

## Student Work, continued



Paris Riconte, '18, Curriculum and Learning Coordinator, Cortney Richa-Hebert, Lauren McGinnis, '18, and 8th Grade Language Arts teacher, Jessica Evans pose for a photo during the WITS reading events held at the Menil Collection

**W**e are proud to celebrate two students whose accomplishments in writing earned them city-wide recognition by Writers in 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, "We are so excited to see two of our eighth graders be selected to be a part of the WITS Watchful Eye series this year. The creative writing work with we do with WITS is such an amazing opportunity for our students and teachers."

Each year, thousands of students

across Houston submit writing pieces to be selected for the Young Writers Reading or the Watchful Eye 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 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. "The St. Mark's community has a deep commitment to promoting and celebrating literary arts and creativity. WITS is honored to partner with St. Mark's each year, and our WITS writers love writing with your teachers and students. We were thrilled Lauren and Paris could represent St. Mark's at our Watchful Eye reading," states Jack McBride, Associate Director of WITS.

We were thrilled that 8th graders Lauren McGinnis and Paris Riconte were selected to read their pieces at the event on Wednesday, May 16, 2018. Congratulations to Lauren and Paris on this incredible honor!