

Middle School PVA Creative Writing & Drama

5th and 6th Grade



General Information

- All students interested in PVA must complete an **online application** at aacps.org/magnet
- All students interested in PVA must complete an **audition** to be considered for the program. You will be assigned an audition appointment once you have passed the academic screening.
- A **portfolio of writing** is required, you will bring it with you on the day of your audition.
- For the on-site audition, you will have 30 minutes to complete a written response to a prompt. No materials are needed for the on-site creative writing audition. The only thing that students need to bring is their portfolio.
- Students will **perform a 1 minute monologue** or read aloud one of their written pieces.
- An **interview** of three questions is required and scored along with the portfolio and on-site writing.
- All students expressing an interest in visual arts in the PVA Magnet Program are highly encouraged to audition, regardless of whether or not they have had formal or informal training.

Portfolio Requirements

- **Each student applying to the Creative Writing and Drama Magnet Program is required to submit three (3) original written works from different writing genres, selected from the following:**
 1. Poetry/Song
 2. Prose Fiction- short stories, an excerpt from novel or longer work
 3. Short Scene from a Play with notes for stage directions
 4. Autobiographical Essay
 5. Myth, Tall Tale, or Fairy Tale
 6. Comedy Routine or Parody
 7. Newspaper or Magazine Article
- Please complete each selection on separate sheets of paper and place in a folder. Label the folder with your full name and date of audition.
- All written pieces submitted in the portfolio must be typed using Times New Roman, size 12, double spaced, and maximum of 300-350 words.
- Your portfolio will be kept, please make sure to save your own copies of your work.

- Label each piece with your name, school, title and the genre.
- **Entries must be your own, original work (not copied!).**
- Please be prepared to read aloud for approximately 1 minute during the audition. You can perform a monologue or read from one of your portfolio pieces.

Scoring Criteria

You will be scored on the following criteria for each piece:

- **Organization:** The entry is well organized. Ideas or thoughts follow another in a logical sequence with clear transitions.
- **Content/style:** A strong, fully developed theme or main idea is established with several supporting details.
- **Mechanics:** Very few minor errors in grammar, spelling, capitalization, punctuation and sentence structure.
- **Creative Expression:** Creative approach to the writing or idea. The work is original with a strong sense of personal expression of ideas and meaning.
- **Following portfolio guidelines:** The entries represent a range of genres. The entry is typed and formatted correctly according to the directions provided.

Middle School Creative Writing Applicants must score at least an average score of 6 on their audition (including on-site audition, portfolio, and interview) to be eligible for this program.

Possible Ways to Prepare for the Audition

- Attend a PVA Information Night to hear more about the program and audition process and see the PVA schools
- Attend a PVA Audition Workshop where you can get feedback on your portfolio pieces from PVA staff, ask questions about the prompts, and hear more about the audition process.
- Speak to a teacher at your school about your portfolio pieces, ask questions about the genres.
- See your Guidance Counselor for assistance with the application process or getting more information about the program.
- Practice completing writing prompts within the 30 minute time limit.
- Practice reading a monologue or portfolio piece aloud in front of different people and timing it to fit within 1 minute.
- Contact the PVA Office with any specific questions you may have.

Want to sign up for an Audition Workshop? Want more information on PVA?

Visit our website at: aacps.org/PVA

Questions?

Contact: PVA@aacps.org