

# Mountain Writers Series



WHY NOT?

TURNING YOUR LIFE INTO PERFORMANCE

A Spokenword/Performance Workshop for Teens  
with Leanne Grabel

Saturday, July 7 - 27, 2013

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

TaborSpace Classroom — 5441 SE Belmont St, Portland

**Why Not? Turning Your Life into Performance: A Spokenword/Performance Workshop for Teens.** There is nothing more liberating than spilling your guts to a beat. You can actually dance to your life. And it's way better than wearing it heavy on your shoulders like a rock. In my new workshop for teenagers, *WHY NOT? Turning Your Life Into Performance*, we will write and then sculpt our personal stories into spoken-word pieces, creating a polished piece ready to perform. We will review poetry vocabulary and storytelling techniques, watch clips of fabulous performance pieces, generate lists of topics to explore. Then we will write. Editing, revising and rehearsing will be done individually and in groups. One ENTIRE class – if not two – will be devoted to editing, revising and rehearsing. Corresponding images (Powerpoint? Video? Photography? Paintings?) and music/beats will be added. The class will end with an informal performance for friends and family.

- Meets: Saturdays, 10:00 a.m.—12:00 PM, July 7, 13, 20 & 27, 2013
- Cost: \$150 (Four sessions)
- Location: Location: TaborSpace Classroom, 5441 SE Belmont, Portland OR 97215
- Enrollment: ages 12-18 (other ages negotiable). Minimum 5, maximum 12 participants

Register securely online through Paypal at [www.mountainwriters.org](http://www.mountainwriters.org) or send check payable Mountain Writers Series to MWS at 2804 SE 27th, #2, Portland, OR 97202. See [www.mountainwriters.org](http://www.mountainwriters.org) for details about deposits.

**Leanne Grabel** is a Language Arts and Special Education teacher for Portland Public Schools, working with children in treatment. She is also a poet and mother. She and her husband Steve Sander created and ran Cafe Lena. Grabel's performance pieces include "The Circus of Anguish and Mirth," "The Lighter Side of Chronic Depression," and "Anger: The Musical." Grabel's books include *Short Poems by a Short Person*, *Lonesome and Very Quarrelsome Heroes*, *Flirtations*, *Badgirls*, and *Brontosaurus: A Memoir*. Grabel has been teaching writing for nearly forty years.



*Mountain Writers Series —  
serving the literary community  
since 1973!*

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