

## The Writing Fellows Program at Friends Academy: FAQs

### **What is the Writing Fellows Program?**

The WFP was created by the English Department in 2011 to provide seniors who care about good writing a unique service learning opportunity. The 2015-16 school year will expand upon the former WFP, which served only the ninth grade. The new WFP will include select junior Fellows in addition to seniors, because starting in 2015 the Fellows will staff the exciting new Friends Academy Writing Center, at which students from every grade in the upper school can receive one-on-one writing instruction. All Writing Fellows are trained to support their peers during the drafting and/or revising process, with the goal of helping each student who schedules an appointment identify key areas of potential improvement, such as organization, tone, evidence, integration of quotations, etc.

Fellows are not copy editors!

### **Why would I want to be a Writing Fellow?**

Because helping other people in your community is one of the most gratifying experiences you will ever have. Because you will meet students and faculty who share your passion for writing. Because the more we learn to support and help each other, the stronger our community becomes. And because as you help others with their writing, you will find that your own writing improves, too!

### **What does the “ideal” Writing Fellow Candidate look like?**

The ideal candidate for this service learning opportunity is a student who:

- Seeks the inner light within each member of the community;
- Listens with empathy and treats others with respect;
- Is humble about his or her own intellectual gifts;
- Has demonstrated a commitment to service and a concern for others;
- Cares about good writing;
- Writes with confidence and skill.

### **Who can apply?**

Students who will be seniors or juniors in the upcoming school year and who have demonstrated a dedication to the craft of writing. (Participation in a three day workshop at the end of August is mandatory. The student and a parent will be asked to sign a letter of commitment as part of the application process.)

### **I have to do something over the summer?**

Yes! You will attend a summer workshop run by Mr. Wetherell and Mrs. Baskind from Tuesday, August 25th through Thursday, August 27th. The workshop will run from 9am to 12:30pm on each of those days. It will give you an opportunity to learn about what a Writing Fellow does, what the Writing Center does, to practice writing and revising papers, to role play, and to get to know your fellow Fellows.

**How do I apply?**

Download the application packet on the English Department webpage and follow the instructions listed there. ([www.fa.org/english](http://www.fa.org/english))

**When is the application deadline?**

The application deadline for the program is May 6th. Please bring your signed and completed application materials to Mr. Wetherell, Doc Garrett, or Mrs. Baskind by the time of the mandatory meeting, which will be held in Doc Garrett's room (307 Frost Hall) during assembly block on May 6th.

**How will the writing fellows be selected?**

Fellows will be selected by the members of the English Department. The Department will take into consideration the following:

1. the student's letter of application
2. the student's writing sample
3. the reflections of two teachers (including one teacher outside of the English department)
4. the student's performance in his or her English courses
5. the student's reflections on a piece of 9th grade writing

**Whom should I contact if I have questions?**

Mr. Wetherell (304 Frost Hall, [brad\\_wetherell@fa.org](mailto:brad_wetherell@fa.org) )

Doc Garrett (307 Frost Hall, [shawn\\_garrett@fa.org](mailto:shawn_garrett@fa.org))

Mrs. Baskind (3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of Kumar Wang Library, [barbara\\_baskind@fa.org](mailto:barbara_baskind@fa.org))