**TEENWRIGHTS AFTER-SCHOOL PLAYWRITING PROGRAM**

Primary Stages is dedicated to supporting writers at every stage of their careers. As part of this commitment, **TEENWRIGHTS** channels students’ dynamic voices into the creation of original plays. Run by professional theater artists and a collaborating teacher chosen by the school, this free, weekly after-school playwriting program creates an engaging and supportive environment for high school students to learn about the craft of playwriting.

During an 8-session, semester-long module, students create individual short plays. Each session, supported by a series of structured improvisational activities and theater games, introduces a fundamental concept of playwriting with the students on their feet, viscerally experiencing the crucial building blocks of drama. At the start of the residency, students work on “flash play” exercises that flex their playwriting muscles. These fledgling ideas are then developed into longer scripts, with a focus on character development, structure, and the necessity of rewrites. **TEENWRIGHTS** culminates in a reading of the students’ work by professional actors, on-site at their school.

---

**TEENWRIGHTS** supports the work of ELA, ENL, and theater teachers by meeting the following benchmarks:

**New York City Blueprints for the Arts:**
- Theater Making: Understanding Dramatic Structure
- Theater Making: Imagination, Analysis, and Process
- Developing Theater Literacy: Understanding Dramatic Texts
- Making Connections Through Theater: Connecting Theater to the Arts and Other Disciplines

**New York State Arts Standards:**
- Anchor Standard 3 -- Refine and complete artistic work.
  - HS Proficient: Cr3.1.HS1a -- Use theatrical conventions to revise a devised or scripted drama or theater work.

- Anchor Standard 4 -- Select, analyze, and interpret artistic work for presentation.
  - HS Proficient: Pr4.1.HS1a + b
    - a. Examine how character relationships affect telling a story.
    - b. Shape character choices by using given circumstances in a drama or theater work.