



Detroit Working Writers

Detroit Working Writers Membership Application Guidelines

Detroit Working Writers (DWW) is a participatory professional writers' organization of women and men founded on June 5, 1900. DWW's stated purpose is to encourage creative writing of the highest professional standard. This goal is pursued within the organization through networking opportunities, mutual support, member-only writing competitions, luncheons/dinners, readings and book signings. In the community, DWW members promote creative writing by serving as role models, mentors, teachers and speakers.

DWW members produce original works in all genres of creative writing, thereby contributing to a valuable legacy begun by the organization's founding writers. Current works are proven through the time-honored process of proposal, submission, editing, production and final publication by impartial, reputable and recognized third-party publishers. Beginning or emerging writers who lack credits for published work are ineligible for membership. Also ineligible are sole publication credits derived from self-published, pay-on-demand (POD), ghost-written, collaboratively published works or materials that have been created solely for posting/publishing on the Internet. Only applicants with impartially published works and single authorship or bylines are considered.

DWW requires prospective members to have publication credits in at least one of the following areas:

1. A published fiction or nonfiction book that was competitively selected by a publishing house that meets DWW's standards for critical judgment and excellence and/or that has received critical acclaim from recognized literary entities.
2. Publication credits with bylines in newspapers, periodicals and/or the literary/scholarly press.
3. Scripts for film or television that have been produced, or plays read or produced over a period of several years.
4. Several poems or a book of poetry published by a recognized press.

If your publication credits meet our criteria and you wish to apply for membership, you can do so in two ways.

By traditional mail, please submit the following to DWW at the address listed below:

1. A one-page letter of application that includes your address, telephone number and e-mail address; a statement of purpose for DWW membership (why you wish to join DWW); and a statement of intent to volunteer within the organization.
2. A resume listing your writing achievements typed in a 12-point standard font, such as Times New Roman.
3. No more than 10 pages of published material (copies or tearsheets only, no books). We prefer to see the range of your work instead of one sample. Book authors should include photocopies of the title and copyright pages of their book. These materials will be retained by DWW unless accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope with sufficient postage.

4. A non-refundable \$20 application fee, made out to "Detroit Working Writers." Upon acceptance, you will need to submit a second check to cover annual dues (\$50 or \$25 for half-year) and activate your membership.

If a DWW member has offered to write a letter of sponsorship for you, please include the letter as part of your application.

By electronic submission, please e-mail the following to dww@detworkingwriters.org:

1. A letter of application that includes your address, telephone number and e-mail address; a statement of purpose for DWW membership (why you wish to join DWW); and a statement of intent to volunteer within the organization.

2. A resume listing your writing achievements typed in a 12-point standard font, such as Times New Roman.

3. No more than 10 pages of published material in .pdf form or links to published material available for review on the Internet. We prefer to see the range of your work instead of one sample. Book authors should include a .pdf of the title and copyright pages of their book or a link to them.

If a DWW member has offered to write a letter of sponsorship for you, include that letter as part of your application, either as a .pdf or if received via e-mail, by pasting it into your application e-mail.

Those who apply via electronic submission must still mail a non-refundable \$20 application fee, made out to Detroit Working Writers and sent to the address listed below. Upon acceptance, you will need to submit a second check to cover annual dues (\$50 or \$25 for half-year) and activate your membership.

Upon receipt of your application, the Membership Committee will review and act upon your application as quickly as possible. The Membership Chair will notify you of the decision in a letter sent via U.S. mail. Thank you for your interest in Detroit Working Writers.

Cathleen Hagan
DWW New Membership Chair
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