826 New Orleans is a hub of creativity and collaboration, allowing us to offer exciting, innovative programming that energizes and elevates educational practices in New Orleans. Our work supports young people across New Orleans so that they are able to write their own paths forward, undefined by circumstance.

Since 2010, we’ve served over 7,000 students and created over 120 publications of student work with the help of over 500 volunteers.

How we do it: We offer free writing programs and publishing opportunities to over 1,500 students annually. Our staff and volunteers help students improve their literacy skills, become published authors, and understand the power of their voices on and off the page.

Our community: The 7th Ward is one of the most diverse historical areas in the country. It presents profound opportunities for young New Orleanians to learn about their city and to write about it.

Why 826: Like the eight other chapters of the award-winning 826 network, we encourage the exploration of endless possibility through the power of writing. 826 New Orleans is the first chapter in the South. Our students are a part of a nation-wide community with over 32,000 young writers.

Why writing: 826 New Orleans operates from the belief that reading is access, but writing is power.

Do you know a young writer? Learn more and sign up for our newsletter at www.826neworleans.org.

Interested in volunteering? Contact Emily Starr at emily@826neworleans.org.
Our Programs

AT THE CENTER: The 826 New Orleans Youth Writing Center is a hub of creativity and collaboration.

AFTER SCHOOL Elementary school students are paired with dedicated volunteers to receive support in homework, reading, and of course, writing!

WEE WRITE Wee Write is a literacy and creative storytelling program on Saturday mornings for youth ages 3-5.

YOUNG WRITERS’ COUNCIL A dynamic group of high school students who identify as emerging writers, activists and change-makers work on special 826 New Orleans projects.

IN SCHOOLS: We partner with dedicated teachers to create beautiful books with their students.

YOUNG AUTHORS’ BOOK PROJECT A high school class makes a professional-quality book in about 6 months.

WRITERS’ ROOM A third space at The Living School that supports literacy and writing through publishing projects, open studio hours, professional development for teachers, and more.

COMMUNITY COLLECTIONS: Sometimes our work brings together voices from all over our great city.

THE SPOOKY STORIES ANTHOLOGY Thrilling tales based upon eerie images in New Orleans.

THE GOOD TROUBLEMAKERS PROJECT A social justice project that champions for change through writing.

THE PIZZA POETRY PROJECT A celebration of youth voice and National Poetry Month, young poets are published on pizza boxes.

Questions? Contact Emily Starr at emily@826neworleans.org

826 New Orleans is a part of the 826 National network of youth writing centers. Learn more at www.826neworleans.org