



WRITE ON SPORTS INTRODUCES 2020 SUMMER SPEAKER SERIES

NHL Network Host Jaime Hersch Kicks Off Live Streamed Interviews Wednesday at 12 p.m.

Non-Profit Literacy Program Shifting Annual Summer Camps Online as it Celebrates 15 Years of Youth Development

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WEST ORANGE, N.J. (July 6, 2020) – Write on Sports (WoS), a leading non-profit organization focused on youth development through literacy and journalism, today announced the participants in its online 2020 Summer Speaker Series. The month-long lineup of live-streamed interviews will feature top national journalists, students from previous WoS summer programs, and special guests starting Wednesday, July 8 at 12 p.m. ET.

The Write on Sports 2020 Summer Speaker Series schedule includes:

- July 8 – Jamie Hersch ([@JamieHersch](#)), Host, NHL Network and MLB Network
- July 15 – Jenny Vrentas ([@JennyVrentas](#)), Senior Writer, Sports Illustrated and The MMQB
- July 22 – Ryan Ruocco ([@RyanRuocco](#)), Play-by-Play Announcer, ESPN and YES Network
- July 29 – James Wagner ([@ByJamesWagner](#)), Baseball Writer, The New York Times

The Speaker Series will be broadcast live across WoS' digital platforms, including [Facebook](#) and [Twitch](#), and available for the public to watch. The weekly interview sessions will focus on topics chosen and asked by WoS students and include conversations about how the journalists ascended to their current job, the intricacies of today's media landscape and their goals for the future.

“As we celebrate 15 years of theme-based learning and the positive impact our program has had in the communities we serve, we are honored that these special guests have committed to share their knowledge with our future journalists,” said Byron Yake, founder and executive director of Write on Sports. “The students’ interaction with these professionals is always an invaluable experience that demonstrates the power and impact of quality writing.”

WoS is celebrating its 15th anniversary in 2020, and for the first time, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, is holding online programs instead of in-person camps. Starting today, students who previously attended the organization's flagship camps in Newark and at Montclair State will meet online three times each week in July to work on projects ranging from a feature story and comic writing to podcast creation and video production. Most of WoS' six affiliate programs across New Jersey, Indiana and Rhode Island will operate on a similar timeline this summer.

WoS' certified teachers use the program's proprietary curriculum and a 4-to-1 student teacher ratio in camps to teach the basics of good journalism, including research, question formation, outlining, interviewing and editing, through the lens of sports topics and experiences. The skills learned in camps not only advance each student's writing proficiencies, but also communication, positivity, public speaking and overall development.

About Write on Sports

Write on Sports (WoS) is a tuition-free literacy and journalism program created to inspire students from at-risk communities and homes to improve their writing skills, critical thinking and self-confidence through a topic they are passionate about: sports. The New Jersey-based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization is celebrating its 15th Anniversary in 2020 and has served more than 2,000 kids with summer camps, workshops and after school programs throughout the Garden State, including in Newark and The Oranges, and through affiliate programs in Indiana, Rhode Island and, starting soon, Colorado.

WoS, founded in 2005 by former Associated Press sportswriter and national sports editor Byron Yake, uses a proprietary curriculum focused on the fundamentals of writing, public speaking, video production and interactive media. WoS strives to be a community leader and works closely with respected educational institutions, including: Montclair State University, Monmouth University and St. Benedict's Prep in New Jersey; Goshen College in Indiana; and Bryant University and Providence College in Rhode Island, as well as world-class public sports and entertainment venues such as The Yogi Berra Museum and The Prudential Center.

To donate or for more information about Write on Sports, visit writeonsports.org, follow [@WriteonSports](https://twitter.com/WriteonSports) and join the community conversation at [Facebook.com/WriteonSports](https://www.facebook.com/WriteonSports).

"It's none of their business that you have to learn to write. Let them think you were born that way."

—Ernest Hemingway

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