

Email subject line: 826 Seattle Opens Doors (Sort of)

**\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\***

**826 SEATTLE OPENS ITS DOORS TO STUDENTS**  
**New youth writing center to offer after-school tutoring five days a week.**

**Seattle—October 10, 2005. 826 Seattle**, the highly anticipated nonprofit writing and tutoring center, will open its doors to area high school students on Wednesday, October 12, 2005. From 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Sunday through Thursday, students can come for help on school assignments, college entrance essays, and creative writing—all free of charge.

This innovative program, inspired by the highly successful 826 Valencia in San Francisco, offers students a chance to work on their writing and get one-on-one help with other school subjects. Each tutoring session is staffed with trained, multi-disciplined tutors—professional writers, language arts teachers, engineers, college students—who volunteer their time. With a current roster of 351 volunteers, 826 Seattle is prepared to help students at all skill levels improve their writing.

Teri Hein, 826 Seattle's Executive Director and founder, explains, "We are starting with homework help. Once we work out the bugs, we'll begin expanding our programming. Our youth advisory board is having their first meeting this week and we will count on them to help guide us in every aspect of the program, from the kinds of workshops we offer to the best time for homework help to what color to paint the bathrooms."

826 Seattle will also pilot writing workshops this fall, including a memoir workshop with Hein (author of *Atomic Farmgirl*, a memoir of growing up in Eastern Washington) and a comic book workshop (instructor TBD). Exact dates and times for workshops will be announced at a later date.

826 Seattle is a chapter of 826 National, a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting students, ages 6 to 18, with their creative and expository writing skills, and to helping teachers inspire their students to write. All 826 services are structured around the belief that great leaps in learning can happen with one-on-one attention and that strong writing skills are fundamental to a child's future success. Each 826 chapter boasts distinguished authors, journalists, musicians, and radio professionals who volunteer their time to help students learn how to write novels, plays, and feature articles, produce radio programs, make comic books, write songs, and work on their school writing assignments. 826 students have had their work featured in a variety of venues, including publications, public readings, and web broadcasts. In addition to Seattle, there are chapters in Ann Arbor [Chicago](#), [Los Angeles](#), [New York](#), and [San Francisco](#) (the original 826).

826 Seattle is located at 8414 Greenwood Avenue N. For more information, visit [www.826seattle.org](http://www.826seattle.org). For a full press kit, email your request to [heidibroadhead@826seattle.org](mailto:heidibroadhead@826seattle.org).

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