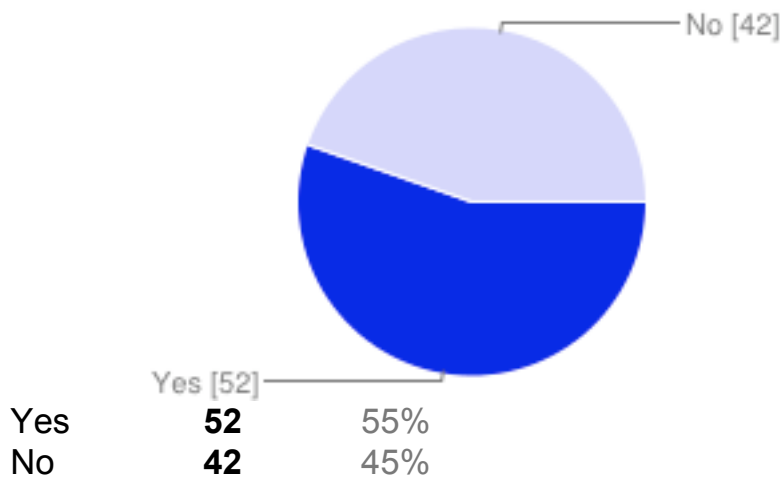


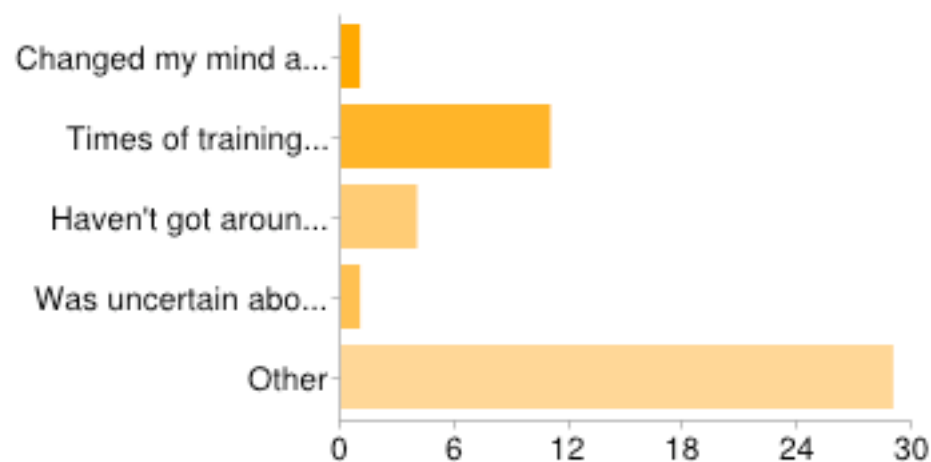
VOLUNTEER SURVEY RESULTS - 96 responses

Have you attended tutor training?



Reasons for not attending training

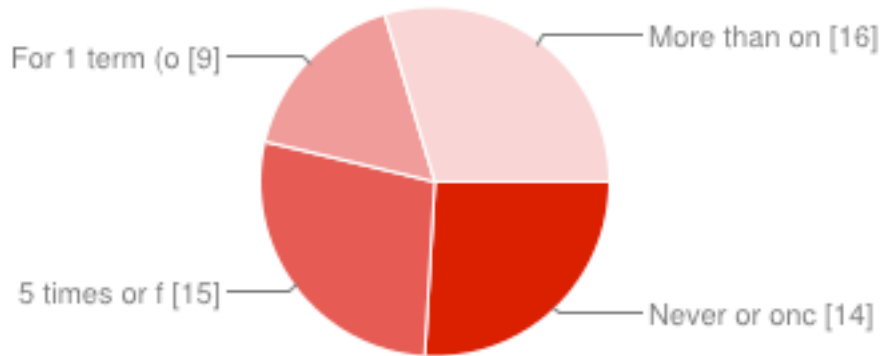
Could you tell us why you haven't attended training?



