



A Program of InsideOut Literary Arts

## Workshop Title: Home & Culture

Level: **Novice Writers**, Developing Writers, Experienced Writers

Duration: **1.5 hrs**

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### (15 mins) Check in:

- Take 5 minutes to write down the most significant events of this past week
- Follow this guided meditation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X462OPGZQt4>

### (15 mins) Resource Building:

- What is home to you? (10 mins)
  - Silently journal
  - Share with partner
  - Share with class
- Brief Discussion (5 mins)
  - How might our responses be similar or different? Why?
  - What is culture?
  - What is a theme?

### (20 mins) Example poem:

- Warsan Shire - "Home" <https://genius.com/Warsan-shire-home-annotated>
  - Discussion:
    - What words stand out to you? Why do they stand out to you?
    - What are the themes of "Home"?
    - How would you describe Shire's imagery in this poem? How might it affect the reader's mood?
    - How does she use her poem to express the theme of home?
  - Define Culture
    - For our purposes Culture can be defined as "characteristics and knowledge of a particular group of people, encompassing language, religion, cuisine, social habits, music, and more. Culture can exist among generations of people or among a small group of people who meet for a specific purpose."

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# City Wide Poets

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- Discussion
  - What is important about culture?
  - How have you experienced culture among large bodies of people?
  - How have you experienced culture among small bodies of people?

## **(20 mins) Prompt:**

Write a poem incorporating the concepts of home and culture. What is home to you? What culture exists there? Would a change in culture stop home from being home? Consider how imagery might affect your writing.

## **Online Sharing Options**

- (10 mins) allow 2 - 3 students to share their work
- (10 mins) create share-groups of 3 or 4 students. Students should share work among themselves privately (email, google drive, text, etc.)
- (10 mins) allow all students to share 1 - 3 lines from their writing. Speed is key!

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