

Student Writing

WRITERS IN THE SCHOOL



Catherine MacConnell Reading at the WITS Event

We are proud to celebrate four students whose accomplishments in writing earned them city-wide recognition by Writers in the Schools (WITS), a group who partners with schools across Houston to encourage students to find a passion for reading and writing.

Curriculum and Learning Coordinator, Cortney Richa-Hebert shares, "This summer marked our fourth year in hosting Creative Writing Camp--a city-wide collaborative summer camp program developed by Writers in the Schools and Rice School Literacy and Culture. This January, we continued our partnership with these two organizations by bringing writing consultants to our

teachers, classrooms, and students to enrich our campus literacy work. In middle school, we had the opportunity to submit some of our best student writing for two of the WITS year end author celebrations."

Each year, thousands of students across Houston submit writing pieces to be selected for the Young Writers Reading or the Watchful Eyes series reading. The reading events, held at the Menil Collection, feature the best students from WITS' 250 school, community, and hospital classrooms. The young writers' writing pieces were reviewed and selected through a juried process. Each of the WITS writing consultants submits several

pieces for the reading series, and their panel selects just a fraction of those pieces for the readings. WITS works with over 38,000 students and teachers each year, and only about 150 students are selected from all over the city of Houston. So, each school's representative(s) at these readings represent the best of the best of the best.

We were thrilled that 5th grader, Irene Roddy, was selected to read her piece on May 6, 2017 at the Young Writers Reading, and 7th graders Catherine MacConnell and Caitlyn McConnell, along with 8th grader, Daniella Nassar, were selected to read their pieces at the Watchful Eyes series reading event on May 18, 2017.