

Journalism Application Overview



We are so happy you are considering joining the KMS Journalism staff. We are a super group of kids who work together as a team to produce two of the three publications here at King: the newspaper and the literary magazine. We are serious about this course. We want to win awards. We work hard to be the best we can be. We are seeking like-minded individuals who believe they have something of value to offer our staff. Although we work as a team, each of us offers unique talents to the staff, so we're looking for students who are strong individuals, who feel they have something to add, who aren't afraid to let their voices be heard.



Additionally, if you have great artistic and design talents, this course might be a good fit for you and your professional goals; photography skills and an artist's eye are welcomed. We design the school newspaper and we integrate the most up-to-date design software into the creation of the literary magazine. You will learn a great deal about writing in this course – not only from a straight journalistic perspective but also from a creative, artistic perspective.



Crusader Chronicle

If you are interested in a course that provides you a myriad of opportunities to write fiction and nonfiction, poetry and drama, newspaper articles and scholarship essays, this is a course you should consider. You will have the space to create, and your voice will be heard. Becoming a part of this staff means you are a part of something important. You'll cherish your time on the journalism staff. Whether you want to be a great journalist, the next great American novelist, or just learn how to write better for personal growth, this course is for you.



Crusader Chronicle

Finally, taking this course just makes sense. Most students who work hard and meet their deadlines in this course make A's or high B's. As long as you remain focused in class, there's little to no homework, and you'll have the chance to take on leadership positions as one of our assistant editors. That's something to sing about on any college application. This course provides students with real-world skills, access to training with some high-level technology, and a space to explore their creative talents. We hope you decide to join us!

Applications should be completed and turned in to Ms. Faulk, Mrs. Kane or Guidance.

King Middle School Journalism Application

Due March to Ms. Faulk, Mrs. Kane or Guidance

FULL NAME: _____ GRADE LEVEL: _____

Please answer the following questions honestly, in your best and neatest writing. Attach additional paper if necessary. All questions are important. Please do not leave anything blank. Be sure to ask your English teacher to complete the recommendation form and to turn into Ms. Faulk on or before Feb. 21.

1. Explain why you want to be a part of a course centrally focused on writing and the production of two school publications.

2. What will you bring to the program? What special talents or attributes do you have that will make our program stronger?

3. This course is really two courses in one: a newspaper publication course and a literary-art magazine publication course. Which of these two aspects are you drawn to and why?

4. Although not required for acceptance into the course, please discuss your experiences with design, photography, photo editing software, and design software. If you have little experience with any of the above, discuss your desire to learn about each.

5. This course is a student-driven and designed course. Discuss your expectations for this course. What do you expect to learn?

6. This course requires little to no homework, but it is deadline focused. Discuss your ability to self-monitor and to meet deadlines. Is there an aspect of meeting deadlines that you particularly have trouble doing? If so, explain.

7. Take a moment and write a paragraph in your best prose. It can be fiction or nonfiction. You may attach an excerpt from something you have already written.

8. What do you think your English teacher would say about you as a student and as a writer?

9. Please tell us anything else that's important for us to know about you and your desire to be a part of our staff. Please do not leave this question blank.

Teacher Recommendation Form (to be completed by applicant's English teacher)
King Middle School Journalism Program
Applicant Section (Fill out before giving to your teacher)

Name: _____ Grade Level: _____

Teacher Section

Name: _____ Course Name: _____

Please evaluate the applicant's characteristics, concerning the following:

	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent	Exceptional
Academic Achievement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Academic Potential	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Writing Ability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Motivation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to take constructive criticism	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Integrity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Research Ability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to work independently	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to work in a group setting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to follow instruction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to complete assignments on time	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

We encourage you to write a paragraph about the applicant's academic and personal characteristics on the back of this sheet. Please sign and date and place in Ms. Faulk's mailbox by March ????. We are particularly interested in your comments about the applicant's academic work, intellectual qualities, level of maturity, and interest in developing skills in journalism and creative writing—research, reporting, and writing (both journalistic and creatively). What strengths or weaknesses should we consider in evaluating the applicant? How would you describe the applicant's potential for success in a production course devoted to publishing the newspaper and the literary magazine?

Signature _____ Date _____