

The Writing Revolution: A Decade of Transformation

Reflecting on Our Journey; Thriving in the Present; Writing the Next Chapter



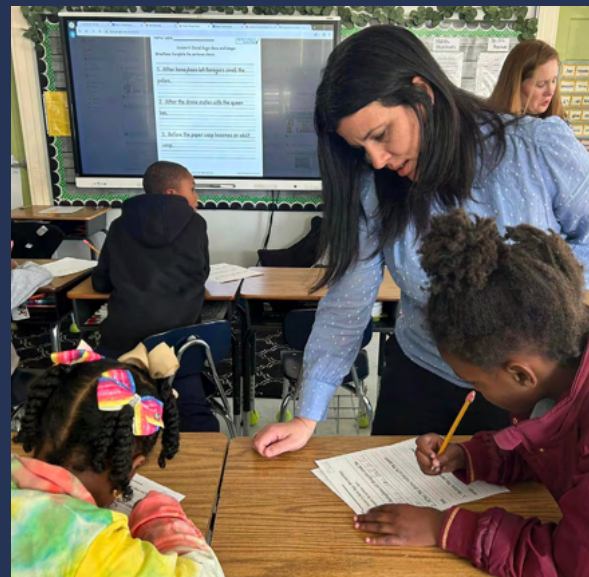
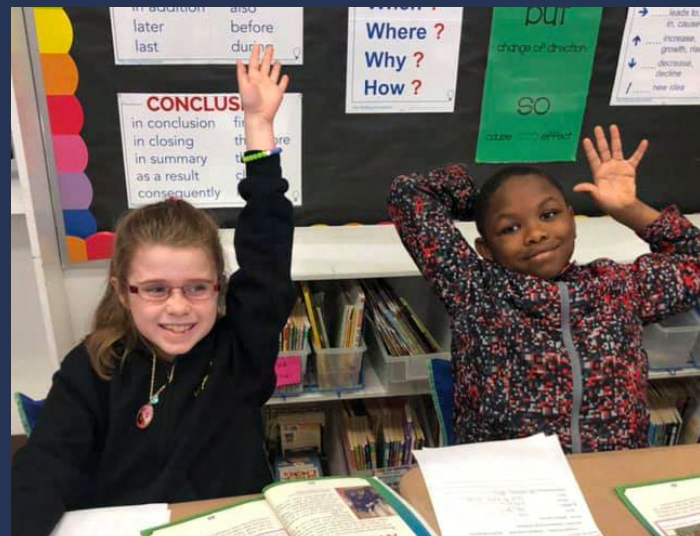
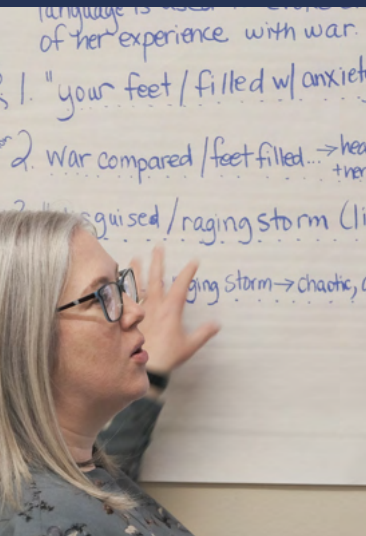


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A Message from Our Leadership



TWR Chief Executive Officer, Toni-Ann Vroom



TWR Chief Executive Officer, Dina Zoleo



TWR Board Chair, Lisa Amato

We envision a world where students, especially those from historically marginalized communities, possess the writing skills necessary to succeed in school, in the workplace, and in life.

Our mission is to empower educators with the tools they need to transform writing instruction.

As we reflect on The Writing Revolution's (TWR) remarkable decade-long journey, we are filled with immense pride and gratitude for the community that has supported us every step of the way. From a pioneering idea to a national force for educational change, we have been driven by our commitment to empower educators with a proven methodology that strengthens literacy across all subjects. The impact of this work has been profound, particularly in underserved communities, where effective writing instruction has become a gateway to critical thinking and academic success.

The foundation of our success is rooted in the visionary leadership of our founder, Dr. Judith C. Hochman, who recognized the power of writing as more than just a skill but as a tool for unlocking potential. Her methodology has empowered educators nationwide, transforming classrooms and creating environments where students feel confident and successful.

As of summer 2024, TWR has trained over 37,000 educators, reaching more than 1 million students. These achievements are more than just numbers—they represent lives changed, minds empowered, and futures brightened.

However, our work is far from over. While we celebrate the successes of the past decade, we also acknowledge the challenges that remain. Too many students still lack access to quality writing instruction, and we are more committed than ever to expanding our reach. As we look to the future, our focus is on deepening connections, continuing to innovate, and ensuring that every student has the opportunity to develop the skills they need to succeed.

Your unwavering belief in our mission has brought us to where we are today and will propel us forward in the years to come. We are deeply grateful for your partnership, and together, we will continue to make a difference—one teacher, one classroom at a time.

Thank you for standing with us on this incredible journey.

With deepest gratitude,

Toni-Ann Vroom, Ph.D
Chief Executive Officer

Dina Zoleo, Ph.D
Chief Executive Officer

Lisa Amato
Board Chair

Reflecting on Our Journey

Over the past ten years, The Writing Revolution has been at the forefront of transforming writing instruction, reaching thousands of educators and students across the United States and internationally. Our journey has been marked by significant milestones, from our early groundwork to the wide-reaching impact we have achieved today.

