Literary Arts

Part One: Application & Written Materials

Arts Essay

Submitted within online magnet application, respond to the two prompts below by crafting one short essay that answers all of the questions:

Pittsburgh CAPA 6–12 is a community of artists in dance, literary arts, piano, production technology, theater, visual arts, vocal and instrumental music. Why do YOU want to be an artist?

Specifically for Literary Arts Applicants: Describe a book, poem, play or other piece of writing that has influenced you or made you think differently about writing. How does the piece you chose connect to the type of writer you hope to become? What do you think it will take to get there?

Writing Portfolio

Submitted within the online magnet application, as a single file upload – contact the magnet office at magnetoffice@pghschools.org if you need assistance submitting the writing portfolio:

Students applying for the Literary Arts department at Pittsburgh CAPA 6−12 should submit a writing portfolio in any genre that you feel represents you and your best work as a creative writer. This should be in one of the following genres of writing: 3−5 poems (25 lines minimum for each poem) or 7−15 pages in length of prose in either fiction or creative nonfiction, or dramatic writing that you wrote on your own, not for a school assignment, 3-5 pieces of flash fiction. NO FAN FICTION is acceptable.

Include a cover sheet with the portfolio that includes the student's name, date, and the titles of the creative work(s). The student's name should only be on the cover sheet—do not include a name on the actual pieces of writing. Writing will not be returned and writing portfolios must be submitted via the online application by the deadline for Pittsburgh CAPA applications.

Part Two: In-House Audition

1. All auditioning students should bring with them a journal of their writing to share with the panel. These will not be read in detail, but the Literary Arts staff wants to see a student's writing process even when doodling ideas. These should be shared during the interview point of the audition

2. Students should be prepared to engage in the following activities during the audition for literary arts.

    - Be prepared to talk about yourself and your work. Think about why you want to join the CAPA Literary Arts program.
    - Be ready to engage in a writing workshop where you will interact with teachers and other auditioners regarding a piece of literature.
    - Practice reading a piece of writing from your portfolio to share with the audition panel. Be familiar and comfortable reading your writing.
    - Be prepared to write a creative response to a prompt after reading a prose piece and discussing it.
    - Ask questions. Find joy in the process.

Scoring:
Please review the Audition Scoring Guide, available on the Literary Arts department page of www.pghschools.org/caparegistration.

Length of Audition:
2 - 3 hours