 

Opening Minds, Opening Doors:

Preparing a Powerful Story for Presentation

Application Deadline: March 4, 2019

VSA Texas is seeking adults with disabilities interested in storytelling and public speaking!

Participant Requirements

* Have a disability
* Must be 18 or older
* Demonstrate an interest in writing, public speaking, or advocacy
* Turn in the completed application form (attached)
* Turn in a resume of work and/or volunteer experience (optional)
* Turn in a letter of recommendation (optional)
* Complete a phone interview with a panel of project staff
* Make a suggested donation of $35 to help cover class expenses

Participants in Preparing a Powerful Story for Presentation will be professionally trained to speak and present at statewide conferences. Through a workshop focused on narrative storytelling and presentation techniques, participants will work to develop strong, creative voices and skills to advocate for the disability community.

Workshop Schedule:

6 Saturdays, 1:00-4:00 PM, March 30, April 6, 13 and 27, May 4 and 11

AGE Building, Room 101, 3710 Cedar Street, Austin, TX 78705

**Final Showcase:**

Saturday, May 18, 1:00-4:00 PM

Ground Floor Theatre, 979 Springdale Road #122, Austin, TX 78702

Note: Attendance is required for all participants unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor. Reasonable absences due to illness, family emergency, etc. will be excused.

VSA Texas: Promoting Self-Advocates as Speakers Application

Due Monday, March 4th, at 5:00 PM

Phone interviews will be scheduled for March 11th – 14th. Final decisions will be announced Monday, March 18th.

This application is designed for typing directly into the text boxes. However, the application may also be printed and filled out by hand. Please use extra paper as needed to answer the longer questions. If you have any questions or need assistance to make this form accessible to you, please contact Eric Clow at 866-489-8412.

Please type answers into the right column. Cells will expand. For “Yes/No” questions, delete the answer you are not using. Please answer every question. If the question does not apply to you, enter “N/A.”

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| Name |  |
| Address |  |
| Home Phone |  |
| Cell Phone |  |
| Email |  |
| School Currently Attending |  |
| Graduated From |  |
| Date of Birth |  |
| Accommodations Needed |  |
| Dates You Are Not Available |  |
| Race/Ethnicity***(Optional)*** |  |
| Disability***(Optional)*** |  |
| Interest | Writing Yes No  Public Speaking Yes No  Advocacy Yes No |
| Do You Have Experience With… | Handwriting Yes No  Typing Yes No  PowerPoint /Slideshows Yes No  Microphones Yes No  Theater/Improv Yes No  Email Yes No  Disability History Yes No  Advocacy/Activism Yes No |
| What Does Being An Advocate Mean To You? |  |
| What Topics Or Issues Do You Want To Speak About Publicly? |  |
| What Audiences Would You Like To Speak To?  *(Audience examples include: parents, high school students, teachers, children, etc.)* |  |
| Why Should We Choose You To Participate In This Program? |  |
| Resume Attached ***(OPTIONAL)*** | Yes No |
| Letter of Recommendation Attached ***(OPTIONAL)*** | Yes No |
| Secondary Contact Person |  |
| Relationship |  |
| Phone |  |
| Email |  |
| Submit to VSA Texas by | Mail: 3710 Cedar Street #7  Austin, TX 78705  Email: [eric@vsatx.org](mailto:eric@vsatx.org)  Fax: 512-454-1944 |

VSA Texas

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Austin, TX 78705

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