



**AMY
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WRITING BY STORM: OVERCOMING OBSTACLES TO WRITING

Developed in collaboration with L/A Arts, Lewiston School Department, and Auburn School Department in Lewiston/Auburn, Maine

Workshop Leader: Amy MacDonald

For Teachers of Grades 1-5

3 hours of instruction time

Maximum number of workshop participants: 30

This hands-on writing workshop uses group writing and brainstorming techniques to help students (and teachers) learn to recognize and overcome common obstacles and anxieties about writing—specifically coming up with ideas; staying focused; creating a well-developed beginning, middle, and end; adding detail; and tackling revision. Modeling what she has done in hundreds of elementary school classrooms, Amy MacDonald uses a writer's perspective to lead teachers through several brief writing exercises and the creation, writing, and revision of a group story.

Amy MacDonald also offers the following services* for:

Students

- Performances/Exhibits/Lecture-Demonstrations
- Workshops in Preparation for Performance/Exhibit-Attendance
- Other Workshops
- Residencies

Teachers

- Demonstration Teaching
- Workshops in Preparation for Performance/Exhibit-Attendance

Parents

- PTA/PTO Presentations/Speeches

**Not all services have been designed or presented by the Kennedy Center.*

AMY MACDONALD is the author of a dozen children's books. Her books have won awards in three countries, been published in 22 languages, and made the *New York Times* list of the top ten children's books for the year. A writer all her life, she has worked as a journalist and editor for many major newspapers and magazines in this country and in Great Britain and France, from the *Times* of London to *The New Yorker*. Ms. MacDonald has taught writing to all ages, from kindergarten through elementary, middle, and high school, at the university level, and to post-graduate students and adults. She has also taught expository and creative writing at Harvard University, the University of Maine, and at the Stonecoast Writers conference.