Changed my mind about becoming a tutor	1	2%
Times of training sessions don't suit me	11	24%
Haven't got around to it	4	9%
Was uncertain about my suitability to be a tutor	1	2%
Other	29	63%

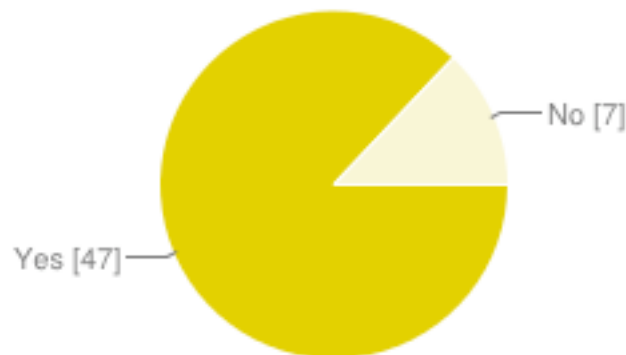
Frequency of volunteering

How often have you volunteered?



Never or once	14	26%
5 times or fewer	15	28%
For 1 term (or between 5 and 10 times)	9	17%
More than one term (or more than 10 times)	16	30%

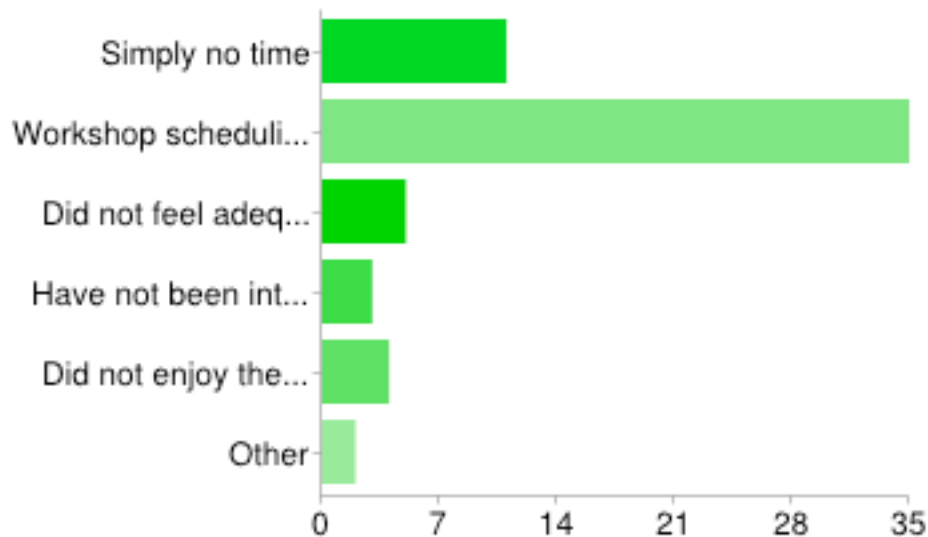
Would you like to have volunteered more than you have?



Yes	47	87%
No	7	13%

Volunteering opportunities

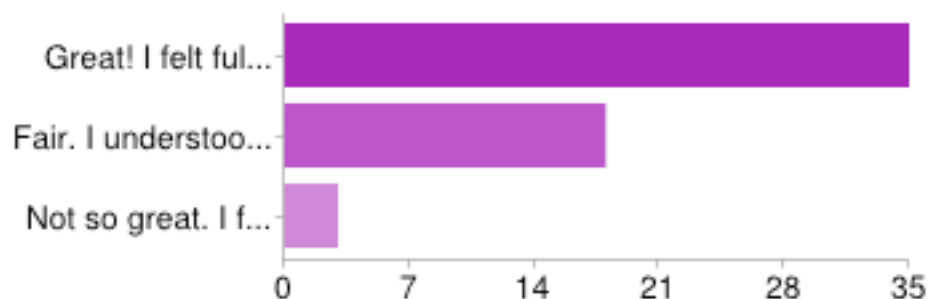
If yes, please tell us why you haven't



Simply no time	11	18%
Workshop scheduling clashes with work and other commitments	35	58%
Did not feel adequately prepared after training	5	8%
Have not been interested in workshop topics	3	5%
Did not enjoy the style of workshops I have attended	4	7%
Other	2	3%

