



Creative Writing Portfolio

The theme for GSA 2025 is “Arts in Community.” When we create art, we interact with and serve our communities. West Virginia has a rich cultural history, with diverse communities expressing themselves through music, dance, theater, writing, and visual arts. We draw on this cultural heritage to foster community through art at GSA, empowering you to find community with other artists both in and outside of your chosen artistic discipline.

Creative writers may submit in **EITHER** poetry OR prose, using the guidelines provided.

Prose:

- Students should submit an 8-10 page sample of their creative writing following MLA format.
- The student may choose any genre that best represents their personal writing style. This sample can be a singular story, multiple short pieces, or a section of a larger work they are composing.
- Included with this writing sample should be a query letter (350 words) that explains the author’s areas of interest, reasons for choosing this work, inspiration for the piece(s), types of things they enjoy writing or stories they like to tell, and any information needed about their sample (i.e. context if it is part of a larger work).
- The student is asked to write a short bio (100-150 words) to include.

Prose Writing Sample Formatting Guidelines:

- All samples must be typed.
- Double-spaced
- 1-inch margins on all sides
- Times New Roman, Arial, or Courier
- 12-point font
- Total pages: 8-10.
 - Do not put page breaks in between pieces, but please be sure to include the titles between each one. Underline and center-align titles for clear readability.
- The file format for the manuscript should be one of the following: PDF, DOC, DOCX, or RTF.

Poetry:

- A sample 4-6 shorter poems.
- The total packet of writing samples should not exceed 6-7 pages.
- The genre of poetry and format is up to the applicant.
- Do not select a section of work from a longer poem. Each poem should be its own separate body of work.
- Included with this packet should be a Query Letter (350 words) that explains the authors areas of interest as well as a short description of each poem submitted. These descriptions should include why the author chose the form used as well as the general point of the poem.
- The student is asked to write a short Bio (100-150 words) to include.

Poetry Writing Sample Formatting Guidelines:

- All samples must be typed.
- Single-spaced
- 1-inch margins on all sides
- Times New Roman, Arial, or Courier
- 12-point font
- Total pages: 8-10.
 - Do not put page breaks in between pieces, but please be sure to include the titles between each one. Underline and center-align titles for clear readability.
- The file format for the manuscript should be one of the following: PDF, DOC, DOCX, or RTF.

File Submission

- Upload the portfolio to a share folder location such as OneDrive. Include your First and Last Name, School, and “2025 Creative Writing Portfolio” as a title of the file. **Please ensure you have granted public access to the video.** WVDE and GSA staff must be able to view the video.
- Create a PDF of the file location link and upload the PDF to the file submission location below.
- **You must include your first and last name in the file name.**

File Submission: <https://tinyurl.com/fe3nvm49>

An example of what the PDF file should include:

John Doe
Pocahontas County High School
2025 Creative Writing Portfolio

Portfolio Link:

https://wvk12-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/g/personal/dllambert_k12_wv_us/2025creativewritingportfolio

Virtual Interview:

The hosting college/university may contact you directly if a virtual interview is needed.