

Julia Edwards

Writer
Teacher
Essay Specialist

Julia Edwards

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Skills

I am a jack-of-all-trades in the realm of words and story. I write plays for adults and teens, and novels for tweens. I teach the craft of writing to all ages, from elementary school to college. I work with high school seniors on college essays. I am passionate about drawing out the author's voice and teaching the power of the proverbial pen.

Writing

Plays for Youth

Author of numerous plays for teens, including LOCKDOWN which was commissioned and premiered at South Coast Repertory, A LOSER LIKE YOU which is part of the BULLYING, INK anthology and has been performed in high schools across the country. Above titles are published through [YouthPLAYS](#).

Children's Literature

Winner of the 2023 LA-SCBWI Sue Alexander Award, I SPEAK FOR THE TREES is a magical middle-grade tale about a budding activist who must learn how to speak for the trees before it's too late. Back-to-back Runner-up and Winner of the LA-SCBWI Sue Alexander Award, ANNO CATTI is a futuristic adventure about a boy and his dog battling an ancient cat mummy who wants to rule the world.

Plays for Adults

Author of numerous full-length plays, including UNTETHERED which was produced site-specifically at the Mountain View Mausoleum in Altadena, California. FAMILY PLANNING, produced by Chalk Repertory Company in LA-residential homes, won the LA-Ovation Award for Best Small Production. THE RATS ARE GETTING BIGGER was workshopped in NYC at The Flea and The Public, and produced at the NYC Fringe Festival.

Teaching

Pasadena Story Lab / Founder & Teacher

2014 - present

I develop and teach individualized curriculum for elementary through high school-age students. I believe that sharing stories from a young age empowers children and prepares them for future success in school and in life.

Talon Tales Literary Journal / Founder & Senior Editor

2011 - 2021

Founded and produced a professional-quality 250+ page annual literary journal at Sequoyah, a Pasadena K-8 private school. Duties included one-on-one editorial meetings with students, volunteer coordination, book design, InDesign layout, copy editing, and producing a launch event with professional actors.

Kaiser Permanente MPOWR Summer Arts / Guest Teacher

2011

Developed curriculum and taught writing class in underserved Los Angeles middle school. Class culminated with a published 'zine and reading.

Louisiana State University / Guest Teacher

2009

Attended my play that was in production and led a one-day playwriting class with undergraduate students.

Orange Coast College / Adjunct Teacher

2002 - 2003

Developed syllabus for and taught 100-level English Composition classes for freshmen as well as a Creative Writing class (playwriting and screenwriting).

ArtsBridge - UCSD / Guest Teacher

2001

Developed theater arts curriculum and writing exercises for middle students in San Diego Public School.

UC - San Diego / Graduate Teaching Assistant

1999-2001

Teaching Assistant for undergraduate playwriting and literature classes, assisted faculty with discussion sessions and lectures. Recipient of the Teaching Assistant Achievement Award, 2001.

Essay Coaching

Scholar Match / College Coach & Essay Specialist

2023- present

At [ScholarMatch](#), a nonprofit that guides low-income youth through the college admissions process, I help students with building a balanced college list, crafting a standout activities list, and brainstorming, writing, and editing the personal essays.

826LA / Writing Coach

2018 - present

With [826LA](#), a nonprofit creative writing and tutoring organization that caters to underserved schools, I participate in annual Personal Statement Day at area high schools and led a one-off creative writing class for Echo Park location.

Colledge / Essay Specialist

2016 - 2017

At [Colledge](#), a Pasadena-area college admissions counseling service, I worked with students on their personal and supplementary essays, including brainstorming, writing, and editing.

Education

UC - San Diego / MFA - Playwriting

A three-year repertory program that taught playwriting through doing – writing, workshopping, and mounting one full production each year. Also worked as a graduate teaching assistant, aiding faculty in playwriting and literature classes.

Brown University / BA - Semiotics

Housed in the Department of Modern Culture and Media, my degree blended classes in cultural theory, literature, and creative writing. My senior project culminated with workshopping an original play.

Awards

*[2023, LA-SCBWI Sue Alexander Award, **I Speak for the Trees**, Winner.](#)*

*2018, LA-SCBWI Sue Alexander Award, **Anno Catti**, Winner.*

*2017, LA-SCBWI Sue Alexander Award, **Anno Catti**, Runner-up.*

*2015, LA Ovation Award, **Family Planning**, Best Small Production.*