

**STUDENT APPLICATION FOR
HONORS LANGUAGE ARTS**

AT MADISON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Due Date: Friday, May 20, 2016

**** This application is only required for students who **have not** tested into Spectrum or the Highly Capable Cohort (“HCC,” formerly “APP”) through the Seattle School District’s testing for advanced learning. ****

Directions: Ask your teacher to complete the teacher recommendation form. He or she will send that directly to Madison. Please answer the question below in the space provided. On the next page, you’ll find additional directions for the essay you need to include with this application. Send your completed application to: Madison Middle School, Attention: 6th Grade Counselor, 3429 45th Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98116

Why are you interested in being in Honors Language Arts at Madison and what strengths would you contribute to the learning community?

Student Signature _____ **Date** _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

I understand that my student is applying for 6th Grade Honors Language Arts (Spectrum). The Language Arts curriculum is presented at an accelerated learning pace, focusing on grade level expectations that are one year above students' assigned grade level in reading and at or above students’ assigned grade level in writing and communication. *I also understand that the only guaranteed pathway into a Spectrum or HCC class at Madison is through the district’s advanced learning testing, which is offered each fall to determine eligibility for the **following** school year. Placement in this class for 6th grade does not guarantee placement in honors LA in subsequent years, unless student qualifies through school district testing.*

Parent Phone Number/E-mail _____

MADISON MIDDLE SCHOOL
2016-2017 APPLICATION FOR HONORS LANGUAGE ARTS
WRITING SAMPLE: Due Friday, May 20

All applicants for 6th grade Honors Language Arts must write an original essay responding to one of the three prompts below. Essays are due at the same time as the rest of the application material. Both the student and the parent must sign the statement at the bottom of this page. Please note that essays will not be returned.

Directions: Please write a well-developed, multi-paragraph essay that responds to one of the following prompts. Your essay must be handwritten on lined paper.*

1. If you could change places with another person (past or present) for a whole day, with whom would you change places and why would you choose that person?

OR

2. We are learning all the time. Some of our learning takes place in school and some outside of school. Write about something you have learned recently and how it has affected you.

OR

3. You are an astronaut on a peaceful, exploratory mission to a newly identified planet. As a representative from Earth, you are to present three gifts from our planet. What items will you take? Write a proposal to the sponsors of your mission explaining why you think these will make excellent gifts.

Student and Parent/Guardian Statement:

The attached essay is the original, independent work of the student whose name appears below. Independent work means that the applicant did not receive assistance from adults or peers in writing, revising, or proofreading this essay.

Student Name (Printed)

Parent/Guardian Name (Printed)

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

**A student with a 504 Plan or IEP with written language goals may word process this essay if that accommodation is part of the student's plan.*

**TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FOR
6th GRADE HONORS LANGUAGE ARTS
AT MADISON MIDDLE SCHOOL**

(Application and recommendation are only for students who have NOT been designated advanced learners through district testing)

Due Date: Friday, May 20, 2016

Student's Name _____ Elementary School _____

Teacher's Name _____ Teacher's e-mail _____

PLEASE RATE THIS STUDENT'S WRITING PROFICIENCY

Ideas & Content (creativity, complexity, critical thinking)

1 2 3 4 5

1=significantly below peers, 2=slightly below peers, 3=same as peers, 4=slightly above peers, 5=significantly above peers

Word Choice (precision, advanced vocabulary, audience-awareness, figurative/sensory language)

1 2 3 4 5

1=significantly below peers, 2=slightly below peers, 3=same as peers, 4=slightly above peers, 5=significantly above peers

Sentence Fluency (complete sentences, complex structures, variety of structures)

1 2 3 4 5

1=significantly below peers, 2=slightly below peers, 3=same as peers, 4=slightly above peers, 5=significantly above peers

Any other comments about this student's ability to work at an accelerated pace within the writing curriculum?

PLEASE RATE THIS STUDENT'S READING PROFICIENCY

5th Grade SBAC Raw Score _____ and Level (1-4) _____ : F-P Reading Level _____

Other Relevant Test Scores _____

Comprehension (identifying main ideas & supporting evidence, decoding unknown vocabulary, etc.)

1 2 3 4 5

1=significantly below peers, 2=slightly below peers, 3=same as peers, 4=slightly above peers, 5=significantly above peers

Critical Thinking (high-level inferences, connections, predictions, comparing & contrasting, questions, etc.)

1 2 3 4 5

1=significantly below peers, 2=slightly below peers, 3=same as peers, 4=slightly above peers, 5=significantly above peers

Reading Habits (endurance, volume, willingness to explore new genres, persistence with complex texts, etc.)

1 2 3 4 5

1=significantly below peers, 2=slightly below peers, 3=same as peers, 4=slightly above peers, 5=significantly above peers

Is there anything else you would like us to know about this student's reading performance?

QUALITIES OF ADVANCED LEARNERS

Complex Thinking Skills (creativity, problem-solving skills, analytical skills, etc.)

1 2 3 4 5

1=significantly below peers, 2=slightly below peers, 3=same as peers, 4=slightly above peers, 5=significantly above peers

Work Habits (focus, motivation, independence, task completion, persistence, organization, etc.)

1 2 3 4 5

1=significantly below peers, 2=slightly below peers, 3=same as peers, 4=slightly above peers, 5=significantly above peers

Learning Behaviors (creates advanced products, masters new skills quickly, displays depth of knowledge, comprehends advanced concepts, displays intellectual curiosity, handles ambiguity, etc.)

1 2 3 4 5

1=significantly below peers, 2=slightly below peers, 3=same as peers, 4=slightly above peers, 5=significantly above peers

Any additional comments about this student?

Thank you for your assistance. We appreciate your input! Please return this form by May 20. Please note that applicants are not guaranteed a place in sixth grade honors LA and will be admitted on a space-available basis, with notification in late summer, right before school starts. (The only guaranteed pathway into Spectrum or HCC classes is through district advanced-learning testing.) Please direct questions to Dr. Robert Gary, Principal, 206-252-9200.

**Madison Middle School
Attention: 6th Grade Counselor
3429 45th Ave. SW
Seattle, WA 98116**