



826DC is dedicated to supporting students ages 6-18 with their creative and expository writing skills, and to helping teachers inspire their students to write. We believe that great leaps in learning can happen with one-on-one attention and that strong writing skills are fundamental to future success.

## WHO WE ARE:

Originally founded in 2008, **826DC** (formerly Capitol Letters Writing Center) is the newest affiliate in the 826 National network, co-founded by award-winning author Dave Eggers and educator Ninive Calegari. On October 23, 2010, we opened our first permanent home, and within the first year had nearly quadrupled the number of students we served. In SY2013-14, we served 3,369 students across the District of Columbia.

**826DC's** student base has grown **Over 25x** since opening in 2008

We have a projected goal of **5,000 +** by June 30, 2016

## WHAT WE DO:

826DC's goal is to turn students into published authors and to strengthen students' power to express ideas effectively, creatively, confidently, and in their own individual voices. Our programs blend arts education into project-based curricula that support academic advancement, allowing children and youth to develop high engagement levels and to take ownership of the published works that are produced throughout the year. 826DC is centered around several main programs including After-School Tutoring, Field Trips, In-School Sessions, Workshops, Reading All-Stars, and the Young Authors' Book Project.

## WHAT WE CAN ACHIEVE: (with your help)

### Goal #1

#### Financial stability and sustainability

Over the next three years, 826DC will focus on building our general operating reserve, paying down our debt, and developing a sustainable and stable fundraising base.

### Goal #2

#### Program Demand and Organizational Capacity

826DC has a small staff – four FT and one PT employees, one Public Ally, and an AmeriCorps VISTA member. We have aggressive program growth goals, and in doing so we need to build our staff and our board, as well as diversify and expand our volunteer base.

### Goal #3

#### Finding a New Home for 826DC

As our lease comes to an end in August 2015, 826DC is exploring new cost-effective and long-term solutions that will enable us to reach more children and reach appropriate staff capacity.

