

38TH ANNUAL

YOUNG

WRITERS'

CONFERENCE

AT FRESNO STATE

**MARCH 21, 2018
8 A.M. TO 2 P.M.
SATELLITE
STUDENT UNION**

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Each spring, the Department of English and the Creative Writing Program host the Young Writers' Conference for area high school students, with support from the College of Arts and Humanities and more than a dozen campus and community sponsors.

The conference provides a valuable opportunity for young writers to hear a professional author read his or her work and answer questions about the creative writing process and profession. It also allows young writers to meet and interact with other student writers from across the Central Valley, to get a taste of what a university-level writing workshop might be like, and to get feedback on their own writing.

Our department's graduate students, as part of their commitment to service learning, teach the creative writing workshops, and they also serve as the editorial board of the conference's youth journal, *Spectrum*, which celebrates the best work submitted by area schools.

The conference also provides excellent training and an opportunity for an exchange of ideas among creative writing and English teachers. The conference stands as an excellent example of an ongoing collaborative effort between area school districts and the university.

THIS YEAR'S KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Born and raised in Fresno, Mai Der Vang is the author of the poetry collection *Afterland*, published in 2017 by Graywolf Press. Her debut book won the 2016 Walt Whitman Award from the Academy of American Poets, and it was longlisted for a National Book Award.



Mai Der's poetry has appeared in *Poetry*, the *Virginia Quarterly Review*, the *LA Review of Books*, *Guernica*, and elsewhere. Her essays have been published in *The New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, and the *San Francisco*

Chronicle. As an editorial member of the Hmong American Writers' Circle, she was co-editor of *How Do I Begin: A Hmong American Literary Anthology*.

Mai Der earned a Master of Fine Arts degree in Creative Writing (Poetry) from Columbia University, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from the University of California, Berkeley. She currently serves as a 2017-18 visiting writer at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in the MFA Writing Program.

**HOSTED BY THE
MASTER OF FINE ARTS PROGRAM IN CREATIVE WRITING
AND THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH**

FRESNO STATE
College of Arts and Humanities

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MANUSCRIPT DEADLINE: FEB. 22, 2018

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MARCH 12, 2018

GET SIGNED UP

Registration: We will accept registration anytime after Jan. 2. Payment should be sent as early as possible. Let us know if your office needs a formal invoice.

Registration limit: The conference is open to students from 9th to 12th grades, with a limit of 20 students per school. Please use a selection method that will allow your most talented and motivated students to attend.

Registration fee: The registration fee is \$15 per person, both for students and for teachers. Payment is preferred by March 12 and will be accepted no later than the day of the conference. The fee includes admission to the morning session featuring the keynote speaker, lunch, the afternoon session featuring one writing workshop of choice, and one copy of our youth journal, *Spectrum*.

Register now: Early registration provides time to adequately prepare for materials and meals. Late registration is not guaranteed.

Refund policy: A refund, minus an 8% processing fee, can be authorized with a written request by March 12. No other refunds can be granted.

GET PUBLISHED

An important part of the conference is the publication of our youth journal, *Spectrum*. All students are encouraged to submit works of poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction to be considered. Select manuscripts will receive awards.

We will accept manuscripts electronically from Jan. 2 through Feb. 22. This allows us time for reading and judging, as well as layout and printing of the anthology.

Email manuscripts to:
YWCsubmissions@mail.fresnostate.edu

Manuscript guidelines:

- Teachers are responsible for ensuring that students submit original work.
- Include: 1. author's name, 2. school, 3. grade, and 4. the teacher's name in the upper left corner of the first page.
- Must be .doc or .rtf format.
- No graphics, fancy fonts, or borders.
- Limit: 3 poems and/or 2 works of fiction or nonfiction prose (please limit prose pieces to 7 pages each).

Only a limited number of submissions can be published, but we encourage all participating students to submit their work.

GET TO CAMPUS

Location:

Satellite Student Union, Fresno State

Event schedule:

8:15 - 9:00	Registration
9:00 - 9:45	Welcome and awards presentations
9:45 - 10:45	Morning session, feat. keynote speaker
10:45 - 11:45	Lunch
12:00 - 2:00	Afternoon session, feat. workshops for teachers and students

Parking: Participants can receive a one-day free parking pass from kiosks at most university entrances using coupon code 264827. Parking recommended in Lots P5 or P6. Busses may drop students at the Satellite Student Union.

Registration area: Contact teachers can pick up conference packets for schools on the day of the event in the Satellite Student Union lobby.

Campus map:

www.fresnostate.edu/map

Questions?

Contact our conference coordinator Tanya Nichols, 559.278.1569 or tanichols@csufresno.edu

MORE INFO:

WWW.FRESNOSTATE.EDU/YOUNGWRITERS

TWITTER:

[@FRESNOSTATEMFA](https://twitter.com/FRESNOSTATEMFA)