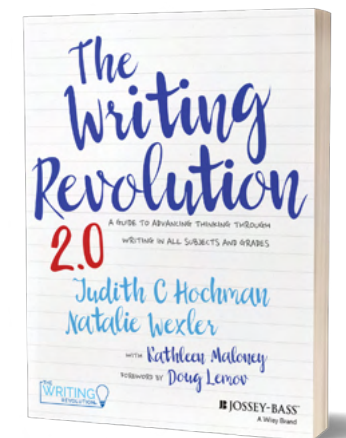
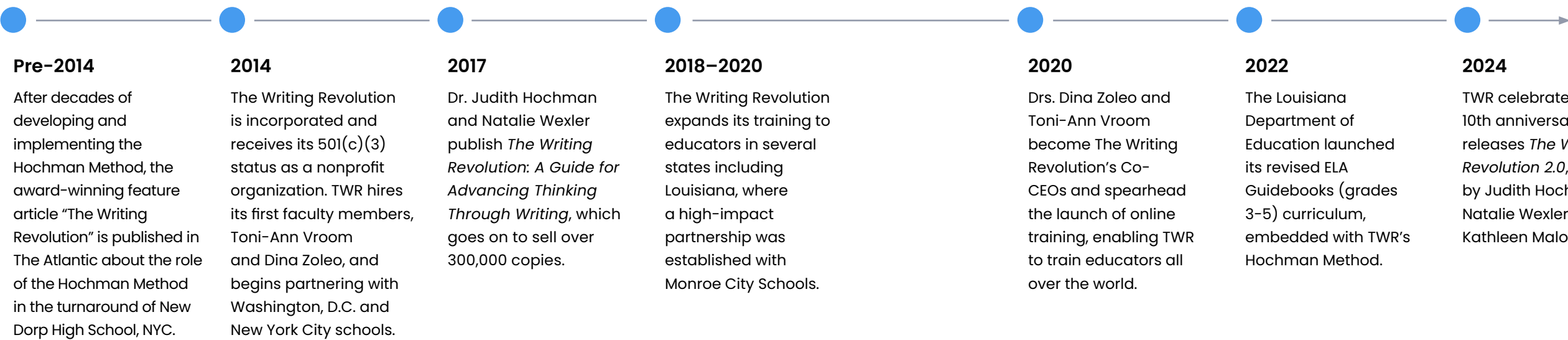
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Our Approach & Historical Overview

The Writing Revolution (TWR) supports educators and school leaders in implementing the Hochman Method, a set of evidence-based and proven strategies for teaching expository writing. This methodology is rooted in explicit, carefully sequenced instruction, building from sentences to compositions. The Hochman Method is not a separate writing curriculum; rather, it is an approach designed to be embedded in the content being taught in any subject area and at any grade level.

Key Milestones

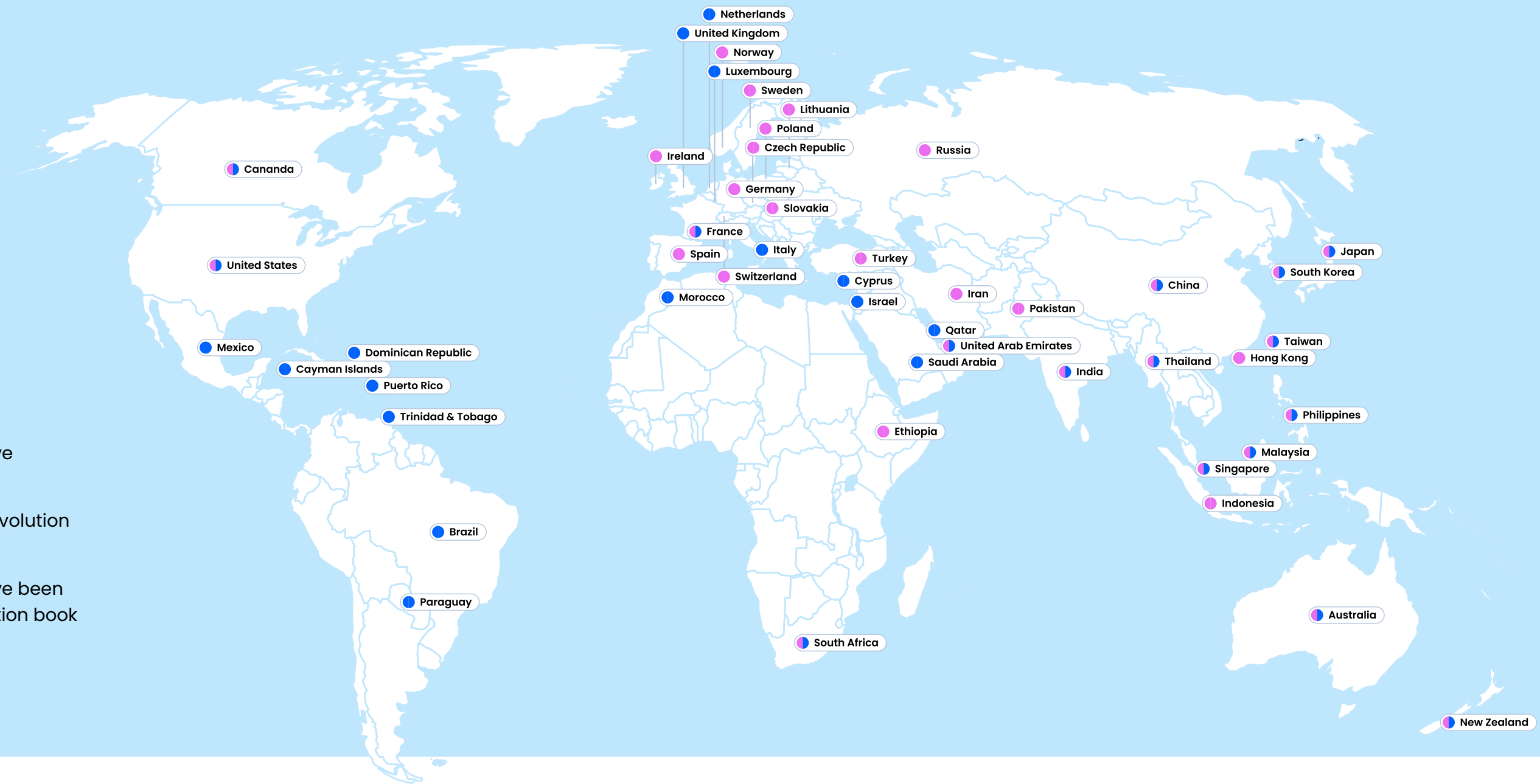
As The Writing Revolution celebrates its 10th anniversary, each milestone reflects how TWR's drive to meet its mission—empowering educators to transform writing instruction—has led to continued innovation. From launching its first courses to publishing *The Writing Revolution 2.0*, every step has strengthened our ability to reach more educators and students. These milestones attest to past success and pave the way for future advancements.



