

# Open House and Welcome Back!

**For All Writers in Foster Care**  
(or who used to be in foster care)

## Current *Represent* Writers:

Come in, meet old friends and new, and let's get started on the new year!

## New *Represent* Writers:

If you want to join the staff, come on in to see our office, meet our team, and learn about the magazine.

(New writers must be 14-21 years old.)



**When:** The open house is on **Thursday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>** from 4-6 p.m. Food and a free Metrocard will be provided.

**Address:** 224 W. 29<sup>th</sup> St. (between 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Avenues) in Manhattan, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

**Getting there:** Take the 1 train to 28<sup>th</sup> street, or the A, C, B, D, F, V, Q, N, 2, 3 or R trains to 34<sup>th</sup> Street/Penn Station. Bring a friend.

**Call Virginia** at **212-279-0708** at ext. **112** for more information and to let us know that you're coming.

If you can't make the Open House, send in an application by 9/28 and we'll get back to you



# Application for *represent* FALL WRITING WORKSHOP

*Represent* is a magazine written by and for young people in foster care. It is distributed to group homes and foster care agencies in New York City and throughout the country. The magazine's main purpose is to give a voice to young people in the system.

Writers who attend our fall workshop will receive a stipend, be instructed in journalism and write stories for publication in *Represent*. They will have a chance to meet other young people who've had similar experiences in care, as well as improve their writing, typing, and computer skills. To apply for the fall workshop, fill out this form, **ANSWER THE FOUR ESSAY QUESTIONS**, and mail to: *Represent*, 224 W. 29th St., 2nd Floor, New York, NY 10001, or fax to: (212) 279-8856. Applications must be received by September 28.

**APPLY NOW!**

## Information About Represent

**Where We Meet:** The writers work at the office of Youth Communication in midtown Manhattan.

**When We Meet:** The workshop will meet twice a week (after school), from mid-October to December. You can continue during the spring semester if you wish.

**Training:** Writers will be taught by the editors of *Represent*, who have substantial experience in journalism and working with young people. Each student will be trained to use a computer to write stories.

**Eligibility:** Anyone between the ages of 14 and 21 who lives in a group home, with a foster family, or on a campus (or who used to be in foster care) is eligible for the workshop. We are interested in your writing ability, but when we read your essays, we will also look for your knowledge and enthusiasm. *Represent's* most important job is conveying information to teens in an interesting way.

### **ATTENTION COUNSELORS:**

Please encourage teens to apply for the workshop, but *do not* help them with the actual writing of their essays. We do not accept teens whose writing is not their own.

**Applications must be received by September 28**

Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Foster Care Agency \_\_\_\_\_

Ethnicity (check all that apply)

Black  Latino  White  Asian  Native-America

Other \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about us? (social worker, ad in *Represent*, etc.)  
\_\_\_\_\_

**ON SEPARATE PIECES OF PAPER, ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS. Please be thorough. Write at least one page—but not more than two pages—for each essay. Please print neatly or type.**

Why do you want to write for *Represent* this fall? What personal strengths or interests can you bring to the magazine? What do you hope to gain from the experience?

Describe an experience in foster care that has had a big impact on your life. How has this experience affected you? What have you learned from it? How has it changed you?

Describe your neighborhood. What does it look like? What are the people like? What are the sights and sounds? Write as descriptively as possible, so we can really "see" it.

Talk about a personal accomplishment that you are really proud of. How did you achieve it? What did you learn from the experience?

**QUESTIONS?:** Call Virginia Vitzthum at 212-279-0708, ext. 112. (If you call from a touch tone phone, hit "112" after you dial 279-0708.) You and/or your foster parents or counselors can visit our offices before or after you apply. We may call you for an interview.

*Represent* is published by Youth Communication, a non-profit organization. Visit our website at [Youthcomm.org](http://Youthcomm.org) for more information on our programs and publications.