

DGF: Traveling Masters

DRAMATISTS GUILD
FOUNDATION

DGF's Traveling Masters program makes it possible for students, professionals, and theater lovers to connect with giants of the American Theater to be inspired, challenged, and empowered.

The Traveling Masters is a nationwide education program providing master classes and events on the craft of writing. Participants interact with luminaries

of the modern stage, allowing them to learn, ask questions, and develop their talents with input from true experts.

Participants gain insight into the real-world experiences of award-winning writers. In turn, this gives them the ability to see further down their own paths, helping them push past obstacles and challenges with quality instruction and advice.

"What I found most compelling was how the Q&A time turned into a mutual sharing experience...It was a real dialogue!"

- Masters Event Attendee



DGF Traveling Master: Playwright
Paula Vogel
How I Learned to Drive, Indecent

At the Contemporary American Theater Festival in WV, DGF Traveling Master, Chisa Hutchinson (*The Wedding Gift*) led a writing workshop for students, ages 60+. She asked them to "Write about a time that you should have said something...but didn't." One gentleman wrote and performed a monologue about a girl he knew growing up. He had a strong suspicion this girl was being abused, but kept silent.

Through playwriting, he was able to articulate the regret, sadness, and hope that he had been keeping inside for years. He shared it with Chisa and the class that day, moving everyone in the room to tears.

The Traveling Masters program helps people bring out their stories. When that happens, we all benefit.



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The Traveling Masters program started in 2011 with one Master. To date, the program sends 12 Masters out annually and has reached over **15,000 students in 27 states.**

Previous Masters have included eminent writers such as Annie Baker, Pearl Cleage, Melissa James Gibson, Terrence McNally, Dael Orlandersmith, Anne Washburn, and many other award-winning writers.

DGF recognizes that it is vital to spread quality theatrical education across the nation, so that writers from around the country can best tell their stories. Based on the overwhelmingly positive feedback for the program, DGF plans to significantly expand the program's reach, supplementing arts education for students and adults who might otherwise have limited access.

"It reminds us as artists that we're all working together. We're able to learn from one another."

- Masters Event Attendee:

Tyler Dwiggs

Ball State University, Muncie, IN

INTERESTED IN LEARNING FROM OUR TRAVELING MASTERS?

To see where we're headed next, visit us at dgf.org.

To learn more about how a Master might connect with your community, call us at **212-391-8384**.

SUPPORT YOUR FUTURE WRITERS OF THE AMERICAN THEATER.

DGF invites you to join us in our effort to mentor the next generation of writers. Our vision is to reach all 50 states by 2020. With your support, we can make this vision a reality.

To learn more about supporting the Traveling Masters, contact Jamie Balsai, Development Manager at **212-391-8384** or email jamie@dgf.org.