

## Writer’s Application Prompts

As part of the KIDSTAGE Originals writer application, **each applicant will be asked to submit two pieces of work**. One piece should use one of the prompts provided below; the other may be any creative writing you have, either created for this program or written on your own time.

You may submit your pieces of work in any format: scene, song, poetry, creative essay, etc. We encourage you to attempt to write a scene or song for at least one of your submissions. Scenes have a recommended length of two pages, and songs are recommended to include a verse and chorus. You are also encouraged to submit audio or video clips to supplement your writing samples.

All writing and prompt submissions are used solely to determine current skills in writing and storytelling. Perfection is not requested or expected – all writing can be improved, and the biggest hurdle all writers face is getting their ideas down on paper!

### **Prompts**

Please choose a different prompt for each submission. With your submission, please include the title and brief synopsis of the original story, and well as the new title for your piece.

1. Tell the story of a student exploring a non-traditional and/or UNEXPECTED love. The more creative and unforeseen, the better.
2. Take a character from a historical event and tell their perspective on the event unfolding around them. You are encouraged to explore events that are often overlooked or ignored.
3. Tell us a story using a pre-established myth, fairytale, or well-known public domain short story. This could be a character’s reaction, a moment/scene within the story, or the story as a whole. Please look up your own version of the myths and attach the copy you based your song/scene on to your application (with source). Some sources of stories to use:
  - a. Greek Myths: <https://www.greeka.com/greece-myths/>
  - b. Wikipedia’s list of fairytales from around the world: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_fairy\\_tales](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_fairy_tales)
  - e. Project Gutenberg: Public Domain Short Stories: [https://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Short\\_Stories\\_%28Bookshelf%29](https://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Short_Stories_%28Bookshelf%29)

## Recommended formatting

The following is the recommended formatting for scenes and songs, modeled after what is used during the writing process. Proper formatting is not required but is provided for those who wish to attempt it.

### **Scene Formatting**

Your scene should be a minimum of two (2) pages and include at least three (3) characters. Not all characters need to speak throughout the whole scene.

Please format your piece in 12pt font, as follows:

#### SCENE TITLE

*Stage Directions in italics, Right side as necessary.  
Stage directions should not cross center*

#### **CHARACTER #1 BOLD, CENTERED & CAPS**

Dialogue from character speaking in normal font and size, left side

#### **CHARACTER #2 BOLD, CENTERED & CAPS**

Dialogue from character speaking in normal font and size, left side

### **Song Formatting**

Songs should be submitted at minimum as a lyric sheet, but you are encouraged to submit chord sheets, recordings of the melody, or any other additional materials to convey your song. Each song should include, at minimum, a verse and a melody.

*Song: Song Title*

*Stage Directions in italics, Right side as necessary.  
Stage directions should not cross center*

#### **CHARACTER #1 in bold, Centered**

ALL LYRICS SHOULD BE INDENTED  
ALL LYRICS ARE IN ALL CAPS

ADD SPACE BETWEEN LYRICS AS NEEDED  
TO INDICATE SEPARATION OF VERSE OR CHORUS