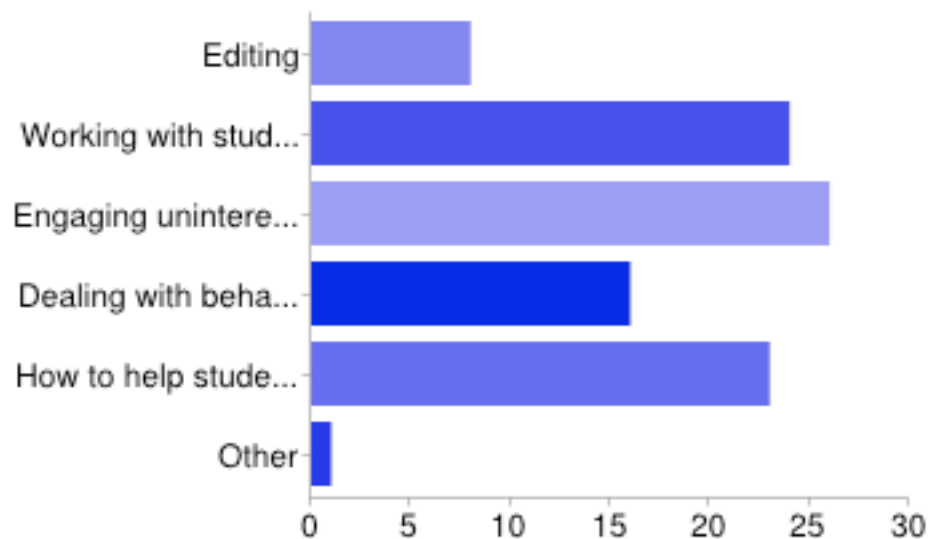
Training experience

How did you find your initial training?



Great! I felt fully prepared to assist in workshops.	35	63%
Fair. I understood the training but was not sure how it would relate to different workshops.	18	32%
Not so great. I felt under-prepared for assisting in workshops.	3	5%

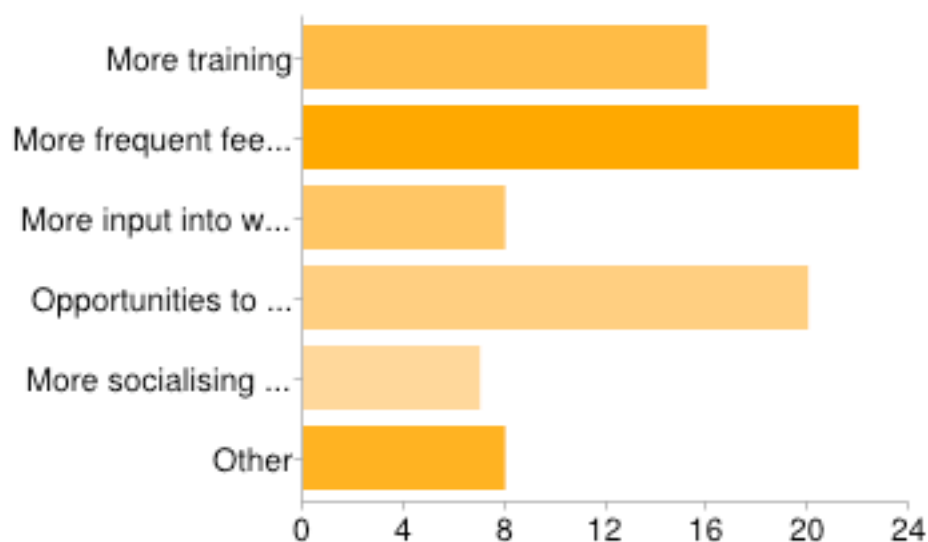
If we were to offer extra training in particular areas, which of the following do you think would be most helpful?



Editing	8	8%
Working with students with low literacy levels	24	24%
Engaging uninterested students	26	27%
Dealing with behavioural challenges	16	16%
How to help students develop their stories	23	23%
Other	1	1%

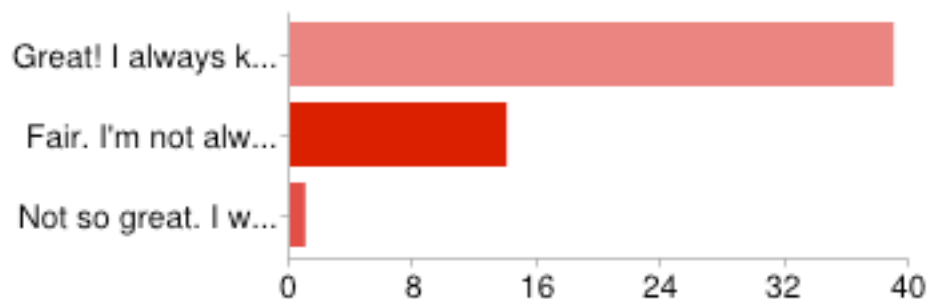
Volunteering experience

How could we enhance your volunteering experience?