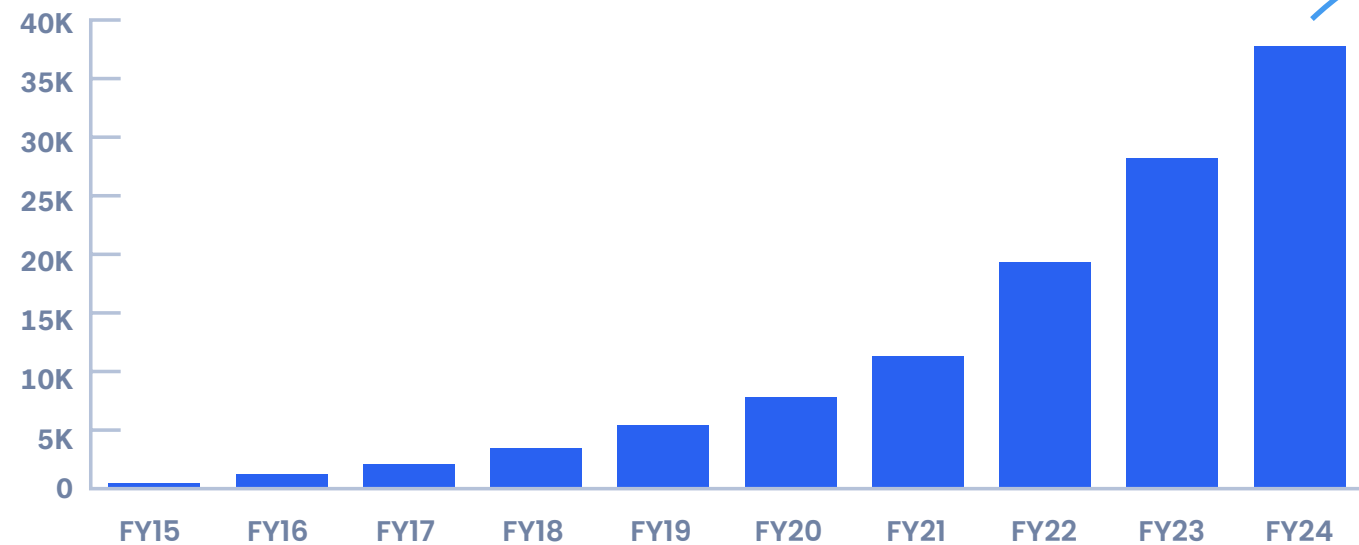
By The Numbers

An International Footprint

- Countries where educators have been trained
- Countries where The Writing Revolution book has been sold
- Countries where educators have been trained and The Writing Revolution book has been sold



Educators Trained



21,231,630+ students

have been reached through educators trained in The Hochman Method over the last 10 years

Success Stories & Testimonials

"The course was thorough, inspiring, and extremely helpful. The presenters clearly live and breathe the method and were very enthusiastic and knowledgeable."

—STACEY W.
Teacher, Grades 7–8, Newark, NJ

"I feel much more confident now supporting teachers and students and knowing exactly what to target to get shifts in quality instruction."

—ASHER P.
Assistant Principal, Warrawong PS, Australia

Thriving in the Present

TWR's programs are making a lasting impact on education by equipping educators with the tools and training to enhance student writing and thinking skills. Our efforts include comprehensive teacher and leadership training, a growing repository of digital resources, and school and district partnerships.

Ongoing Programs & Services

Courses & Workshops

TWR offers a range of courses and workshops designed to prepare educators for sustainable implementation of the Hochman Method. These sessions introduce the principles and strategies of the method, with a focus on best practices for school or district-wide adoption. Educators can participate in introductory courses tailored to grades 3-12, K-2, and STEM subjects. Leadership Workshops equip school and district leaders with best practices to implement TWR effectively, while Classroom Planning and Implementation sessions allow educators to deepen their understanding of the Hochman Method and enhance their TWR planning and delivery.



Online Resource Library

TWR's Resource Library provides a wide variety of resources to support educators in implementing the Hochman Method, including templates for writing activities; examples of student-facing activities across subjects and grades; and classroom videos of TWR classroom instruction and assessment tools. With the addition of resources in Spanish, the library expands its accessibility, allowing even more educators to implement the Hochman Method strategies effectively.



During the 2022-2023 school year, TWR partnered with renowned research organization Mathematica to conduct a study on the impact of its training in the Hochman Method on teacher practice and confidence in teaching writing. The study, which included four school districts in Louisiana, revealed the following findings among treatment teachers compared to their peers in control schools:

92%
probability that TWR training positively impacted the use of evidence-based writing strategies

97%
probability that TWR training increased teacher confidence in teaching writing by the end of the school year



School & District Partnerships

TWR partners with schools and districts that reflect its mission to develop self-sustaining models of writing instruction. TWR faculty provide ongoing support, including coaching, site visits, and student writing assessments to foster continuous improvement and lasting results.

TWR's Journey of Sharing Knowledge

Fiscal Year 2024

July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024



TWR shares its expertise at conferences nationwide, expanding our reach and influence.



TWR Faculty Christine Teahan and Madalyn Roig at the International Dyslexia Association (IDA) 2023 Annual Reading, Literacy, & Learning Conference

JULY 2023

Read, Write, Connect – Region 16 Summer Conference Series

📍 Canyon, TX

OCTOBER 2023

International Dyslexia Association (IDA) 2023 Annual Reading, Literacy, & Learning Conference

📍 Columbus, OH

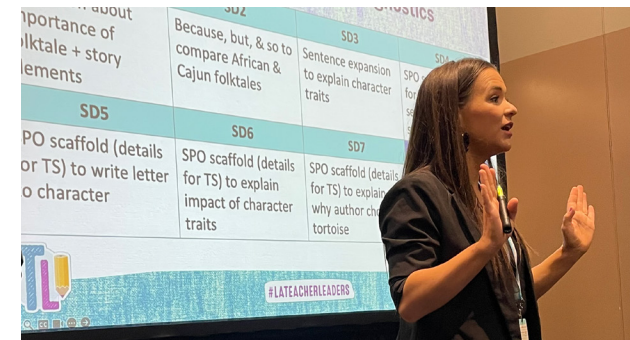
DECEMBER 2023

Mississippi Literacy Association Conference

📍 Biloxi, MS



TWR Faculty, Alexandria Chalonec, Kiersten Peltier, and Christine Teahan at the Mississippi Literacy Association Conference



TWR Faculty, Ailish McDermott, presenting at the Teacher Leader Summit in New Orleans

APRIL 2024

ResearchED

📍 Greenwich, CT

MAY 2024

Teacher Leader Summit

📍 New Orleans, LA

JUNE 2024

Zionsville Community Schools (ZCS) Literacy Summit

📍 Zionsville, IN

JUNE 2024

Engage2Learn: Literacy & Universal Design for Learning (UDL) Symposium

📍 Cedar Rapids, IA



TWR Faculty Samantha O'Brien and Alexandria Chalonec at Engage2Learn

Transforming Writing In Partner Schools & Districts

At TWR, we believe that every student deserves the writing skills essential for success in school and beyond. Our partnerships with schools and districts demonstrate how, through explicit writing instruction, students can not only develop these critical skills but also achieve greater academic success. Together, we are proving that effective writing instruction can drive meaningful change in classrooms.

