



NaNoWriMo

Everything You Need to Know about
National Novel Writing Month

with

Chris Mandeville

chrismandeville.com

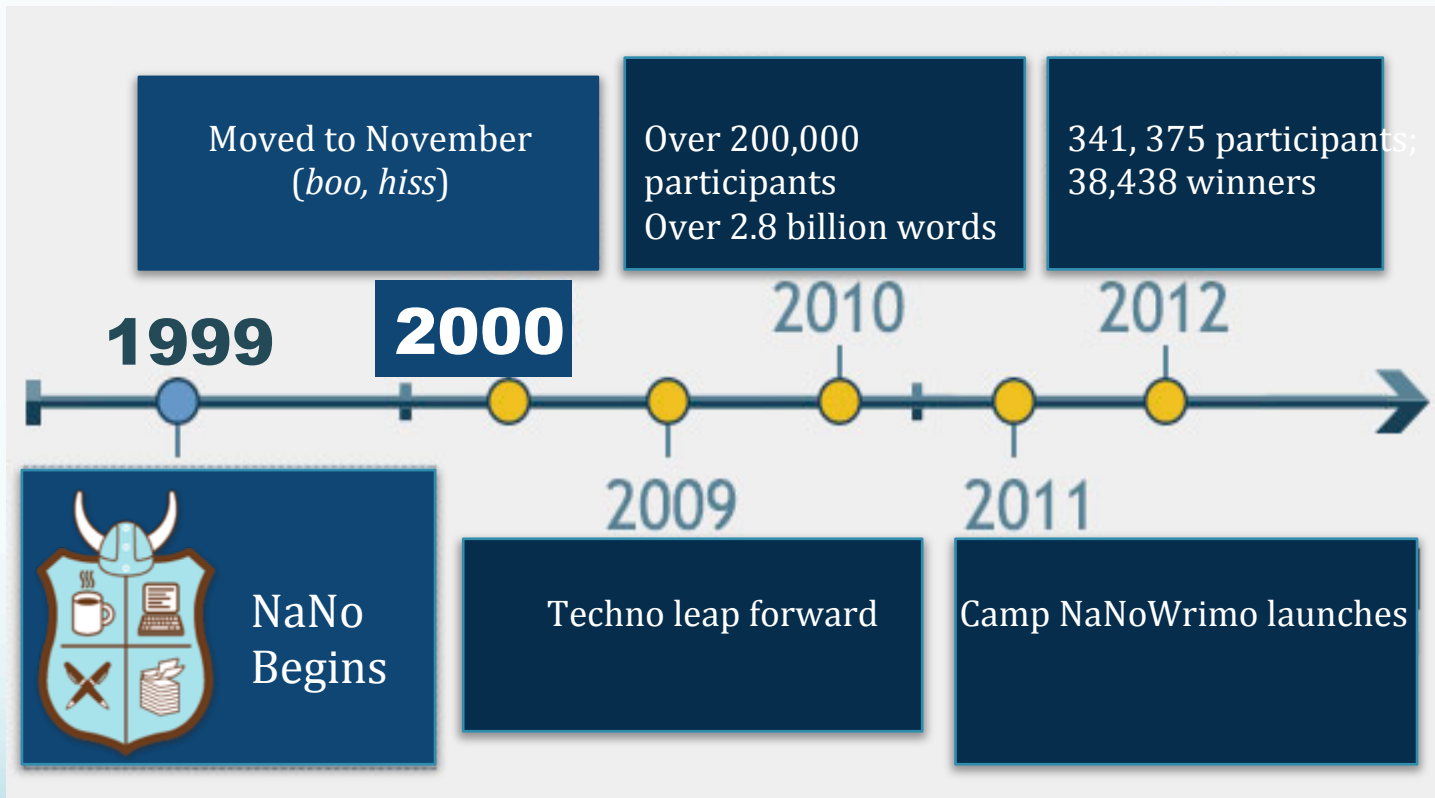
NaNoWriMo logos and images courtesy of NaNoWriMo

WHAT IS NANOWRIMO?



**National
Novel
Writing
Month**

NANOWRIMO TIMELINE



THE OFFICIAL RULES

- Start at 12:00 a.m. November 1st
- Reach 50,000 words
- End by 11:59 p.m. November 30th
(your local time)
- All new words
- Start at the beginning
- Planning and notes permitted
- Larger word count permitted
- NOT allowed to start earlier and write for 30 days

WINNING BOILS DOWN TO

30 DAYS =

720 hours

43,200 minutes

2,592,000 seconds

50,000 WORDS IN 30 DAYS =

1667 words/day for 30 days

OR

2000 words/day 6 days a week

OR

Calculate how many working days YOU will have,
then divide 50,000 by that number

TO OFFICIALLY WIN

- Verify word count on Website by deadline
- If you submit 50,000 word, you “win”

WHAT DO YOU WIN?

