

# IECWC 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Anthology

## *Wild, Weird, Wonderful*

(Revised, August 23, 2022)

The Inland Empire Branch of the California Writers Club (IECWC) plans to publish an anthology of the highest quality in recognition of our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in April of 2024. Our Branch intends to include all of our current members in this anniversary publication. The motto of the CWC is “Writers Helping Writers” and, to that goal, we will be assisting, wherever possible, in helping each of our members produce their best quality work for inclusion within our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Anthology.

Furthermore, in recognition of our Branch’s 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we intend to include glimpses (as possible) from our history in the form of narratives, graphics, historical photographs, previous submissions to the *Fresh Ink* newsletter, and other such ephemera or memorabilia as might be located and/or submitted for consideration.

## Submission Guidelines

### **Theme:**

The 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Anthology theme is: *Wild, Weird, Wonderful*.

### **Membership:**

You must be a current member of the IECWC to submit work for possible publication in the Branch’s 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Anthology. You must also be a current IECWC member at the time of publication for your work to be included.

### **Fee:**

There is a one-time submission fee of \$10 that will be earmarked to offset the cost of providing one copy of the publication to each author being published.

### **Categories:**

IECWC Branch members may submit **original** works in any of the following categories:

- Fiction: short stories, flash fiction, or book/other excerpts that stand alone
- Memoir: first-person accounts of the author’s life emphasizing the experience and response
- Nonfiction: prose writing based on facts, real people, and/or real events
- Poetry (and Lyrics)
- Drawings (and Cartoons)
- Photographs
- Cover Art design recommendations

### **Restrictions:**

The editors of the Anthology may reject any or all submissions from a member for any reason including, but not limited to:

- Political or religious pieces meant to educate or persuade a reader to the author’s viewpoint
- Excessive or gratuitous violence or profanity
- Excessive or gratuitous sexual situations
- Excessive number of submissions
- Length deemed too long for publication in the Anthology

Previously published work and excerpts from the author’s own works for which the author retains all rights are acceptable. However, simultaneous submissions are not acceptable (i.e., work must not be something that is being considered by another publisher.) If an author should later decide to submit a piece elsewhere, they must

contact the Acquisitions Editor, indicated below under **Submissions**, to withdraw the piece for consideration in the Anthology.

### **Formats:**

All **written** submissions shall be submitted electronically and as error-free as possible. The submission shall be formatted as delineated below (except where noted):

- File Format: Microsoft Word (doc, docx) or rich text format (rtf)
- Author's name does not appear anywhere on the document, i.e., a blind submission
- Center title on the first page, first line
- Center category and word count on the first page, second line
- Begin submission text on the first page, fourth line
- Center page numbers in the bottom footer
- Font: 12-point Times New Roman
- Margins: 1-inch all around
- Paragraph: indent first line by ½ inch setting – no spaces or tabs (not applicable to poetry)
- Spacing: double-space paragraphs (not applicable to poetry)
- Use one space after each period or other punctuation mark (not applicable to poetry)
- Do not right justify text, i.e., align left, jagged right (not applicable to poetry)

All **poetry** submissions should generally display the composition as the author wishes it to appear on the printed page. As noted above, several formatting requirements are not required by poetry submissions in order to permit the submission of a wide variety of poetry types. However, as the final publication will not be on an 8 ½" by 11" printed page, the author of visual poetry should consider the available printed area to be approximately 4 ½" by 6 ¾" – although this is a preliminary estimate and is subject to change. Finally, any poet who wishes to experiment with fonts must realize that said fonts may not be available at the time of publication and would require substitution.

All **graphic** submissions (drawings, photographs) shall be submitted electronically as jpg files, in **grayscale**, with a minimum resolution of 300 dpi. Drawings and/or photographs that are specifically designed to accompany a written piece must clearly be stated as such.

All **cover art** submissions (drawings, photographs) shall be submitted as full-color jpg images of at least 300 dpi. Any **cover art** selected for use on the front, back, or spine would be duly attributed to its creator in the Anthology's credits.

### **Release:**

The author must submit a signed release form for each entry to be published, before publication, that represents and warrants that the entry:

- (a) is the author's original creation;
- (b) is one in which the author retains all rights to submitted material;
- (c) does not violate or infringe any copyright, trademark, privacy or publicity right, or other proprietary or intellectual property right of any person or entity;
- (d) is not defamatory, libelous, obscene, or otherwise illegal;
- (e) is the author's sole and exclusive property;
- (f) that complete, worldwide distribution rights are held by the author;
- (g) that the author understands that he/she retains the rights to his/her work, but any royalties and/or profits from the sale of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Anthology will go to the IECWC Inland Empire; and,
- (h) that the IECWC has permission to reproduce quotations or paragraphs from the author's work for the sole purpose of marketing the Anthology.

### **Submission:**

The first pass submissions are required no later than midnight of Friday, June 30, 2023, to take advantage of feedback, peer assessments, and to improve the chance of being included within this Anthology. The final

submissions along with author biographies, payments, and required releases are required no later than Sunday, December 31, 2023. As always: “Submit early, and even earlier yet.”

Email all submissions **as email attachments only** with “Anthology Submission” as the subject line to Judy Kohnen, our Acquisitions Editor, at: [iecwc25th@gmail.com](mailto:iecwc25th@gmail.com).

As it is our intention to include a short biography of each author within the published Anthology, please submit an author biography, written in the third person, of no longer than 150 words, to the email address listed above. Please note that the submitted biography may be edited after submission. The author biography may be sent as a separate email.

Author's Release Form(s), with an original signature, must be submitted for each item to be published within the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Anthology. The release form may be downloaded from the [iecwc.com](http://iecwc.com) website and submitted via a separate email.

The payment of \$10 may be made by cash, check, or money order to our Treasurer, Ben Alirez, or via the Paypal link on the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Anthology page of our [iecwc.com](http://iecwc.com) website.

## Some Final Words

In the submission requirements above there were some limitations excluded that are often found within a set of publication guidelines for an anthology or similar publication. These exclusions had to do with a number of our IECWC Branch members who posed objections to the constraints.

For example, limiting a submission of poetry to 30 lines automatically bans the writer of the sestina the ability to submit their 39 lines. Increasing the limit to 50 resolves that issue but bans the possibility of a crown of sonnets and its 98 lines or even a classic ballad like Alfred Noyes’ *The Highwayman* and its 102 lines.

Likewise, no limit has yet been proposed under the fiction categories. In our Branch’s 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Anthology published in 2019 the guidelines cut prose off at 4,000 words, which didn’t seem to cause anyone any submission grief. That being noted, as online and print magazines have a higher definition of short story word counts, that restriction is also being withheld for now.

However, as noted in the **Restrictions** identified above, the editors of this 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Anthology reserve the right to reject any submission deemed too long for inclusion.

Then, in the months to come, it is our intention to see that informative articles are published in the *Fresh Ink*, and upon the Anthology page of our website, that will assist members in developing quality submissions for the Anthology. Some article titles that we will be exploring include:

- Are You Ready to be Critiqued
- Experiencing Criticism
- Writing an Author Bio
- What Makes a Memoir Memorable

Finally, we are all looking forward to the production of this Anthology and will do what we can to ensure we have something to be proud of and remember for some time to come. Along those lines, don’t hesitate to reach out to your IECWC Board if you should have any questions, concerns, or suggestions.

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