

Creative Writing Audition Procedures

Selection for the creative writing program is a two-part process consisting of a portfolio of your writing and a 15-30 minute writing exercise the day of auditions. When you report to your audition site, you should have your manuscripts in a manila folder.

- Manuscripts must contain cover page with title of manuscript and name of student;
- Must be from **one** of three categories: fiction, poetry or creative nonfiction (meditative essay/memoir /sketch or portrait). Please do not submit work in a combination of categories;
- Must be typewritten and double-spaced. Twelve-point type face;
- Must be no fewer than six (6) and no more than eight (8) pages. The entire portfolio, excluding the cover page, must not exceed eight pages.
- If your submission is from a longer work such as a novel, the 6-8 pages must be consecutive. If you submit samples of two or three short stories, you may submit two or three consecutive pages from each--still no more than 8 pages.
- Poetry submissions must be a total of 6-8 pages. You are neither required nor encouraged to submit one poem that is 6-8 pages long.

All students in the creative writing area will perform the writing exercise simultaneously. Individual interviews of approximately fifteen (15) minutes will be scheduled. Questions are general in nature, covering such topics as your experience with writing and reading. You will be informed of specific times in your audition letter.

Creative Writing Audition/Review Tips

These tips are suggestions on how to better prepare for and present your GSA audition/review; they are NOT eligibility requirements for admittance to GSA.

- Include strong imagery and figurative language in your writing;
- Develop a mature grasp on language (sensory details, image, rhythm, simile, metaphor) but also be open to trying different styles and genres;
- Develop a structured consistent writing routine;
- Read diverse materials and/or see live spoken word/poetry performances of your genre similar to your audition selection;
- Be prepared to talk about your writing process, editing process, what you are reading, your favorite authors and favorite book;
- Be prepared to talk about why you are passionate about writing and why you are interested in attending GSA;
- Be prepared to discuss what you wish to get out of GSA, and what you believe your strengths and weaknesses to be in your writing;
- Find your original voice by continuing to share your work with a group of people. You may practice by attending writing workshops or reading your work aloud to a friend, teacher or parent.