

## Get ready. Get set. Get your students writing!

Writing is a process—a process that includes ideas, conversations, suggestions, and revisions. Practicing good writing with your students not only helps them improve their English language skills and prepares them for the HSE, but it builds their confidence as communicators.

Since 1997, Aspire teachers have supported their students by encouraging them to submit writing for *Beginnings*. This student anthology is a collection of short stories, streams of consciousness, informative text, poetry, persuasive essays, and lyrics.

Aspire students can submit work that has been turned in for a class assignment, a piece that has been tucked away in a journal, or something that has been created specifically for *Beginnings*. Instructors can upload students' writing by logging into the Professional Development system at <a href="https://www.ohioaspire.org">www.ohioaspire.org</a>.

The deadline for submissions is February 7, 2025. Entries are evaluated in a blind review process and judged on the following criteria: content, organization/structure, creativity, and mechanics. After the selections have been made, the chosen authors will be published in *Beginnings XXVII*.

Original art can also be submitted for inclusion in this publication. Student artwork will be judged on originality and how the piece best captures the spirit of *Beginnings*. Artwork must be accompanied by a completed artist form and mailed to the Ohio Literacy Resource Center by the February 7, 2025 deadline.

