



New Mexico's only public, statewide charter high school that serves young artists with a rigorous, award-winning pre-professional arts and academics program.

NMSA Creative Writing and Literature Department 2019 Audition Requirements

Arrival:

Students and parents/guardians should plan to arrive for the orientation. Please enter the main doors of NMSA off East Alameda St. You will be greeted there by our audition team members, where your picture will be taken, and you'll be given a name tag. You will then enter the gym (Large Rehearsal Hall) for the orientation meeting.

What to Expect

Orientation:

Your day will begin with a 30-minute orientation meeting with Creative Writing and Literature department faculty, staff, and several current department students. This is an informal opportunity for applicants and parents/guardians to meet the staff and ask any questions you may have about the school, academics, and the department.

Master Class:

After the orientation meeting all applicants will be in a 45-minute master class with a faculty member. The class will include reading and analyzing a short story for character, setting, voice, and time frame.

- Parents/guardians are invited to wait for students in the hallway, or to leave and return at the scheduled interview time to pick their student up. Once the interview is completed, applicants are free to leave NMSA.

After the Master Class, applicants will write a **scene** inspired by the reading and work completed. Applicants will complete the writing portion on a computer.

- When you finish the onsite writing portion, you may either stay on campus, or leave and return 20 minutes before your scheduled audition time.

Individual Interview:

At your scheduled interview time, we will ask you questions that encourage you to speak about yourself and your interest in writing and literature. You will also have time to ask us about the department and the school. The conversation is meant to give us some time to get to know each other so that you will have a clearer sense of the Creative Writing and Literature Department and we will gain a clearer picture of you as a person and aspiring artist.

How to Prepare

We encourage applicants to get a good night's sleep and arrive on campus fresh and ready to engage. The audition panel will be sitting in on the Master Class in order to evaluate applicants as they interact with each other, the text, and the instructor.

Please do not bring additional writing samples/portfolios—we want to spend the day getting to know you in person.

What to Bring

Please wear comfortable clothing—layers are recommended to accommodate fluctuating temperatures in our historical building.

Please bring a snack and water to enjoy during your wait time. We also suggest a good book to read while waiting.

Patience and a positive attitude.

Your passion for writing and literature.

For more information on what the panelists will be evaluating, please visit our website at <https://www.nmschoolforthearts.org/admission/apply>.

If you have any questions, please contact our Director of Admissions, Francesca Rodriguez, at francesca.rodriguez@nmsa-ai.org or 505.629.9245.