More training	16	20%
More frequent feedback opportunities before and after workshops	22	27%
More input into workshop design	8	10%
Opportunities to work with one student for longer periods	20	25%
More socialising opportunities	7	9%
Other	8	10%

Please rate our communication with volunteers.



Great! I always know what's going on.	39	72%
Fair. I'm not always certain what is happening or how I can join in.	14	26%
Not so great. I was confused with how to sign up/give feedback/find out information.	1	2%

Is there anything else you'd like to share about your volunteering experience?

SSF is a very, very positive experience. Wonderful people at all levels. Cath, Richard, Matt and all the other staff (volunteer and otherwise) are so welcoming and fun to work with.

Thanks for inviting our responses! I have tried a few other volunteering experiences but the Story Factory surpasses all of them by far. The involvement, interest and feedback is great. I look forward to my times there. I am planning to volunteer more often at other work shops.

I would love to see some weekend volunteering that is just an open time for any students to come in and get their work looked at, homework help or any guidance at all.

Some of the training workshops have been interesting and helpful. It would be good to have follow up on how we may integrate the great ideas we

hear into our practice, eg how to engage students and enhance creativity.

Perhaps more expansion in the newsletters - for instance, I can't make a lot of the workshops thanks to work commitments, but I could possibly work at some other things outside of work hours - retail, any kind of copy editing or whatever that may be able to be done at home, that kind of thing. Does that kind of work every get sent out?

I always feel like I am acknowledged and appreciated. I have recommended volunteering at SSF to many people.

Overall I'm loving it so much, it's a real honour to be working with these kids on their writing, hearing their ideas and discussing it with them, I think I'm being kept just as inspired as them. Thanks so much for the opportunity.

The volunteering experience has been very rewarding for me although I do sometimes feel surplus to needs.

I think volunteering is definitely a two way street, we get as much out of volunteering as we put in.

I wonder if a 'buddy' arrangement could work for the first one or two sessions a new volunteer does. This could be just a phone debriefing or something - a way of having those first excited downloads. It also offers ongoing support and networking in the community of SSF.

I think it would be helpful if volunteers could arrive about 10 mins before students for a briefing, so that we are all moving in the same direction for the day's activity.

It's been great. The only thing is sometimes when I come along to a session, there are too many tutors and I often find that I don't have much to do. I've also been to a session when they're not expecting me at all, and was asked to go home. A simple confirmation email in advance would have been great so I didn't have to waste anyone's time. As I work full-time, I need to be as efficient as possible. That's all! :)

I love the creativity and connectedness that SSF engenders.

Dynamite! In the month since my training session, I've felt a sense of positive anticipation about the opportunity to volunteer at the SSF.

Very rewarding; I love the work with the kids and the "professional

development" evenings are also great. What happened with the book club?

Really, more work with teenagers and more evening/weekend volunteer opportunities.

What you're doing is great when I've been able to participate. Some workshops I have been to have seemed a little rushed in the instruction department. I realise that the kids need to be engaged pretty much immediately they arrive, but for volunteers like me with little experience (a newbie!), it can be a little daunting.

Awesome sessions with awesome people - staff, volunteers and kids! Thanks for creating such a wonderful environment for sharing the fun of literature and literacy!

Everything is very well organised, with as much communication and feedback as is necessary. Thanks for your great work. I think you're all doing an amazing job!

It definitely feels good to make myself useful but it's also just really good fun!

It would be fun to think of ways to get friends and family involved in the SSF world, for one off occasions. Perhaps another quiz night or fundraiser that people can attend without having to commit long-term.

It was fantastic seeing the children's reactions to Martia and also when they received their books, my only suggestion would be to have the teachers communicate to the students, that they will receive a finished product at the end of the session, so they have a more structured goal to work towards.