Greenburgh Central School District *Greenburgh, NY*

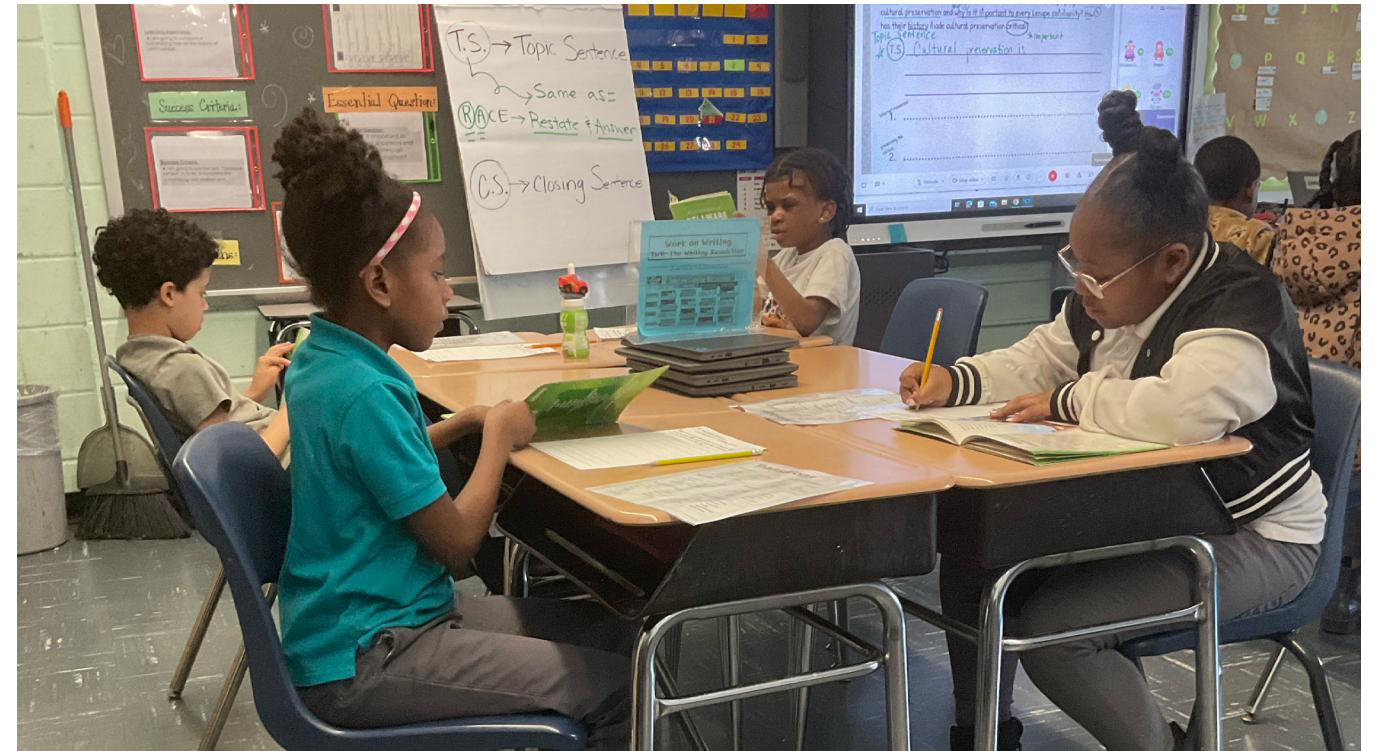
The Writing Revolution began its partnership with Greenburgh Central School District in 2018, and over the years, it has grown to be implemented across all grade levels and subject areas. This sustained collaboration has empowered educators to integrate the Hochman Method into their teaching, enhancing student writing and literacy across the district. Greenburgh students have also achieved significant recognition, successfully placing every year in TWR's national Black History Month Writing Contest. The district's commitment to fostering strong writing skills exemplifies the impact of this dynamic partnership.



P.S. 21 Margaret Emery-Elm Park *Staten Island, NY*

P.S. 21 Margaret Emery-Elm Park, nestled in Staten Island's North Shore community, has been a dedicated partner of TWR since 2020. The school's commitment to embedding TWR strategies throughout all grades and subjects has resulted in meaningful growth in student achievement.

In 2024, the school continued its upward trajectory, with nearly 60% of students meeting or exceeding proficiency standards on the state ELA assessment—over 10 percentage points higher than the city average. Notably, the third-grade class stood out with a 77% proficiency rate, further highlighting the impact of focused writing instruction.



Newark School District *Newark, NJ*

In the 2022-23 school year, TWR entered into a partnership with Newark Public Schools (NPS), the largest public school district in New Jersey, serving approximately 50,000 students across more than 60 schools spread over four wards. During the first year of this partnership, TWR trained over 1,500 ELA educators and worked with several schools, aiming to establish them as models of writing instruction for other schools in the district.

Last year, NPS launched its first Revolutionary Team, consisting of K-8 ELA educators dedicated to embedding the Hochman Method into the district's ELA curriculum.

During the summer, the Revolutionary Team, led by TWR's Senior Manager of Revolutionary Projects, Kiersten Peltier, and supported by TWR staff, continued to refine the K-8 ELA units. We are excited to continue working with NPS educators on transforming writing instruction across the district.



Kevin Cataldo, one of the Revolutionary Team members, reflected on the impact of this work:

"The Revolutionary work has helped me facilitate the writing instruction I do in my classroom. It also allows me to teach content and writing at the same time. When I first started my career in teaching, I taught content and writing separately, and now I have merged the two and have seen an impact in my classroom."

