



Creative Writing Audition Packet

The Creative Writing department at the Barbara Ingram School for the Arts offers a comprehensive curriculum of classes in poetry, fiction, creative non-fiction, and drama. The program provides young writers with the opportunity to study the styles and voices of contemporary writers in various genres, develop their own literary talents, and facilitate their command of the writer's craft. The program will nurture and challenge students in developing the writing and workshop skills necessary to further their voices and foster success in the future – whether pursuing writing, literature, or an unrelated field.

Creative Writing Department Auditions

The Creative Writing audition is a multi-step process beginning with the submission of a writing portfolio (requirements below). Students will then move on to receive an interview and will be asked to complete an on-site writing assignment and reading analysis.

Creative Writing Department Required Portfolio

All Creative Writing applicants must submit a writing portfolio that demonstrates both your artistic and technical skills. It should contain the following:

- a personal statement of no more than one page answering the question, “Why do you want to be a Creative Writer at BISFA?”
- one piece of fiction – may be a full story or a selection (not to exceed 2 pages single-spaced)
- 2-3 pieces of poetry (each on a separate page, single-spaced)
- one academic essay written in ELA or Social Studies class this year
- a current teacher recommendation in a signed, sealed envelope

Note: All pieces should be typed in 12 point Times New Roman. Pieces should be submitted in a folder or binder with a cover page including the student's name, date, grade, and current school. Students **MUST** mail or drop off portfolios to BISFA no later than the given due date. Students who do not submit a portfolio will not be given an interview.

The Creative Writing panel will evaluate portfolios/writing prompts with the following in mind:

- demonstrated writing skill and technique
- creative and artistic merit
- content, organization, grammar, and mechanics of written work
- potential for trainable growth
- serious commitment to the study of writing (as per personal statement)

- passion for the writing craft

Portfolio Scoring

A copy of the Portfolio Score Sheet is included in the packet. All pieces of writing will be assessed using the included rubric. Due to the amount of applicants, feedback will not be given on submitted portfolios. Portfolios and score sheets will not be returned to the applicant.

Important Things to Know:

- Portfolios must include all required elements in order to be considered
- Proofreading is necessary: scores will be greatly reduced for significant errors in spelling, punctuation, grammar, and usage. Have someone read your portfolio and give you feedback. All writers revise. All writers edit.
- Make sure that your portfolio shows a range of your writing
- The application process is very competitive. If you are not accepted into the program this year, please apply again next year if this is truly your passion.
- For questions regarding portfolio submission requirements, please email Ms. Katie McNew (Lead Creative Writing teacher) at mcnewkat@wcps.k12.md.us

**ALL PORTFOLIOS MUST BE RECEIVED BY
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2015 to be reviewed
by the Audition committee prior to auditions.**

Creative Writing Portfolio Score Sheet

	Technique/ Skill	Creativity/ Artistic Merit	Content/Ideas	Potential for Growth	Grammar and Mechanics
Personal Essay					
Fiction					
Poetry					
Academic Essay					

Totals					
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