



Dear Superintendents, Principals, G/T Coordinators, Educators, and Families:

Registration is now open for the 2010 Young Writers & Artists Conference

Bethany Lutheran College

Grades 3-6, may attend Tuesday, March 9 or Wednesday, March 10

Grades 7-9, Wednesday, March 10

NEW! Professional Development sessions for K-12 Teachers, March 9 and/or March 10

The Young Writers & Artists Conference is designed with the student in mind! Our instructors are knowledgeable, enthusiastic and anxious to meet your students. Personalized instruction and academically rich hands-on education will take place throughout the day. Please share the enclosed brochure with your staff and students. A printable copy is also available on our website, www.mnscsc.org, click on *Young Writers & Artists Conference*. We suggest putting an announcement in your school bulletin directing all interested families to our website for information and registration. Many families choose to register their students for this conference, even when the school does not offer the conference as a classroom field trip.

This year, we have added professional development sessions for educators. This opportunity is available to **all teachers** whether or not they bring students to the conference. A separate brochure for these sessions is included and is available on our website. Clock hours (CEUs) are available. Sessions may qualify for renewal hours in "Accommodations, modification and adaptation of curriculum." Cost is \$35 per participant. Breaks will coordinate with the student session rotations and lunch.

Some important conference information is outlined below:

- Only **online** registrations are accepted at www.mnscsc.org, click on "events." Sessions fill fast so register today! **Registration deadline is Feb. 26.**
- The \$25 student fee can be paid online, or by check or purchase order with the payment coupon in the brochure.
- Please share the conference brochure with families; they may want to attend independently. Families must provide their own adult chaperone and transportation.
- We require schools and families to provide their own adult chaperones. Chaperones attend the student conference free of charge, but **must** register online.
- Check-In begins at 8 a.m. in the Sports & Fitness Center where the students' confirmed conference schedules and session location maps will be provided. Information must be picked up by a chaperone.
- The opening session will begin promptly at 9 a.m. in the Sports & Fitness Center. Please arrive in plenty of time to secure your seats.
- A book fair will be hosted in the Sports & Fitness Center during the conference. Presenting authors' books and other favorites will be available for purchase.
- **LUNCH WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE** – please bring your own lunch and beverage. There are no vending machines on site.
- Students should enter and exit using the Sports & Fitness Center, Division Street entrance. Please park cars in the lot adjacent to the Center. Busses should park in the Bethany lot off Marsh Street (corner of Marsh Street & Oaklawn Avenue) on Oaklawn Avenue or on Division Street.
- If Mankato Area Public Schools (District 77) are closed due to inclement weather on your scheduled conference date, it will be held on March 11. Watch major networks for school closings.

Please contact Mary Hillmann with conference questions at mhillmann@mnscsc.org or 952-715-8745. For registration assistance contact students@mnscsc.org. We look forward to seeing you in March!