—KEVIN CATALDO

*Revolutionary Team Member,
Newark School District, Newark, NJ*

Monroe City Schools

Monroe, LA

Monroe City Schools (MCS) is a predominantly African-American district with one of the highest poverty rates in Louisiana. Since 2018, TWR has partnered with MCS, which now serves as a model for other districts across the state.



During the Louisiana Teacher Leader Summit, Revolutionary educators from Monroe City Schools (MCS) shared their district's story of successfully implementing TWR and its positive impact on student outcomes.

Starting the Revolution

MCS began its writing revolution after attending the 2017 Louisiana Teacher Leader Summit. Inspired by TWR, teachers and district leaders recognized it as the key to improving student writing. With the support of then-Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Serena White, MCS launched its journey by training ELA teachers in grades 3-12. This district-wide focus on writing instruction laid the foundation for a consistent, cohesive strategy that reached every classroom.

Advancing the Revolution

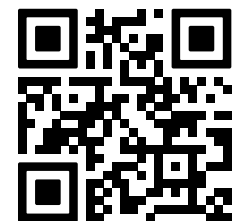
As the revolution gained momentum, training expanded to include K-2, math, and science teachers, fostering a unified language of writing instruction across grades and subjects. To support their district-wide implementation efforts, TWR provided school site visits, assessment of student writing, and coaching. In 2019, MCS established the Revolutionary Team, a group of educators dedicated to embedding TWR strategies into the ELA curriculum. This focus on writing caught the attention of the Louisiana Department of Education, leading to a partnership that incorporated TWR strategies into the state's ELA Guidebooks for grades 3-5, released statewide in 2022. By 2023, MCS deepened its commitment by launching a K-2 Revolutionary Team, ensuring that even the youngest students benefit from the transformative power of TWR.

Owning the Revolution

Monroe City Schools has not only embraced TWR but has fully taken ownership of its success, as demonstrated by the remarkable achievements in the 2022-2023 LEAP assessments. At Sallie Humble Elementary, students exceeded state averages in writing proficiency. Notably, Black and economically disadvantaged students made significant gains, highlighting the power of explicit writing instruction in closing achievement gaps.

In May 2024, MCS's Revolutionary Team presented their journey at the Louisiana Teacher Leader Summit, showcasing the district's self-governance in writing instruction. Their presentation demonstrated how TWR strategies are now embedded into the district's DNA, solidifying MCS's commitment to sustainable, high-quality writing instruction.

MCS stands as a lighthouse for other districts looking to lead their own writing revolutions.



Scan to read our full case study

THE WRITING REVOLUTION

PRESENTS

The 10th Anniversary Lighthouse Gala

On May 20, 2024, The Writing Revolution celebrated its 10th Anniversary Lighthouse Gala at Tribeca Rooftop in New York City. The event brought together nearly 200 guests to honor a decade of transformative writing education. Guests left inspired by powerful stories of impact, including the success of TWR's methodology in transforming classrooms and the deep connections fostered between educators and students through effective writing instruction.



Revolutionary Icon Award Recipient
Dr. Judith C. Hochman



Catalyst for Educational Impact Award
Kathleen Abrahamson



Champions of Change Award
Lisa & Joseph Amato

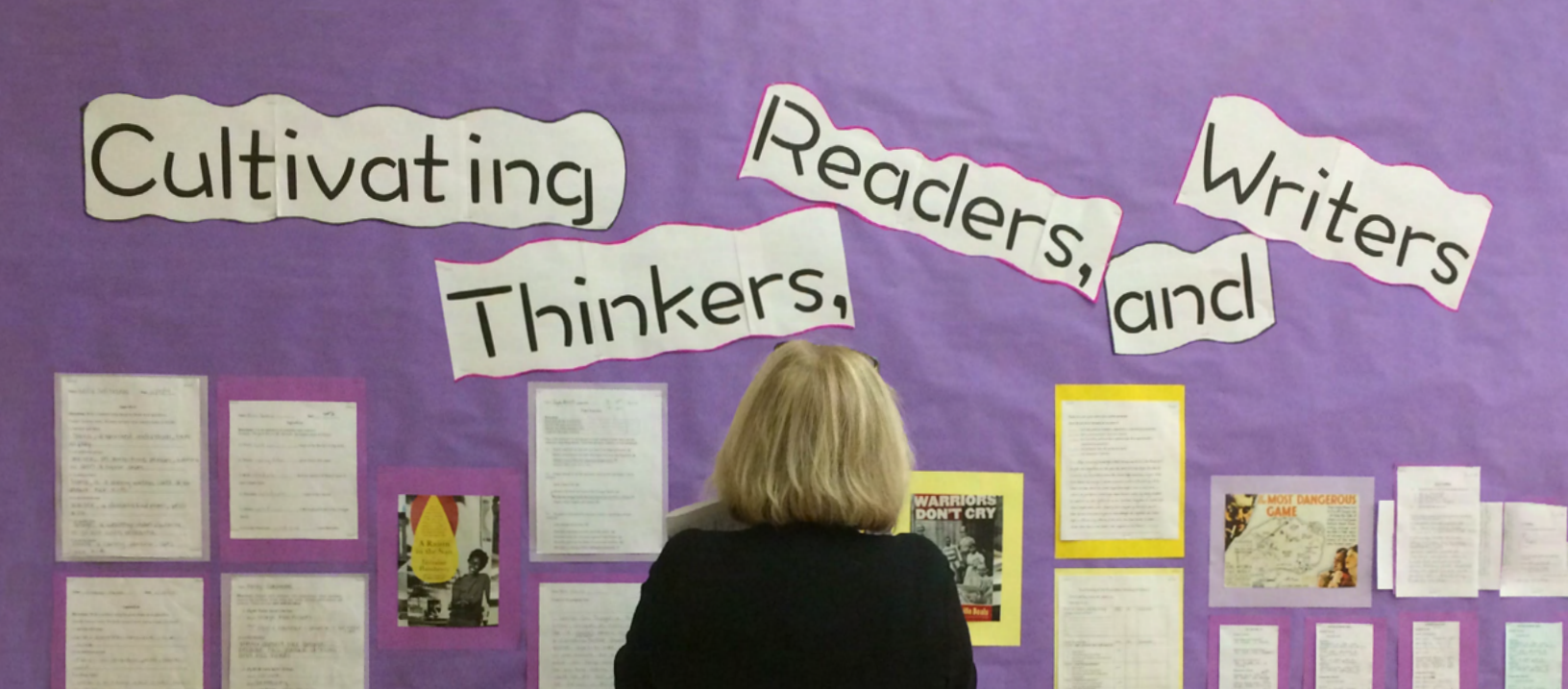


Beacon of Excellence Award in Advocacy
Jean-Claude Brizard, Natalie Wexler



Beacon of Excellence Award in Leadership
Deirdre DeAngelis-D'Alessio, Gwendolyn Payton





