

ORLANDO REPERTORY THEATRE  
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH UCF

The REP

# RESOURCE GUIDE

FOR EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS

## 20 Years in the Future: What Do You See?



PRODUCED BY ORLANDO REPERTORY THEATRE



# ABOUT

Writes of Spring is a unique writing competition that encourages students to enhance their writing skills through creative expression. Each year, Orlando REP accepts hundreds of student submissions from Kindergarten through 12th grade. Excerpts from the winning entries are compiled to create an original play using the students' original words and ideas. The final script is fully produced by Orlando REP and UCF graduate students and presented onstage at Orlando REP in the Spring.

Submissions may be up to one full page. Students are encouraged to explore any and all styles of writing, be it a short story, poetry, essay, or any other format they see fit. Entries may be fiction or nonfiction.

Entries are submitted online via <https://www.orlandorep.com/writes-of-spring/> or on paper through the mail. Please contact [writesofspring@orlandorep.com](mailto:writesofspring@orlandorep.com) if you plan to submit through mail to receive further instructions.

## The Prompt

### “20 Years in the Future: What Do You See?”

“So, we can’t save the world by playing by the rules, because the rules have to be changed. Everything needs to change and it has to start today.” **-Greta Thunberg**

“I can hear change humming,  
In its loudest, proudest song.  
I don’t fear change coming,  
And so I sing along.”

**- Amanda Gorman, Change Sings**

We are celebrating 20 years of Writes of Spring! That is two whole decades. Since the beginning of Writes of Spring, we have had the privilege of honoring the imaginations and writings of thousands of students, and we are so grateful for the chance to connect with our young people and stage their stories. In the past twenty years, we have seen the rise of important movements like Black Lives Matter, #ENOUGH, Me Too, and more. We have also experienced a pandemic that has affected us all differently and drastically. This year, we want to hear from our youth about what they envision our world might look like in another 20 years. What changes do you hope to see happen? What changes do you want to help implement? Imagine all the different places twenty years could take you! There are endless possibilities ahead, and we want to read them all.

## Important Dates (Subject to Change)

Submissions Open- September 22, 2022  
Submissions Close- October 22, 2022  
Winners Notified- January 12, 2023  
Winners Workshop- January/February TBD  
Performance- March 10, 2023

# EXPLORING THE PROMPT

These are suggestions on how to approach and discuss this year's prompt with your students. We encourage you to use these questions as a starting point for classroom activities and conversations that meet your personal curriculum.

## 1) What would be in your time capsule?

"Preserve your memories, keep them well, what you forget you can never retell"

— **Louisa May Alcott**

Similar to boxes of buried treasure, time capsules have been used throughout time to preserve memories for people in the future. You can find things like photographs, knick-knacks, and special mementos that reflect what folks believe is important about their history. What do you want people in the future to know about you or society today?

## 2) If you were to write a letter to your future self what would it be? What would you want to remember? What advice do you have for your future self?

"Listen to the MUSTN'TS, child,  
Listen to the DON'TS  
Listen to the SHOULDN'TS  
The IMPOSSIBLES, the WON'TS  
Listen to the NEVER HAVES  
Then listen close to me—  
Anything can happen, child,  
ANYTHING can be."

— **Shel Silverstein, *Where the Sidewalk Ends***

Our imagination allows us to think about life not only as it is, but as it could be. When you imagine the next twenty years of your life, what do you see? Is there any advice you would like to give to the future you? Think not only of yourself but also of the world around you. Is there anything you want to remember as you write the story of the next twenty years of your life?

## 3) If you were to design a new future, what would it look like?

"There's so many different ways to move through the world."

— **Rachel Hauck - *Hadestown* scenic designer**

In theater productions, movies, and video games, designers get to imagine what the future will look like, and bring it to life by creating a futuristic world for their stories. Those futuristic designs help the story by showing the audience how the world needed or wanted to progress. Take a moment and think about a future you would like to see. What does it smell like? As you look around, what do you see? What does the food or even the air taste like? What are some inventions of the future? Design and describe the future that you see.





# SUGGESTED CPALMS STANDARDS

## Writing Standards

LAFS.1.RL.1.2 – Retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson.

LAFS.K-12.W.1.3 Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

LAFS.68.WHST.2.4 – Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience.

## Questions?

### Contact Us:

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