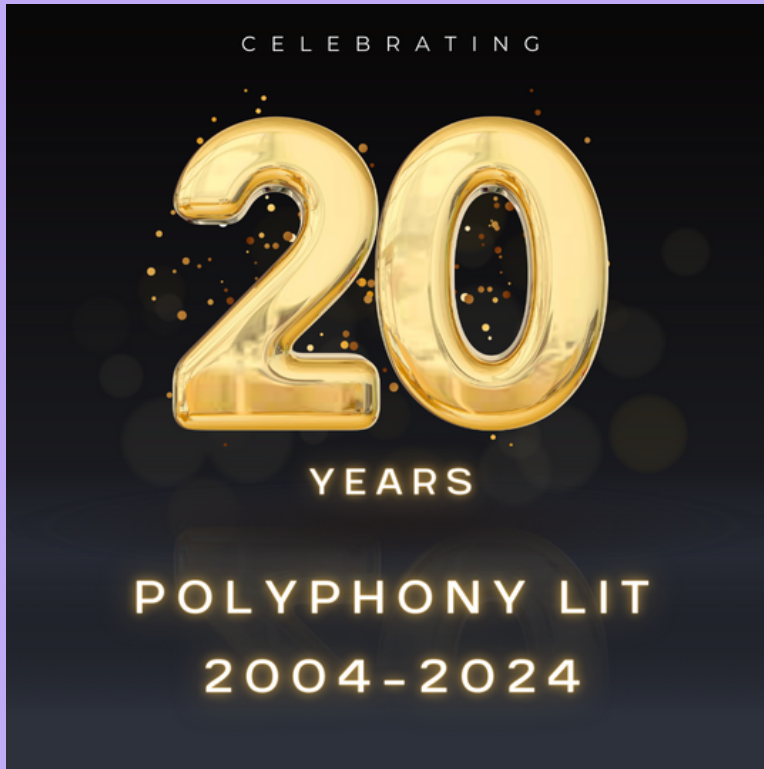


Polyphony Lit

IMPACT REPORT



Polyphony Lit is the world's oldest and largest teen-run literary magazine.

We invite high school students worldwide to submit creative writing, join our editorial staff, write blog posts, take workshops, and grow into leadership roles. The student editors work together to give editorial feedback to every submission we receive.

We believe developing that creative voice depends upon close, careful, and compassionate attention.

We believe that when young writers put precise and powerful language to their lives it helps them better understand their value as human beings.

24,178

The number of submissions editors have given line and general feedback

84

Number of countries submissions have come from

834

Students successfully completing online "How to Be a Literary Editor" course since launched in 2019

27

The numbers of countries our editors have come from

100%

Percentage of scholarship requests to take editorial training granted

19

The number of volumes of *the best teen writing from around the globe* published

GET LIT

Why Literary Enrichment?

The world has changed since our founding in 2004, making possible this cool platform that connects a global community of teens and delivers world-class literary training to anyone with an Internet connection. Ironically, though, the wired world is endangering the literary lives of teens. Literary writing and editing are the opposite of scanning and scrolling. We think this platform is an antidote to those distractions.

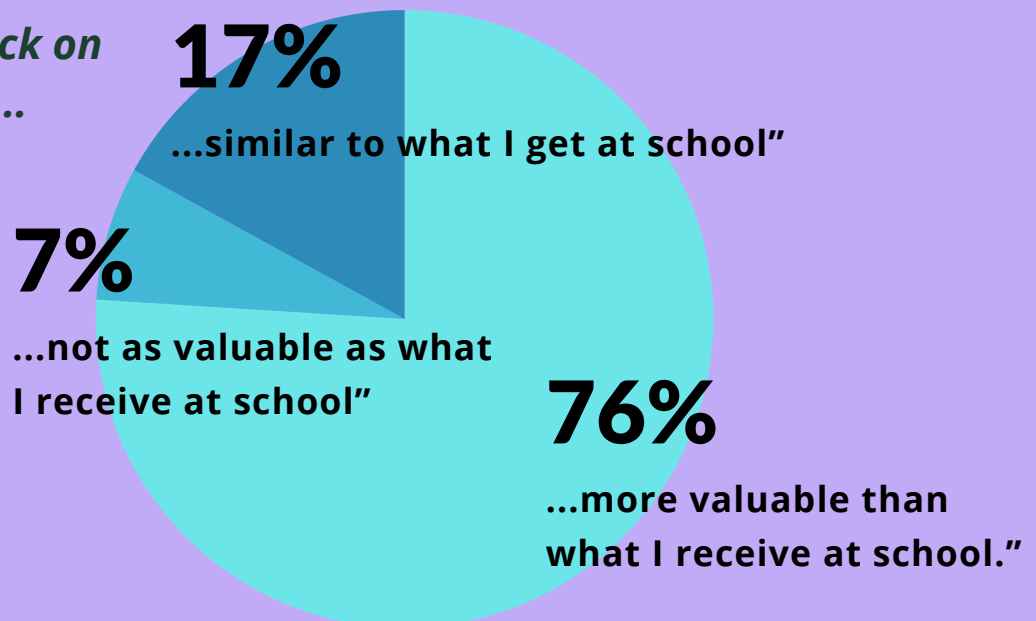
Deep reading and precise writing build capacity for insight, attention and empathy. Ultimately, literary activities change how the brain is wired with the exquisite benefit being a capacity for original thinking.