Reflecting on Our Journey; Thriving in the Present; Writing the Next Chapter

Judith Hochman, Ed.D., Founder of The Writing Revolution

When I reflect on the journey that led to the creation of The Writing Revolution, I'm often struck by how unexpected it all was. In the 80s, I was a mother of young children, teaching 7th grade, going to graduate school and I needed a short break. Attending a conference about literacy in Hoboken, New Jersey seemed like a good decision at the time, and it turned out to be a pivotal moment in my life. One of the presentations focused on teaching strategies for a large influx of Spanish-speaking students, with an emphasis on writing. That's when it hit me: writing, as it was being taught, wasn't working.

That realization was the spark for what would eventually become TWR. I began to understand that writing is, in many ways, like learning a second language. It has its own structure and its own rules that are different from speaking. Unless students—and teachers—grasp that, students wouldn't be able to express themselves in written language successfully. Writing is about thinking deeply and clearly. I became convinced that writing needed to be integrated into every subject—not taught as an isolated skill, but as a powerful tool for learning. Writing is thinking. When students write, they deepen their connection to the content they're learning. This belief became the cornerstone of my work.



At that time, schools placed a heavy emphasis on creative writing—journals, memoirs, and poetry—which certainly has its value. But I realized this wasn't preparing students for the expository writing they would need academically and in the workplace. We needed to teach students how to write logically about new information and complex ideas. The focus had to be on writing that explains and informs.

Writing is often considered the most difficult skill to learn and to teach. As I refined the method, I realized that this approach could be taught in manageable segments and would be beneficial for all students, in all grades and across the curriculum.

While working with underserved schools, I observed students, who had struggled for years, learn to express themselves clearly and confidently in ways they hadn't thought possible. Teachers were equally inspired, recognizing how writing could be seamlessly integrated into their daily instruction. They weren't just teaching students to write—they were enabling them to build their knowledge base more effectively.

The real turning point for TWR came in October of 2012, when *The Atlantic* published an article about our work at New Dorp High School in Staten Island, New York City. Titled "The Writing Revolution," the article highlighted the profound impact our method had on the school and its students, and it was

a game changer. Overnight, the piece brought national attention to what we were doing, and suddenly schools and districts across the country were reaching out, eager to implement our method. The article validated years of hard work and demonstrated that the Hochman Method could be scaled to schools everywhere. That moment ignited a movement, accelerating our growth and bringing TWR to a much wider audience than we ever imagined.

Since then, the impact has been profound and far-reaching. TWR is transforming writing instruction across the United States and beyond. It's empowering teachers and students alike. One of the most rewarding outcomes has been witnessing students, particularly those from historically underserved and marginalized communities, gain the confidence and skills they need to succeed—and not just in writing. They're learning to think critically, ask important questions, and articulate their ideas with clarity and coherence.

I'm incredibly proud of the impact we've had so far, but I know this is just the beginning. Together, The Writing Revolution is changing lives—one sentence at a time.



How the Abrahamson Scholarship Fuels Change

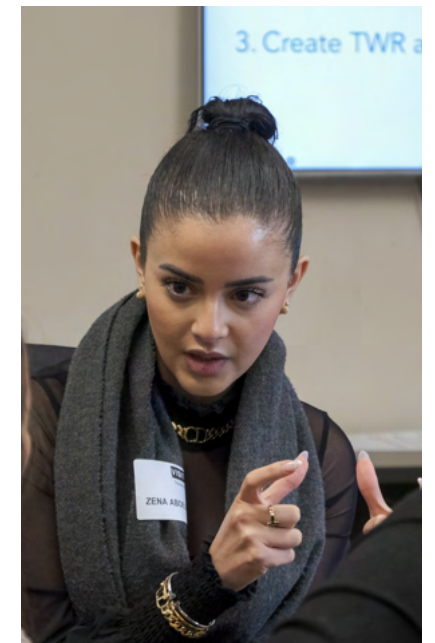


The Abrahamson family at TWR's 10th Anniversary Lighthouse Gala

Established in 2021 by Ernest Abrahamson and Emeritus Board Member Kathy Abrahamson, the Abrahamson Scholarship Program embodies the power of philanthropy in driving TWR's mission forward. This program provides essential scholarships to educators and school leaders in under-resourced districts, giving them access to TWR's comprehensive training and resources. Since its establishment, the Abrahamson Scholarship has empowered over 500 educators, transforming their classrooms with TWR's proven methodology.

"The Abrahamson Scholarship gave me the tools to shift how I approach writing instruction completely. My students went from struggling with basic sentences to writing thoughtful, structured essays. The change has been remarkable, and I'm so grateful for the opportunity to give them the skills they need to succeed."

—EMILY C.
Teacher, Grade 9,
Milwaukee, WI



Philanthropy is the backbone of initiatives like the Abrahamson Scholarship, allowing TWR to expand its reach and impact. Without the generosity of donors, many under-resourced communities would not have access to the proven effectiveness of TWR's methodology. Through this vital investment, we can bring about long-term, sustainable educational change, creating equitable opportunities for all students to thrive.

For more information about the Abrahamson Scholarship email scholarships@thewritingrevolution.org.

