

The Center for Documentary Expression and Art Presents:

WE HOLD THESE TRUTHS

Summer 2026 Writing and Performing Arts Program
For high-school age youth (13 - 18)

JUNE 8 - JULY 3, 2026



WE HOLD THESE TRUTHS

is a four-week creative writing and performance workshop where the words “We hold these truths” become a living, breathing inquiry. Inspired by the Declaration of Independence and other writings, this **friendly community experience** invites you to **explore what equality, liberty, and justice** mean in your own life and in the world around you. Through prose, poetry, and performance, you will find and **shape your voice, creating original work** that speaks to **who you are and what you stand for**. Together, we will **question, imagine, and reframe** these founding ideals, culminating in a public sharing where your words take the stage and your truths are heard.

PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE:

- Up to 3 University of Utah Elective Credits (Upon Completion)
- Up to a \$200 Stipend (Upon Completion)
- Opportunities for student writing to be published and shared with the community
- Daily Snacks provided with time to explore the cultural center and its outdoor spaces

WHEN: June 8 - July 3, 2026 | Monday through Thursday | 10:00am - 1:00pm | Final Performance on Friday July 3

WHERE: Utah Cultural Celebration Center (UCCC), 1355 W 3100 S, West Valley City, UT 84119

PARTICIPATION: Limited to 35 participants, no cost to participate, with expectation to meet for 3 hours a day, 4 times per week, for 4 weeks (a total of 16 sessions)

HOW TO APPLY: Scan the QR code below or go to <https://cdeautah.org/> (application link is at the top of the page--WHTT SIGN UP)

DEADLINE TO APPLY: Monday June 1st by 11:59 PM MST

FACILITATORS: Led by Samantha Briggs with David Gonzalez, Masha Shukovich, and J.R. Martinez



APPLY NOW!



“We Hold These Truths” is presented by the Center for Documentary Expression & Art in partnership with The University of Utah Department of Theatre, University Neighborhood Partners, and the Utah Cultural Celebration Center. Generously supported by the National Endowment for the Arts; Utah Division of Arts & Museums; Zoo, Arts & Parks (ZAP II); Salt Lake City Arts Council; and XMISSION.