

MPVA Creative Writing

What can I expect from Creative Writing at MPVA?

Our program is modeled on higher level programs and tailored for middle school students. It is a rigorous training program with high standards of excellence and a commitment to training the next generation of writers.

Classroom instruction is supplemented by a variety of reading, competition, and publication opportunities in which training is put into practice. The curriculum will provide a wide variety of learning opportunities and experiences that can benefit them throughout their lives.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS FOR MPVA CREATIVE WRITING MAGNET

1. 2–6-page prepared sample
2. Timed writing
3. Interview

Required Audition Preparation Details:

Students must bring a 2–6-page sample of their best writing. Be sure to bring a copy of the original as the writing sample will NOT be returned to the student. The writing may be in any genre. All writing samples must be written by the student alone and clearly labeled with the student's name and title of the piece (if titled). The sample may include, but is not limited to poetry, fiction, drama, and creative nonfiction. The writing sample must be typed, double spaced, 10- or 12-point font for fiction, drama, and creative nonfiction. Poetry must be single or 1.5 spaced. Your 2-6 pages may be divided between pieces from more than one genre.

For the timed writing, students will be given a prompt, and they will complete a piece of writing within a given time limit. Students will be judged on content and creativity rather than mechanics.

Frequently Asked Questions

- Should students who have never taken a creative writing class apply? Yes, MPVA encourages students of all levels to apply.
- Should students with many years of creative writing experience and/or training apply? Yes, students will be challenged no matter the experience they have had prior to attending MPVA.

CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM



Overview and Outcomes

The Creative Writing Program integrates the MPVA Core Values into rigorous study of the foundations of Creative Writing and the development of individual voice and polished work. The program will consist of training in the elements of fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction. Students will write every day and learn habits that will serve them well throughout their lives as writers. Students will be encouraged to select an area to create final projects that will align with their own talents and interests. This will give students the techniques, skills, and individual guidance necessary to focus in their chosen genres. The goal is to provide a high level of instruction and experiences that prepare students for further study.

When students leave MPVA they will have:

- A portfolio of polished pieces in fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction. The portfolio will include a manuscript in the student's area of concentration.
- A solid foundation in fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction that includes writing and a deep and wide knowledge of texts.
- Significant practice in critically and clearly thinking about their own work and the work of others.
- Experience editing and publishing.
- Experience preparing and competing in writing competitions.

CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

The creative writing program will focus on introducing students to the elements of fiction, poetry and creative non-fiction. The class will include responding to other works of art and self-exploration for the purpose of expression. Each year, the program will emphasize aspects of writing through mini-lessons, exercises, and experiences. Students will engage in writer's workshops and book clubs, so they can explore other writing styles and their own analysis.

Writer's Workshop:

- Students will create their pieces. They will read each other's work and provide supportive, constructive, and clear feedback using a formula that is built on trust, honesty and compassion.
- Students will take the feedback and utilize it to create a final draft for their portfolios.
- Additional lessons will be given based on trends and patterns in student work.

Book Club:

- Students will choose books within their small groups.
- They will read on pace with one another and discuss in their groups the elements of writing and their own personal connections to the reading.
- Students will rate each other based on participation and performance within the group.

CREATIVE WRITING

Contact Info

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832-782-4382

About Our Class

Students will be creating various works such as short stories, scripts, poems, vignettes, lyrics, novels and other pieces. Students begin every class with their personal journal, then move into a mini lesson to set the focus for their writing. Students will have ongoing writer's workshop and book club, to not only produce their own writing, but also to critique and analyze other authors' works.

Suggested Supplies

- 2 composition books
- 2 spiral notebooks
- 1 pocket folder

About Me

I have been a teacher for fifteen years, and in that time, I have taught English, Reading, Theatre and Social Emotional Skills Classes. I consider myself a writer and hope to be a published author very soon. My first passion is teaching (tied with raising my wonderful daughter), and my second is writing.

Notes:

Creative Writing Mission Statement and Agreement

I will bring my best self to class every day, and I will work hard to improve and strengthen my writing skills. I will come to class prepared and willing to work with others with an open mind and no judgment. I will come to class on time and with a good attitude. I will follow our class agreements and communicate my needs effectively. I will keep my expectations high of myself and others. I will show compassion and empathy for my fellow writers, and I will respectfully give critiques and gracefully receive critiques. I will continue to do my best and meet expectations in all other classes at MPVA as a representative of the creative writing magnet community.

I agree to meet expectations and follow the creative writing magnet mission statement to the best of my ability:

Student Printed Name _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____