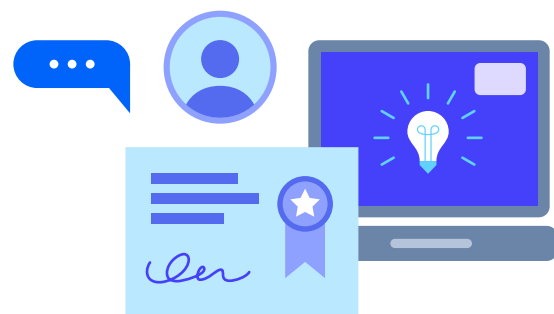


Writing the Next Chapter



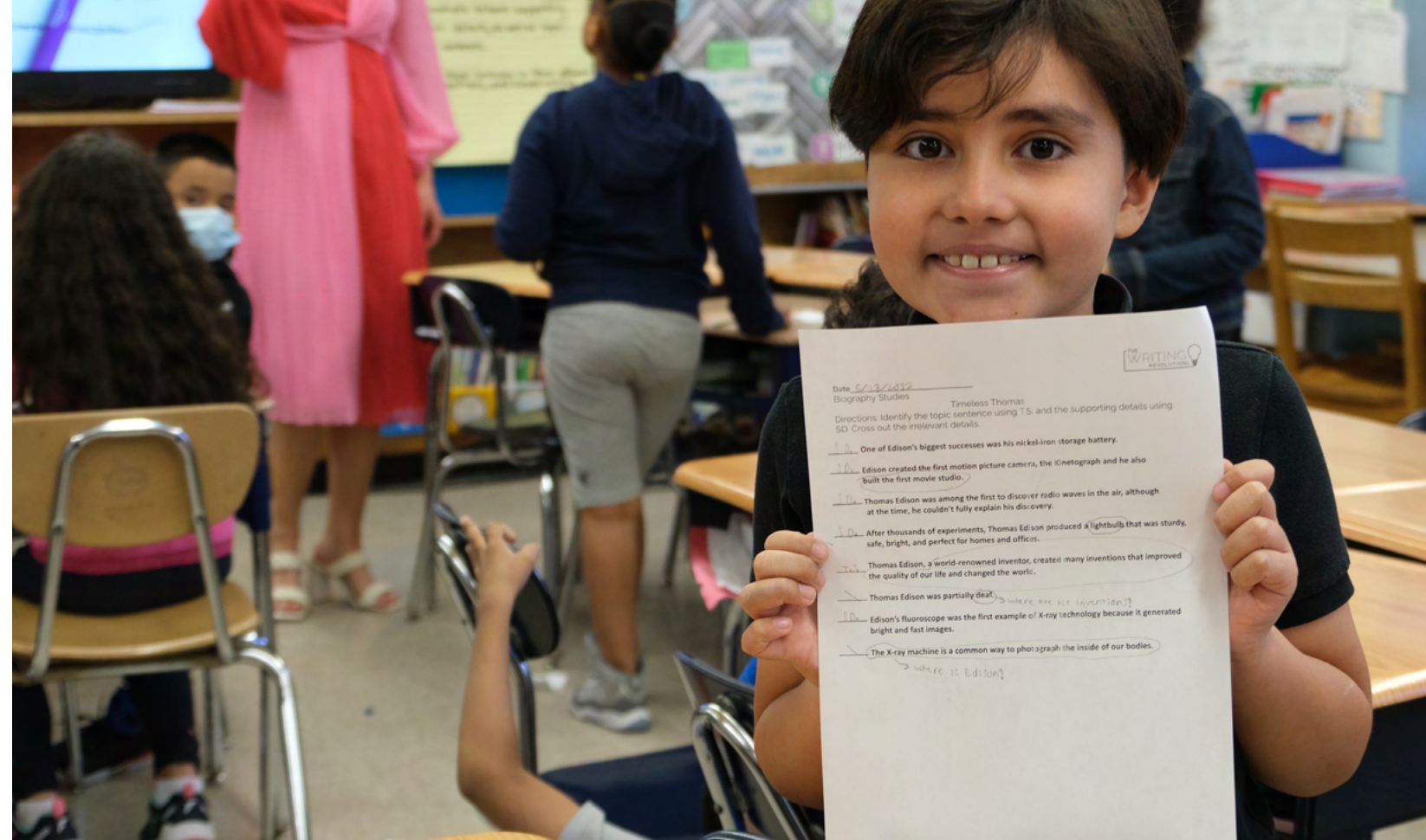
Deepening Partnerships & Expanding Impact

We aim to expand our partnerships with districts across the U.S., establishing more TWR lighthouse districts. These districts will serve as models for transforming writing instruction with the Hochman Method, inspiring other regions to adopt our methods and elevate student success.



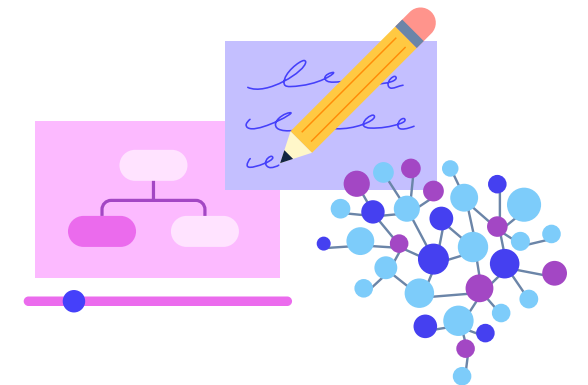
Empowering Educators

Our commitment to training educators remains at the forefront of our work. By equipping more teachers with TWR strategies, we enable them to implement writing-focused instruction that transforms their classrooms and improves student outcomes.



Innovating with AI-Driven Tools

We are expanding our online platform and developing innovative AI-powered tools to empower educators. These tools will allow teachers to create customized, impactful writing instructional resources aligned with the subject they teach and the specific needs of their students, revolutionizing the way writing is taught.



Continuing to Build Access to Knowledge

We are developing additional course offerings and upgrading our Resource Library to provide educators with access to the tools they need to implement the Hochman Method effectively.



Board of Directors & Staff Listings

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Andrew Komaroff
Vice Chair

Deirdre DeAngelis-D'Alessio
Secretary

Ivonne Gonzalez Ruggles
Treasurer

Chris Stern Hyman, Esq.

Martin Oppenheimer, Esq.

David Patrón, Esq.

Kevin Worth

Toni-Ann Vroom, Ph.D.

Dina Zoleo, Ph.D.

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Founder

Kathleen Abrahamson
Emeritus Board Member

Rohan Srinivasan
Emeritus Board Member

Natalie Wexler
Emeritus Board Chair

Shalinee Sharma

David Coleman

Megan Young Wiese

Esther Klein Friedman, Ph.D.

