

# ***Omaha Homeschool Writing Conference***

***Featuring:***

***Andrew Pudewa***

***Institute for Excellence in Writing***

***St. Peter Church, McMahon Hall***

***723 S. 27th Street, Omaha***

***May 31 - June 2, 2012***

***Registration begins April 1, 2012***



**Andrew Pudewa** is the founder, principal speaker, and director of the Institute for Excellence in Writing. Presenting throughout North America, he addresses issues relating to teaching, writing, thinking, spelling, and music with clarity, insight, practical experience, and humor. His seminars for parents, students, and teachers have helped transform many a reluctant writer and have equipped educators with powerful tools to dramatically improve students' skills.

Although he is a graduate of the Talent Education Institute in Japan (Suzuki Method) and holds a [Certificate of Child Brain Development](#), his best endorsement is from a young Alaskan boy who called him "the funny man with the wonderful words." He and his beautiful, heroic wife Robin are parents of seven, grandparents of three, and educators of their two youngest children at home in Oklahoma's Green Country.

Sponsored by:

Catholic Homeschool Association of Omaha

To register, please go to [www.chaohome.org](http://www.chaohome.org)

# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION

## Thursday, May 31

Introductory Student Workshops

Seating limited to 30 students per workshop

COST: \$20/workshop

8:30 – 10:15 **OR** 1:00 – 2:45 Grades 5 & 6

10:30 – 12:15 **OR** 3:00 – 4:45 Grades 7 & 8

## Friday, June 1

High School Essay Intensive

Seating limited to 100 students

COST: \$50/Student, \$25/Parent

8:30 – 12:15 SAT/ACT Essay Prep

12:15 – 1:00 Bring your own lunch

1:00 – 3:30 College/Scholarship Application Essay Strategies

## Saturday, June 2

Parent/Teacher Writing Conference

COST: \$25/person, \$35/couple - April 1 to May 15

\$35/person, \$45/couple - At the Door (cash/check only)

8:00 – 8:20 Registration & Continental Breakfast

8:20 – 8:30 Opening Remarks & Prayer

8:30 – 10:00 "Four Deadly Errors of Teaching Writing"

10:15 – 12:00 "Teaching Boys & Other Children Who Would  
Rather Make Forts All Day"

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch

1:00 – 2:30 "Humor in Teaching and Speaking"

2:45 – 4:00 "Nurturing Competent Communicators – The Power of  
Linguistic Patterns"

## General Information

† May 31, NO lunch is provided.

† May 31, a parent may stay on-site at no cost.

† June 1, high school students should bring their own lunch and stay on-site.

† June 2, lunch is available for purchase with pre-registration.

† All days, non-registered children may NOT attend, nursing infants are welcome.

† No refunds will be available if you are unable to attend.

† Please do not call St. Peter Church with questions.

Questions:

Melia 402-214-3283

OR

Amy 402-319-9687

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#### Introductory Student Workshops (Gr. 5 - 8)

These writing classes for students in grades 5 - 8 will present the Structure and Style Units 1 & 2 tools: key word outlining and applying selected stylistic techniques.

Grade levels are approximate; no previous IEW experience is presumed.

**Note: Parents with students enrolled in introductory student workshops are strongly encouraged to register for the June 2nd writing conference.**

#### High School Essay Intensive (HSE)

The High School Essay Prep class is an excellent way to acquire immediate experience and inside tips on how to do one's best on the timed, 25-minute response to a prompt required on the SAT test. Participants will actually write two full essays, while receiving a detailed booklet of resources and suggestions for continued practice.

Additionally, students will learn special structure and style tools for use in composing the college application personal essay—an entirely different writing task. The complete process will be presented: choosing the question, creating the outline, and polishing a final version. Participants will leave with a clear concept of the task, their own outline for an actual personal essay, and several new tricks and techniques to add to their repertoire.

Although this seminar is specifically designed for those who will be taking the SAT or submitting college applications within the next 1–2 years—and especially those teaching such students—it is also useful for general writing practice, tools and tips. It is open to all students, regardless of their experience with IEW courses or materials. A great deal of actual writing is done during this six-hour class.

#### Conference Topics

##### *The Four Deadly Errors of Teaching Writing*

We've all suffered it at one time or another: Frustration about writing assignments. Either on the receiving end, or perhaps now on the giving end, there can be a few distinctly discouraging aspects to teaching and being taught writing. The tough questions include: What to correct and how to give a grade? How much help is too much? Isn't the assignment clear enough? Why don't students find their own errors? Learn and avoid four teaching mistakes that contribute to this frustration: Overcorrecting, Holding Back Help, Unclear Assignments, & Over-Expectation.

##### *Teaching Boys & Other Children Who Would Rather Make Forts All Day*

Children like to do what they can do; they want to do what they think they can do, and they hate to do what they think they cannot do. If you want excited and enthusiastic children who learn well, you must understand these key laws of motivation, and focus on the essential requirement of relevancy. If it matters, children will learn it, and if it doesn't, they won't. This session will enlighten you with specific ways to find and create relevancy for children, even when they have no apparent interest.

##### *Humor in Teaching and Speaking*

The power of humor and mirth to aid in effective teaching is certain. Although some people have more of a natural inclination toward humor than others, everyone can study and learn how to use the elements of humor to improve their teaching and speaking skills. Learn to incorporate the rhetorical techniques of Misunderstanding, Absurdity, Hyperbole, Exaggeration, Understatement, Double Entendre, and more.

##### *Nurturing Competent Communicators (NCC) - The Two Most Critical Components*

Many parents and teachers assume that good readers will naturally or automatically become good writers. Others think that writing talent is just a natural ability—some have it, others don't. Both are myths. History and observation show very clearly how good writers have developed, and what are the two most critical things parents and teachers can do to nurture a high level of aptitude—from a young age through high school. With humor and insight Andrew Pudewa will share the two easy but unbelievably powerful things that must be done at home and in the classroom to create confident communicators.