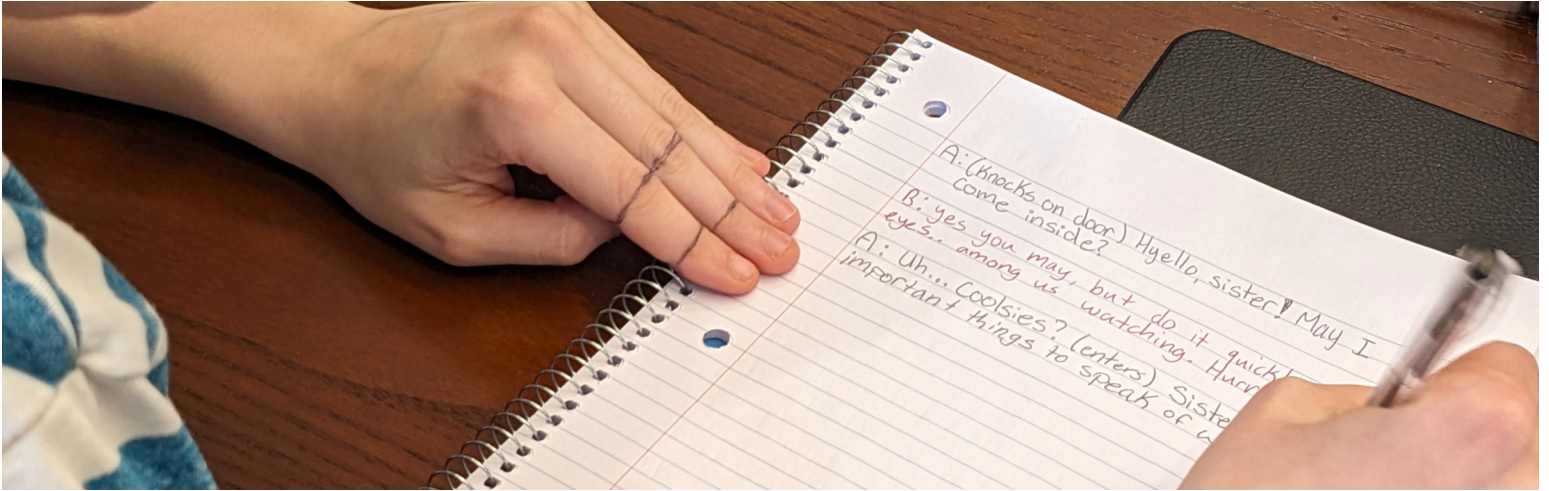


STORY IN ACTION

Theatre-making workshops and intensives for students



At Driftwood Theatre, we've been developing, creating and sharing epic theatre with rural Ontario communities for over 30 years. With a bold new artistic vision launched in 2023, Driftwood is now an incubator for new plays by Ontario-based theatre creators: we spend our days working with playwrights to develop epic and mythic plays which respond to the world we live in today.

We believe that epic ideas start with our youngest creators, and that nurturing the voice of emerging storytellers plays an important role in creating more vibrant, welcoming and creative communities.

With **Story in Action** we're setting the stage for our next generation of creative story-makers, providing in-class and intensive playwriting programs which encourage students to express their most epic and dreamiest ideas.

Story in Action is a program which supports student playwrights in a journey from ideation through to professional presentation of their work for a public audience.

Thank you so much for the wonderful Story In Action workshop! The session was both engaging and inspiring, and I'm sure it will be valuable for them as they develop their own storytelling skills. Thanks again for offering such a valuable experience for my class.

Brooke Pyke, teacher



In-Class Workshops

In Driftwood Theatre's 75-minute Story in Action Workshop, students in Grades 7-12 learn the basics of playwriting, and explore new tools and processes for creating their very own original plays. Through instruction, guided group discussion, and in-session activities, students will not only learn how to generate new ideas, but how to mine them for dramatic potential, and transform them into viable concepts for original plays.

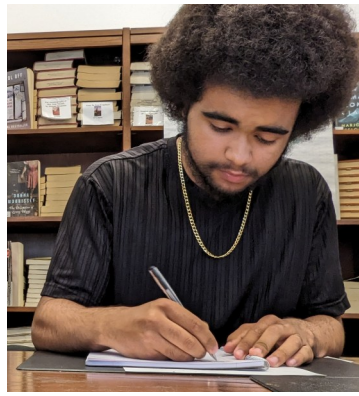
Optionally, the workshop culminates in a 1-2 page assignment (with evaluation rubric provided to the teacher by Driftwood Theatre). This assignment is also all students need to apply for participation in the Story in Action Intensive (see below).

In-class workshop is suitable for: intermediate (grades 7-8) and high school groups (grades 9-12), up to one class size (approx. 30 students)/session. There is a \$275+HST fee per 75-minute workshop.

Timeframe: Story in Action In-Class Workshops can be booked between February 2–March 13, 2026.



Playwriting Intensive



The Story in Action Intensive digs even deeper into the craft of playwriting for our student writers. Over a series of in-person and virtual group and individual sessions, participants explore tools for writing compelling action-driven scenes, they'll learn the mechanics of writing strong dialogue moment-to-moment, and they'll respond to multiple

writing prompts as they prepare their own, brand new 10-minute play. The Story in Action Intensive culminates with a public reading of student work.

Participation in the Story in Action Intensive is limited to 8 students, determined by open application. All applicants will need to apply is the assignment already created during the in-class session.

Story in Action Intensive is suitable for: young creators ages 12-18. There is a \$350+HST fee per student. Scholarships are available by application for students for whom the full fee represents a barrier to participation.

Timeframe: Intensive applications due April 3, 2026. The Intensive consists of: three virtual group sessions (90 mins/ea.) and one private virtual coaching session (30-45 min) between May 14–June 4, 2026; one weekend in-person group rehearsals and public presentation June 12-14, 2026.

Curriculum Connections

Story in Action connects to the Ontario School Curriculum at all points of student development. Students are challenged to innovate in the creation of their own work, clearly communicating their intention and ideas. The intensive portion of the program offers opportunity for self-directed learning as participants engage in the independent creation of their own work.

DRAMA

Helps students to build an understanding of and explore the various facets of multidimensional characters, their motivation, background, speech, actions and relationships through structured guidance on play form and structure, following a 'hero's journey.' Working individually and collaboratively, students are invited to explore issues and feelings as they delve into story creation rooted in character and dialogue. In developing their own work, students are challenged to use established dramatic forms and techniques to present their own ideas and reflect upon how their ideas contribute to a deeper understanding of the communities in which they live.

ENGLISH

Builds confident writers by working with students to develop their own, original ideas as they plan, develop ideas, gather information, organize content and create for their very own text (play) for presentation to a public audience.

During the intensive, students will also learn more fully about the stylistic elements of playwriting; editing and proofreading their work in both independent and collaborative forums as they generate a polished draft. Students will be provided with the opportunity to reflect on their strengths and areas for improvement after experiencing their play read publicly in the company of a live audience.