

SCBWI New Mexico Equity in Publishing Fellowship

The SCBWI New Mexico Equity in Publishing Fellowship supports SCBWI's mission to "to establish a more imaginative and inclusive world through the power of children's literature" and our commitment "to breaking down barriers and opening doors for everyone with a story to tell [and] . . . mak[ing] the children's publishing industry more inclusive."¹ Recognizing that creators from historically marginalized groups disproportionately face barriers and closed doors in the industry, this program offers a welcoming and supportive environment for underrepresented creators to hone their craft, seek new opportunities, and make connections within the professional kidlit community.

Who is eligible: Authors, illustrators and/or translators of children's literature, regardless of publication status (e.g. published, pre-published, self-published) who identify as underrepresented in publishing with priority given to residents of New Mexico and West Texas. You do not need to be a current member of SCBWI to apply.

Benefits

- One-year complimentary membership to SCBWI, beginning either January 2025 (new/returning members) or when the applicant's current membership expires.
- Complimentary attendance at each of SCBWI-NM's twelve Craft and Career webinars in 2025.
- Six months of mentorship from a published author, illustrator, or translator, depending on the applicant's creative area.
- Networking with the SCBWI-NM Regional Team and other SCBWI E&I groups around the country.

Commitments

- Supported by the Equity and Inclusion Team Leader and/or Regional Advisor, develop at least one proposal for an E&I initiative that SCBWI-NM can implement in 2026, either as a region or in collaboration with other regions.

¹ SCBWI Mission and Vision Statement, <https://www.scbwi.org/our-mission> [Accessed 8/12/24]

- Provide an end-of-year report to SCBWI-NM assessing the most and least valuable aspects of the program so that the team can adjust and improve the program moving forward.

Deadline to apply for this fellowship: November 15, 2024

Fellowship applicants will be informed of the decision on or before January 10, 2025.

Priority will be given to residents of New Mexico and West Texas (El Paso area, south of the New Mexico state line). Please note that if no applicants meet the requirements, SCBWI New Mexico reserves the right not to award the fellowship this year.

If you have any questions, please email newmexico@scbwi.org.

SCBWI-NM Equity in Publishing Fellowship
2025 Application

Applicant Name:

Residential Address:

(Note: if you choose to give a P.O. box, your application will not be given priority consideration for New Mexico/West Texas residency.)

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Professional Website (if applicable):

This fellowship is being offered to creators who are underrepresented in publishing due to diverse identities. (Please note: Applicants **will not** be penalized for choosing not to disclose specific details of their identities.)

We use the We Need Diverse Books definition of diversity:

We recognize all diverse experiences, including (but not limited to) LGBTQIA+, BIPOC, gender diversity, people with disabilities*, and ethnic, cultural, and religious minorities.

*We subscribe to a broad definition of disability, which includes but is not limited to physical, sensory, cognitive, intellectual, or developmental disabilities, chronic conditions, and mental illnesses (this may also include addiction). Furthermore, we subscribe to a social model of disability, which presents disability as created by barriers in the social environment, due to lack of equal access, stereotyping, and other forms of marginalization.

Please only apply if you identify as underrepresented in publishing according to the above definition.

Essays

(1-2 double spaced pages each)

1. Describe barriers you have encountered in your publishing career or pursuit of publication. How would the Equity in Publishing Fellowship impact your career and/or creative work?
2. Describe your commitment to uplift fellow creators from historically marginalized groups. What ideas and energy would you bring to the SCBWI New Mexico Equity and Inclusion team?

Creative Sample

Please attach a 10 page sample of your work. This may be fiction, nonfiction, or a 10 image illustration portfolio in any genre or age category, provided that it falls within the scope of Children's/YA literature. Text should be 12 pt. font with standard 1 inch margins. Prose should be double spaced.

Your pages may come from the same work or multiple works, but please be sure to label documents appropriately so that the Fellowship Committee can understand what they are reading/viewing.

The samples **do not** need to reflect experiences related to marginalization or your identity.