- PRIZES!
- Satisfaction & pride
- You finished a novel!

THE PURPOSE OF NANOWRIMO

The Official Answer:

- To get people to START writing
- To use a deadline as incentive
- To get the story rolling
- To get in the habit of putting words on paper

THE PURPOSE OF NANOWRIMO

Common Answers:

- To challenge yourself
- To develop a routine
- To “try on” an idea
- To push past writer’s block
- To make progress fast
- To build confidence
- To find a writing community
- The Pep Talks!
- To say you did it

THE PURPOSE OF NANOWRIMO

My Top Reasons:

- The deadline
- Accountability
- Learning how to “vomit” write
- Quantity begets quality

WHY NOT DO NANO?

- If trying would be detrimental
- If losing would be detrimental
- If NaNo would provide MORE distractions
- If revisions of a messy ms would be too much
- If it would break a good rhythm

Why would **you** do NaNo?

NaNo ALTERNATIVES

- Be a NaNo Rebel



- CampNaNoWriMo



- Make Your Own





NaNoWriMo

WHAT IS NANOWRIMO?

Every story matters. Let's start writing yours.

Writing a novel alone can be difficult, even for seasoned writers. NaNoWriMo helps you track your progress, set milestones, connect with other writers in a vast community, and participate in events that are designed to make sure you finish your novel. Oh, and best of all, it's free!

SIGN UP

Young writers and educators, explore our Young Writers Program



National Novel Writing Month

National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) is a fun, seat-of-your-pants approach to creative writing. [Learn More](#)

YOUNG WRITERS PROGRAM

ABOUT NANOWRIMO

Staff
Brought to you by...

FROM NANO HQ

NaNoWriMo Blog

WRITER'S RESOURCES

Pep Talks
NaNo Prep

SHOP DONATE

CONNECT WITH NANO



Sign In

NANOWRIMO.USERVOICE.COM

THE PEP TALKS

SHOP

DONATE

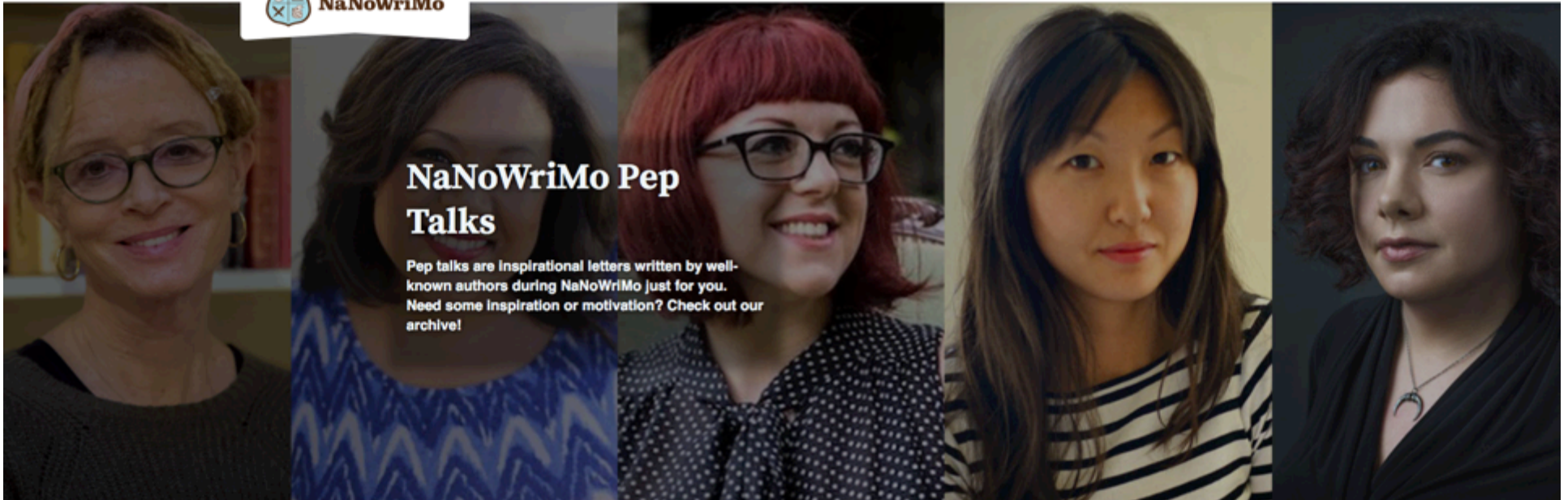
Sign Up

Sign In



NaNoWriMo

WHAT IS NANOWRIMO?



