Admission to the Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing (MFA) Program

The Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing Program seeks applicants who want to serve as writers in professional, academic, and community settings. Applicants should aspire to develop their skills in the art and craft of writing, care deeply about the role of the arts and artists in society, and share a commitment to and appreciation of culturally diverse writers and traditions. The program upholds AULA’s tradition of honoring both academic and experiential learning. Applicants must be self-motivated individuals who are able to work independently in a distance-learning format, as well as a traditional classroom atmosphere. Program participants must have access to a computer, Microsoft Word, and the internet.

Students are accepted into the MFA Program twice each year—at the beginning of the Summer/Fall or Winter/Spring semesters. To be considered for admission to the MFA Program, the applicant must meet all of the eligibility requirements listed below.

Eligibility Requirements

To qualify for admission, applicants must supply the following:

- Evidence of a bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education. (Note: Evidence of a bachelor’s degree from a non-regionally accredited institution of higher education may be considered, but is at the discretion of the academic program.)
- Evidence of exceptional ability as a creative writer as demonstrated in a writing sample (typed and double-spaced with 10 pages of poetry, or 20 pages of fiction, creative nonfiction, or writing for young people).
- Evidence of appropriate experience, goals, and interests that indicate a good fit with the Program and potential to be successful in the professional field as provided in the Admissions Dialogue, previous academic record, samples of work.

Advanced Standing

Accepted applicants may apply for no more than one semester’s advanced standing if they have successfully completed at least one semester in another accredited MFA in Creative Writing Program. Work completed in other types of graduate writing programs do not count toward advanced standing.