Furthermore, schools worldwide are stretched and too often are not able to offer deep feedback to literary writing. Per the chart below, 76% of submitters told us the feedback they received from our editors was **more valuable than what they receive at school**.

Our alum remark how their Polyphony Lit experience prepared them to pursue rigorous paths. Among them, two U.S. Presidential Scholars, a Rhodes Scholar, Poet Laureates, STEM innovators, literary patrons.....a case study for *why literary enrichment*.

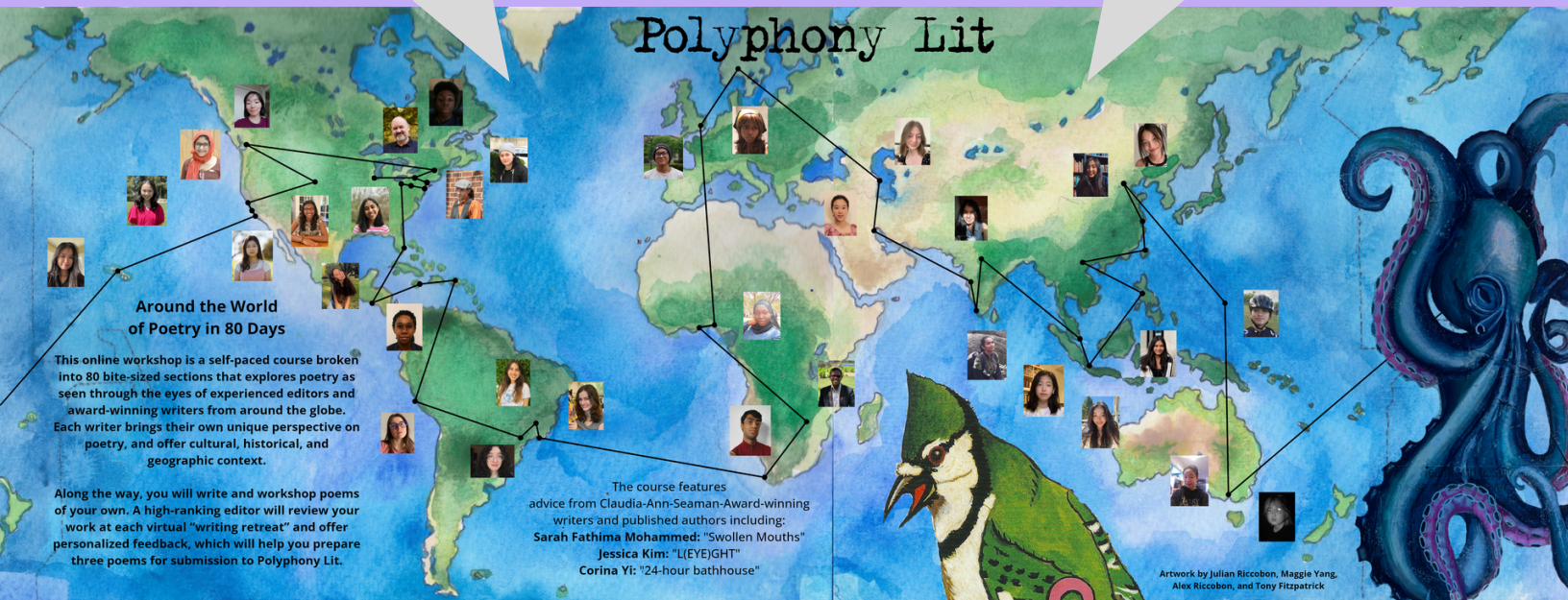
What students say....

"Polyphony Lit's editorial feedback on my writing was...."



I've been deeply humbled and inspired by the pieces I've worked with, gaining a greater sense of empathy by seeing people's attempts to make art out of their lives. It's been a touching thing to help others hone this.

Polyphony Lit is a world-changer, and it does that by changing individuals. Every editor I know—every single one—has not only become a better writer and editor through Polyphony, but has learned to think more compassionately.



"Around the World of Poetry in 80 Days" is a student-led project conceived and managed by teens who met during the Summer Apprenticeship.

A GLOBAL TEEN COMMUNITY

I LOVED Polyphony beyond reason when I was an active editor. It was one of the first extracurriculars that I had and I really poured my heart and dedication into my work. I also started an art and literary magazine at my school using what I learned from here! In short, I just wanted to reaffirm that this platform is amazing and transformative and necessary for so many young writers. Thank you for allowing me to have this experience.



INDIVIDUAL FEEDBACKS WRITTEN

24, 178

One thing that makes Polyphony Lit unique is that our student editors write feedback on **every single submission**. Since 2004, our editors have written over 24,000 supportive critiques of their peers' work.