SHOP

DONATE

Sign Up

Sign In



NaNoWriMo

WHAT IS NANOWRIMO?



Welcome! Let's start writing!

Email

Password

Username

Time Zone

Mountain Time (US & Canada)

SIGN UP

[Forgot password](#)

[I have an account](#)

OR

f CONTINUE WITH FACEBOOK

G CONTINUE WITH GOOGLE

[TERMS](#)

By signing up for NaNoWriMo, you agree to our [Terms of Use](#) and [Privacy Policy](#).



Search for users...



Brought to You By

[Help Desk](#)

[SHOP](#)

[DONATE](#)

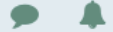
NaNoWriMo

[MY NANOWRIMO](#) ▾

[COMMUNITY](#) ▾


[WRITER'S RESOURCES](#) ▾

Hi, [kitkaede!](#) ▾



Creativity is all around you. Imagine better worlds and invest in your creative energy by writing a novel with us. Are you ready to commit to writing this November?

[ANNOUNCE YOUR NOVEL!](#)




 **Welcome to NaNoWriMo 2020,
kitkaede!**

Hope your writing is going great!



\$515,476 raised!
Thanks to 5,317 donors.
[Have you donated yet?](#)

MY NANOWRIMO

| MY NANOWRIMO ▾ | COMMUNITY ▾ | WRITER'S RES |
|--|-----------------|-----------------------------|
|  | Profile | Tell other Wrimos about you |
|  | Projects | Organize all your projects |
|  | Buddies | Support and be supported |

COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY ▾ **WRITER'S RESOURCES** ▾

| | | |
|---|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
|  | Forums | Our lively discussion space |
|  | Home Region | USA :: Colorado :: Colorado Springs |
|  | My Groups | Regions and writing groups |
|  | Find a Region | Join a region for more support |

WRITE INS







FORUMS

- Official Stuff
- Sponsor Offers
- Support & Tech Help
- The Coffeehouse
- Newbies
- Finding Your Crew
- Writing Groups, Assemble!
- Regional forums
- Reference desk
- ****Private Affinity Groups****

WRITER'S RESOURCES

WRITER'S RESOURCES ▾ Hi,

| | | |
|---|------------------|-------------------------------|
|  | Camp NaNo | How to participate and more |
|  | NaNo Prep | Get ready for the big event |
|  | Pep Talks | Great authors to motivate you |
|  | Offers | Discounts on writer tools |

EMAIL



Do you know what you're going to write for NaNoWriMo this year? If not, don't panic: you've got plenty of time to come up with the perfect idea, and we've got plenty of resources to help you find it.

In fact, we've planned out a whole month of prompts for an inspiration-finding scavenger hunt with our upcoming **#InstaWrimo Instagram Challenge**. Prep for the month ahead and develop your novel idea with these 31 photo prompts to get you thinking all about characters, setting, and plot. The challenge begins October 1!

Follow NaNoWriMo on Instagram to join the challenge.

Announce your 2020 NaNoWriMo project!

SOCIAL MEDIA

CONNECT WITH NANO



National Novel Writing Month

National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) is a fun, seat-of-your-pants approach to creative writing. [Learn More](#)

YOUNG WRITERS PROGRAM



ABOUT NANOWRIMO

Staff
Brought to you by...

FROM NANO HQ

NaNoWriMo Blog

WRITER'S RESOURCES

Pep Talks
NaNo Prep

SHOP DONATE

CONNECT WITH NANO



Sign In
Sign Up

Terms and Conditions · Privacy Policy · Copyright © 1999 - National Novel Writing Month. All posted novel excerpts remain copyright to their authors.

EXTERNAL RESOURCES



KOBOWRITINGLIFE.COM

Live Chat with NaNo's Grant Faulkner
October 22nd at noon EST

Life Prep

Story Prep

Stuck Prep

Life Prep

- ① Internal
- ② Environment
- ③ Time
- ④ Others

CALENDAR CLEARING

- ELMINATE
- POSTPONE
- TRADE
- REDUCE
- DO IT NOW
- STREAMLINE
- CONSOLIDATE

Story Prep

- ① Roadmap
- ② Plot
- ③ Characters
- ④ Setting
- ⑤ Research

BE A PLANTSER



Stuck Prep

- ① Motivation
- ② Doldrums
- ③ Personal demons
- ④ ~~Writer's~~ Story block

WHAT'S NEXT?

- Why do you want to do NaNo?
- Where are you going to write?
- Make time to write!
- Set expectations
- Prep your story – Be a Plantser!
- Prep tools for if you get stuck
- NaNoWriMo official prep class
- My class!