



## **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 nonfiction, 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). While the portfolio is the most important aspect of the creative writing audition, applicants will also 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 – Should be a full story with a beginning, middle, and end (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. Please bring your portfolios with you to your audition.

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 Mrs. Anderson (Lead Creative Writing teacher) at [anderkat@wcps.k12.md.us](mailto:anderkat@wcps.k12.md.us)

## **Creative Writing Portfolio Score Sheet**

**Name:**

### **Personal Essay**

Essay demonstrates significant passion and interest in the writing craft 3 2 1

Essay is thoughtful, coherent, and well-written 3 2 1

### **Fiction**

Story demonstrates knowledge of technical skills 3 2 1

Story attempts to speak to a deeper meaning 3 2 1

Story is creative and thought provoking 3 2 1

Story demonstrates strong writing potential 3 2 1

### **Poetry**

Language is purposeful and evocative 3 2 1

Poems attempt to speak to a deeper meaning 3 2 1

Poems demonstrate strong writing potential 3 2 1

### **Academic Essay**

Essay demonstrates strong technical writing skills 3 2 1

Essay demonstrates strong communication skills 3 2 1

### **Overall Portfolio**

Portfolio includes ALL necessary requirements 3 2 1

Portfolio is strong representation of writing potential 3 2 1