



→ **ACTION**

→ **WRITING WORKSHOPS**

→ **ADVOCACY**

→ **SOCIAL JUSTICE**



### Herstory's Mission

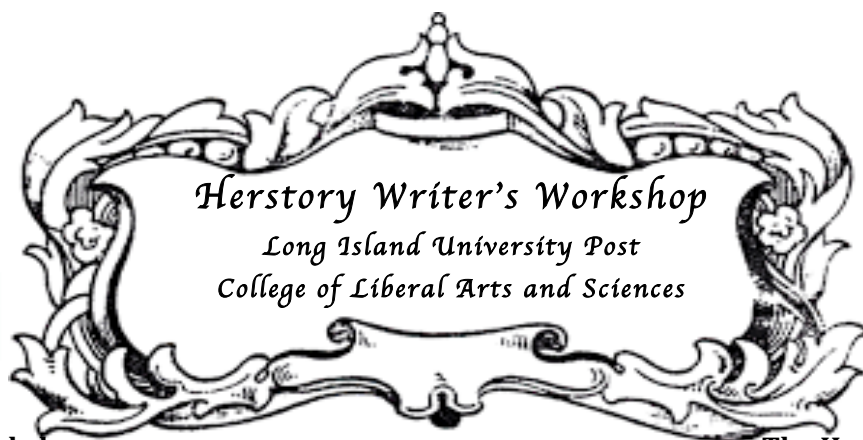
"Bringing unheard voices into the public arena, transforming lived experiences into written memoirs powerful enough to change hearts, minds, and policy."

"Herstory has made me comfortable talking about everything that has happened in my life. It is a cool program. I feel more confident talking about my feelings. It is like therapy!"  
-Faith S, Westbury High School

### Presenters

**Mentor: Glynis Pereyra**

Kayla Simak, Healthcare Administration  
Sarah Meehan, Childhood Education  
Nicole Bellinger, English Education  
Tiana Collazo, Sociology



### Writing Workshops

Using story-based advocacy strategies, students and interns create personal memoirs that connect to larger social justice issues in society. The memoirs are first-person narratives written according to "The Herstory Way."

### Social Justice

Herstory is dedicated to promoting peace and social justice. As such, its "Youth Writing for Justice Program" has empowered individuals from all walks of life to utilize their voices to advocate equality, acceptance, and empathy within society.



### The Herstory Way

The Writing Workshops are run based off various writing techniques:

→ **The "Stranger/Reader:"** The person/reader who the writer is trying to engage in a story. The writer presents a powerful scene that "dares" the reader to "care" about the writer's experience.

→ **Page-One Moment:** The moment where the reader meets the writer; a powerful, emotional scene that begins or defines/introduces what the story will be about.

→ **"There-ness:"** Taking the reader fully to a scene, as opposed to "About-ness," which tells about an experience rather than taking a reader inside it.

Herstory Writer's Workshop, founded in 1996 by Erika Duncan, is involved on the LIU Post campus this semester, providing internships that enhance student's writing skills while serving as an opportunity for civic engagement. Herstory runs these workshops at many Long Island campuses such as Hofstra, Adelphi, and St. Joseph's. During the workshops, high school students and college students write and share their personal memoirs involving social issues such as immigration, substance abuse, gender identity, gang involvement, poverty, and health care. During the Spring 2017 semester, about ten Westbury High School students were brought by school bus to attend weekly workshops with LIU Post students, faculty, and two trained Herstory Facilitators. Desks in the classroom in Kahn Hall were set in a circle to facilitate the seminar style of pedagogy. Students worked on their writing throughout the week and read their work to each other in the Kahn Hall classroom each week. Feedback from peers and the facilitators was shared. This poster highlights Herstory's role in addressing the issue of social amelioration among the American youth.