

CREATIVE WRITING

Please write in response to one of the following exercises. (You might consider choosing the one that seems like the most fun to write.) Your completed writing exercise, as well as any additional literary works you choose to submit, must be **delivered to ECA no later than, February 27th by 3:00 pm**. You may e-mail in word or pdf format to jmichaelson@aces.org, drop off in person or mail your writing prompt. Please do not fax or send as a google document.

Length: one - two pages.

1. Rewrite the poem found on the next page, "The Widow's Lament in springtime," by William Carlos Williams, in prose. Try to communicate the simple, direct feeling of the widow's voice in William's poem in your own writing. You may revise or change any details or particulars of the scene as they exist in "The Widow's Lament"-- what the widow says, where she lives, what she sees -- to allow this character to come alive in your writing.
2. Write a short story based on one of the two photographic images found below. (These include an image of two boys relaxing together, and an image of a girl looking out the window of a train).

THE WIDOW'S LAMENT IN SPRINGTIME

William Carlos Williams (1883-1963)

SORROW is my own yard
where the new grass
flames as it has flamed
often before but not
with the cold fire
that closes round me this year.
Thirtyfive years
I lived with my husband.
The plumtree is white today
with masses of flowers.
Masses of flowers
load the cherry branches
and color some bushes
yellow and some red
but the grief in my heart
is stronger than they
for though they were my joy
formerly, today I notice them
and turned away forgetting.
Today my son told me
that in the meadows,
at the edge of the heavy woods
in the distance, he saw
trees of white flowers.
I feel that I would like
to go there
and fall into those flowers
and sink into the marsh near them.

- ***by William Carlos Williams (1883-1963)***