Doug Lemov

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Dina Zoleo, Ph.D.
Co-Chief Executive Officer

Kathleen Maloney
Chief Operating Officer

Kirk Clarke
Senior Director of Technology

Roald Lizcano
Senior Director of Development

Alexandria Chalonec
Co-Director of Academics

Mahmud Ennin
Director of Finance

Djamika Smith
Creative Director

Christine Teahan
Co-Director of Academics

Christine Martin
Associate Director of People & Operations

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Tania Haselwander-Chang
Senior Manager of School Implementation

Madalyn Roig
Senior Manager of School Implementation

Sean Cioffi
Senior Faculty

April Laing
Senior Faculty

Ailish McDermott
Senior Faculty

Samantha O'Brien
Senior Faculty

Kiersten Peltier
Senior Faculty

Julie Duignan
Faculty

Nicole Enterlin
Faculty

Sophia Knight-Hogg
Faculty

Itzel Zarate
Faculty Support Associate

RESEARCH & EVALUATION

Jessica Creech-Levine
Research & Evaluation Manager

Marianna Campese
Research & Evaluation Associate

FINANCE

Shandel Charles
Senior Manager of Finance

Julio Ramos
Finance Associate

TECHNOLOGY

Mayra Guallpa Calle
Analytics Engineer

Phieford Nash
IT Support Specialist

Bilaine Vergoen
Web Developer

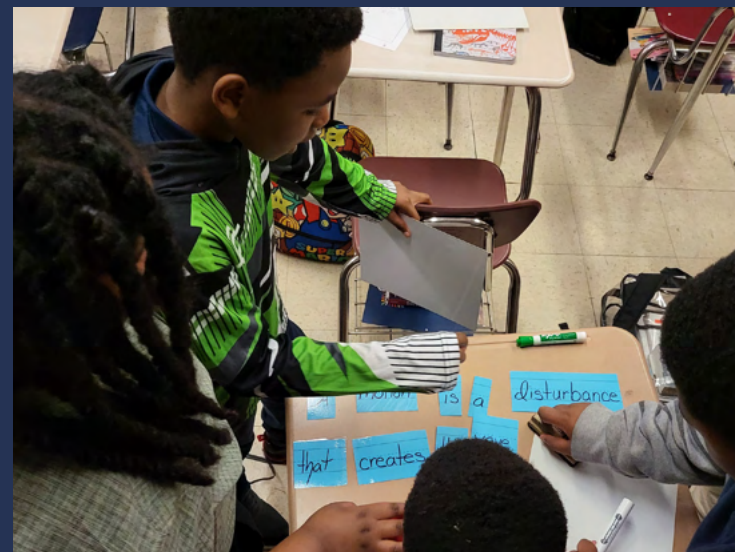
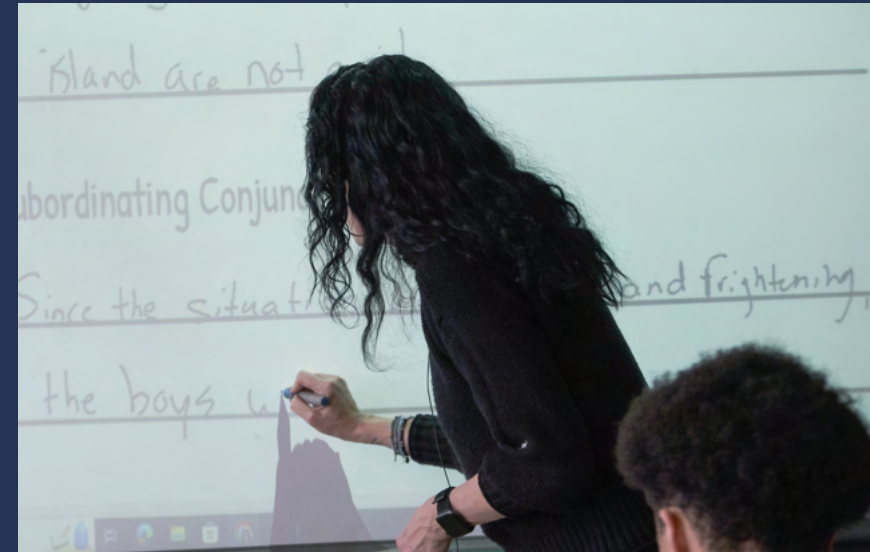
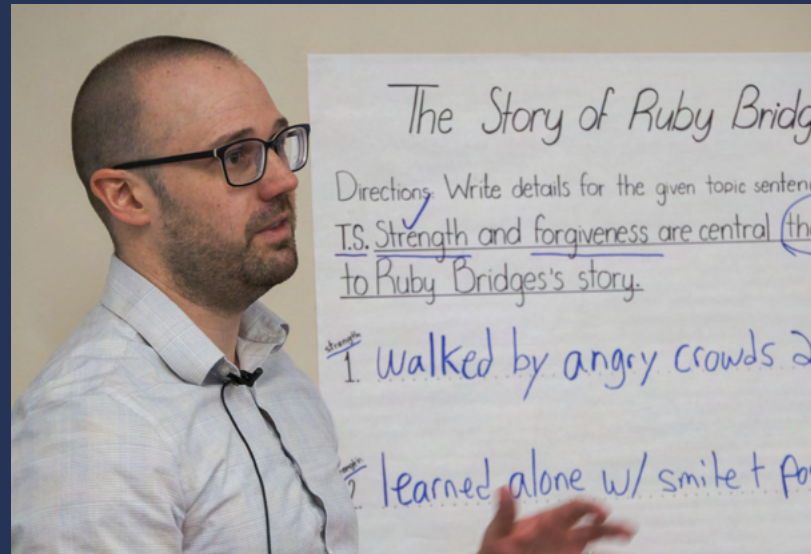
PROGRAM EXPERIENCE

Sydoni Ellwood
Senior Manager of Program Experience

Justin Carlisle
Program Experience Associate

Rozanne Dolly
Program Experience Associate





Ways to Make an Impact Today

As we look ahead, our mission is bold: expanding TWR's reach to more educators, empowering them with the innovative tools they need to drive student success.

We can't do this alone. Join the revolution and help us "write the next chapter." Your involvement, whether through donations, partnerships, or advocacy will directly contribute to transforming classrooms nationwide, ensuring every student has the writing skills they need to reach their full potential.

**Join us today—
let's make this vision a reality.**



Make a Donation

Help us transform education! Your donation equips educators with tools to enhance student writing and critical thinking, especially in underserved communities. Every dollar changes lives.



Volunteer Your Skills

Lend your expertise to help us reach more classrooms and inspire a generation of writers and thinkers.



Advocate for Change

Spread the word! Your voice can help us amplify our mission and reach even more students in need.

The Writing Revolution

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