826 Boston is a nonprofit youth writing and publishing organization that empowers traditionally underserved students ages 6-18 to find their voices, tell their stories, and gain communication skills to succeed in school and in life.

We believe that every student has a story to tell.

Writing their paths forward

826 Boston trains volunteer tutors to provide individualized writing support to students, collaborates with teachers on project-based learning opportunities, and publishes student writing in professionally designed books.

826 Boston is one of seven chapters in a national network of youth writing centers co-founded by author Dave Eggers and educator Nínive Calegari that serves 30,000 students annually.

(turn to learn more . . .)
What we do

“What working within a space filled with support and encouragement, my students pushed themselves to do their best work.”

—Dr. Katherine Petta, 826 Boston Partner Teacher at the Jeremiah E. Burke High School in Dorchester

All of 826 Boston’s programs provide tutoring support to students and encourage them to develop their writing skills, explore their imaginations, and tell their stories. Offered to families and students free of charge, 826 Boston’s programs take place in partner Boston public schools and in our center in Roxbury’s Egleston Square.

After-School Writing and Tutoring
Writers’ Rooms
Storytelling and Bookmaking Field Trips
College Essay Boot Camp
Publishing Projects
Workshops

Why writing?

Strong writing skills are critical for future success, but many educators do not have the resources or training that they need to effectively teach writing skills in their classrooms. Three out of four 12th graders are not writing at grade-level proficiency; that number increases to nine out of ten for students of color. 826 Boston provides students across the city with targeted writing support and publishing opportunities. When students’ writing is shared and celebrated, it sends the important message that their stories and voices matter.

Impact

Since opening its doors in 2007, 826 Boston has worked with more than 20,000 students and 350 teachers. 826 Boston is changing the lives of students.

100% of teachers report an increase in the quality of their students’ writing.

98% of parents report that their child is more confident doing schoolwork and better able to work independently.

91% of published authors reported pride and confidence in their writing.

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