

## St Paul's Way School

During this year's Young Writers Programme, 20 students from Year 10 participated in 16 after school creative writing workshops led by their professional First Story writer-in-residence, Anthony Anaxagorou.

**This is the 2nd consecutive year that St Paul's Way School has delivered a First Story programme. (The school delivered two programmes between 2017 & 2019)**

**By taking part in the Young**

**Writers Programme, your students have joined a national network of young writers discovering the power and pleasure of telling their own story, and telling it well. They have developed their writing skills, creativity and confidence, and in the company of their writer-in residence they have been inspired to try new writing forms and styles that they may not have come across before.**

**We hope that this is just the start of their creative writing journey.**

It has allowed me to see the value and experiences of different people through their writing.

Thanks to the writer I feel like I can better express my feelings and ideas through poetry in an interesting and more complex way.

I've learnt new writing techniques, such as

zooming in to specifics. I've spoken with many First Story writers, and have learnt different points of views.

**2022/23 PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK (3 SURVEY RESPONDENTS)**

### WHAT HAPPENED?

Professional writer-in-residence, **Anthony Anaxagorou** delivered 16 creative writing workshops

***Midnights in my Mind*** is your

professionally published anthology Anthology launch event on 6th July 2023

23 students attended a **Regional Connect Event** at the University of Greenwich, taking part in a day of workshops and talks with professional writers and university staff

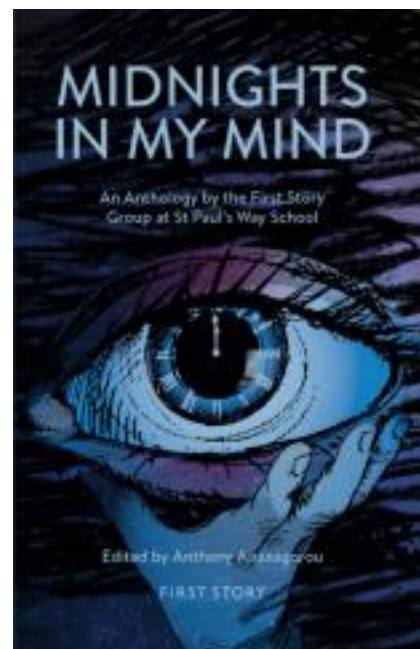
18 students attended the **Young Writers Festival** at Downing

College, University of Cambridge 9 students entered First Story writing competitions

**Hannah Akinbolaji** was shortlisted for First Story's 6 Word Story competition

**4 programme alumni** became **Young Ambassadors** **Arya Doostani** successfully applied for the **Summer First Story residential**

Sarah Zaman has been accepted on the Folio Mentorship scheme 2023-24



## FIRST STORY WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE

Anthony Anaxagorou FRSL is a British-born Cypriot poet, fiction writer, essayist and publisher. His third collection, *Heritage Aesthetics* published with Granta Poetry in 2022, won the RSL Ondaatje Prize 2023 and was shortlisted for the Anglo-Hellenic League's Runciman Award. It was listed as one of *New Statesman's* top books of 2022.



## FIRST STORY YOUNG WRITERS FESTIVAL



We were delighted to welcome your

students to the Young Writers Festival at the University of Cambridge. Over 250 First Story students from across the country took part in an inspiring day long event including a keynote speech by YA Author Manjeet Mann, book signings, workshops and a showcase of students' writing.

## COMPETITION SUCCESS

In the Six Word Story competition, Hannah Akinbolaji was shortlisted for her story: "She ate sunlight but hated yellow."



In the summer term, Tahiya Murshed received a special mention for their entry to the Eco-

## poetry competition. FIRST STORY RESIDENTIAL

Each year during the summer holidays, First Story brings together a small group of exceptional young writers for a week of intensive creative writing development in partnership with Arvon and under the expert tutelage of a team of First Story writers. St Paul's Way School student Arya Doostani, attended the week.



## REGIONAL ACTIVITY

We were delighted to welcome your students to the University of Greenwich for the First Story Connect event in June. 120 First Story students from across London took part in an inspiring day-long event to connect with each other as a community of young writers, exploring their voices in workshops and showcasing their writing on stage.

# 100%

of students would recommend taking part in the Young Writers Programme to others

(COMPLETED ST PAUL'S WAY SCHOOL STUDENT SURVEY  
RESPONSES STRONGLY AGREE)