We empower our editors to design and launch innovative projects. Current teen-led projects include:



PROJECTS



DETAILS



OUTCOME

Voices Blog and Ukraine

Series of blog posts collaborating with Teenside, a writers group in Ukraine

- Giving voice to students in the Russian war
- Connecting them with writing peers worldwide

Summer Editing Apprenticeship

Our 5-week editing training program, producing a new crop of student editors each year

- Low-stakes way to explore the field, do meaningful work, and connect with peers worldwide

Around the World of Poetry in 80 Days

A self-paced online poetry course with modules designed by our student editors

- Allowing students to showcase their own passions in poetry in multiple cultures

Polyphony LIT not only taught me the valuable skills I need as an editor but also drastically improved my own writing. Each time I write, either for pleasure or an assignment, I find myself applying the editorial skills I learned at the Polyphony LIT program.

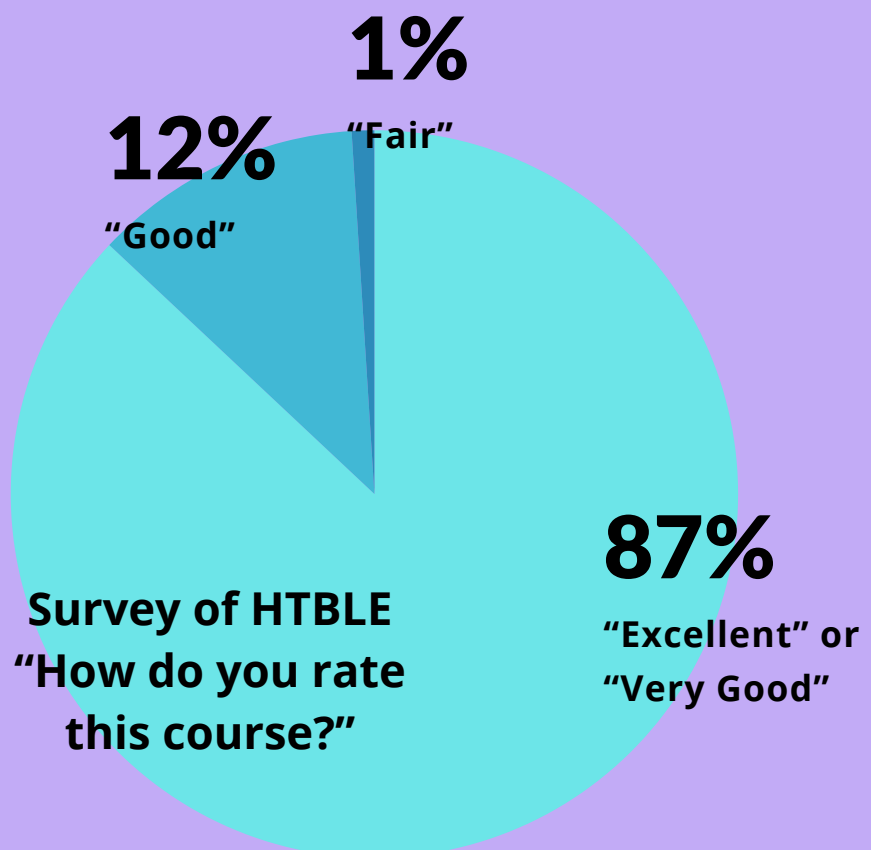
2023 Graduate

Free Submissions + 100% SCHOLARSHIP NEEDS MET

To uphold our mission *to enrich the literary lives of teens worldwide, especially those living in under-resourced communities* we have structured our programs to be accessible to all. Submission have been free for twenty years. And we have been able to give scholarships to all students who wish to take our "How To Be an Editor" (HTBLE) online course.

Students give high marks to our online course. And we structured the course to give basic skills to novice students yet challenge the most advanced. On-demand, asynchronous, self-paced - students control how they work with us. Teens from six continents have taken the course.

This place has been 99% of my writing education, and it's awesome.



Polyphony Lit



Enriching the literary lives of teens worldwide.

“Polyphony means “many voices.” We make sure any English-speaking student with an Internet connection can participate. The photo above is from Life Givers Pakistan, a nonprofit which offers educational opportunities to low-income students. Polyphony Lit patrons provided scholarships for these teens to complete our editorial training program online.

One of the most valuable and insightful online courses I've ever taken. This class will truly help you hone and develop your editing skills.

“How To Be a Literary Editor” course graduate

Issue Covers 2006-2023



Examples of the brilliant artwork that have graced our covers!

TOTAL BUDGET: \$79,950

REVENUES

60% from Student Fees

(HTBLE course, SEA program, 80 Days)

40% from Fundraising/Grants

(individual donations, foundation grants)

2024 Development Goal: \$32,000

(44% of budget)

Cost per editor: \$211

Staffing: 3 part-time adult staff

WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT GENEREROUS SUPPORT

Polyphony Lit exists solely through donations and fees from our programs. Your support allows us to offer more scholarships and fee reductions. Our part-time adult staff of three allows our student leaders to direct most of our activities.



HELP US TO ANOTHER TWENTY YEARS!

[HTTPS://WWW.POLYPHONYLIT.ORG/SUPPORT-US](https://www.polyphonylit.org/support-us)



polyphonylit.org



info@polyphonylit.org