

## Origins of YFLA

Mary Pierce-Brosmer, the founder of WWf(a)C, created and led the first Feminist Leadership Academy for adult women at WWf(a)C in 2004. The Young Feminist Leadership Academy was founded by Jenn Reid, who facilitated the inaugural cohort with Sami Schalk in 2007, with successive classes graduating in 2008, 2013, and 2018. YFLA is a youth-led program, meaning whenever a critical mass of young people seek to deepen their leadership and involvement a cohort is formed.

### Learn More About YFLA!

We invite prospective participants and parents to join us for a virtual discernment circle, where we will provide more information about the schedule, content, and cost of the program.

**Saturday, May 1**

**11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (EST) on Zoom**

**Register here: [womenwriting.org](http://womenwriting.org)**

Contact Liv at [oliviaglenn@gmail.com](mailto:oliviaglenn@gmail.com) or Jaye Elizabeth at [jayelizelijah@gmail.com](mailto:jayelizelijah@gmail.com) with questions about registration or application.

### Facilitators

**Jaye Elizabeth Elijah** (they/them) has been a member of the YWWf(a)C community since attending summer class at the age of ten. They are a graduate of the Young Feminist Leadership Academy class of 2013 and have grown from teen assistant to facilitator. Jaye Elizabeth holds a BA in Literary Studies from The New School in New York City, and is an editor at Nightboat Books. They float between the hills of Ohio and the horizons of New Mexico.

**Liv Linn** (she/her) has been taking classes, facilitating, and making trouble at WWf(a)C since she was eight years old. She graduated from YFLA in 2013 (with Jaye Elizabeth!) and facilitated the 2018 cohort, hands-down her favorite thing about WW. Liv's professional work in the anti-violence movement has always been grounded in storytelling and the power of young people to lead change. She currently hikes, reads, and eats a lot of biscuits in Durham, NC.



# 2021 Young Feminist Leadership Academy

*a program of Young Women Writing for (a) Change®*



**Open to young women and TGNC youth ages  
14-20 with previous experience in classes looking to  
deepen their leadership at WWf(a)C.**

*“Participating in YFLA was fundamental in developing the person I am today. I’m so grateful I had this opportunity to develop my social consciousness and support system before going to college. I feel more equipped to say what I feel, listen actively, and be a vocal, present leader in my own communities thanks to YFLA.”*

—Maura O’Dea, 2018 YFLA Graduate

## Program

Throughout the course of YFLA, participants will hone practical and creative skills for facilitating at WWf(a)C as well as explore feminist history, projects, and theory in a cohort of young leaders. This 10-week intensive is designed to both prepare young people for leadership at WWf(a)C as well as offer the opportunity to define themselves as leaders in their schools, communities, and future professional lives.

### Participants will:

- \* Attend two virtual “retreats” for the opening and graduating weekends of the program.
- \* Be paired with an accountability partner within the cohort.
- \* Attend biweekly, 2.5-hour Zoom classes in between where they will explore feminist history, projects, and theory, develop practicum projects, and receive feedback.
- \* Receive one-on-one mentoring to implement a practicum project of their own design.
- \* Prepare and become eligible for paid opportunities to lead in future WWf(a)C youth classes.



## What's a Practicum Project?

The culmination of YFLA, a practicum is a self-directed project centered on each participant's interests which challenges their leadership. In developing, planning, and executing a project from start to finish, each participant will gain the facilitation skills necessary to lead at WWf(a)C and in their other communities.

### Previous projects have included:

- \* Facilitating a circle series for middle schoolers on identity and expression.
- \* Writing and hosting a performance of a series of monologues on race and gender.
- \* Completing and showing a photography project on body image.

## COVID-19

Due to safety and travel concerns, the YFLA program will be conducted on Zoom. The facilitators are skilled Zoom practitioners and are committed to crafting an engaging environment and avoiding Zoom fatigue.

We believe there is much to be learned from this moment, and this experiment in building virtual community offers challenges as well as gifts.

## Program Schedule

**Opening Retreat:** June 5-6

**Biweekly Classes:** Week of June 6 - Week of Aug 8  
(2.5 hours each; dates TBA)

**Midsummer Break:** Week of July 4th

**Graduation Retreat:** Aug 14-15

## Tuition: \$1,250 / \$1,060 / \$840 Sliding Scale

Sliding scale is a pricing model that aims to increase accessibility of programs by asking those who can afford a full-priced class to help subsidize the experience for those who can't. YFLA tuition includes fair wages for program planning and instruction by facilitators, mentors, guest artists and administrative staff; reading materials; and graduation gifts.

**Payment Plan:** Involves 25% deposit due by June 4, followed by three equal monthly payments for 3 months, with the remaining balance paid in full by September 30, 2021. (Payments can be made via check or PayPal.)

**June 4:** 25% deposit due

**July 2:** 25% payment due

**Aug 6:** 25% payment due

**Sep 3:** 25% payment due

\* If you need scholarship support beyond the sliding scale ([tinyurl.com/YFLASlidingScale](https://tinyurl.com/YFLASlidingScale)) please complete a scholarship application ([tinyurl.com/WWScholarships](https://tinyurl.com/WWScholarships))

## Apply!

Applications will be available via Google Forms on **May 1**. All applications (including scholarship apps) are due by **Sunday, May 16**. Applicants will be notified with a decision no later than **Monday, May 24**.