

September 25, 2019

Dear Friend of the WNBA,

I've been working on an event for the third annual [Lambda LitFest](#) about [intentional intersectionality](#) and how to create a more diverse, inclusive literary community. I've spent a lot of time thinking about this and what it means to me as a member of the literary community but also as the president of the WNBA.



As members of an organization founded on inclusivity, I want to encourage us all to really lean into this — to focus on expanding our literary and writing community. This means actively creating spaces and opportunities to support historically overlooked and underrepresented voices.

Much has changed since the WNBA was founded in 1917. But there is still much work to be done around equality, inclusivity, and representation. My hope is that as members, supporters, volunteers, and leaders, we continue the work of the WNBA's founders in meaningful and intentional ways.

Sincerely,

Rachelle Yousuf (Los Angeles)
President, Women's National Book Association (WNBA)
president@wnba-books.org

The Benefits of WNBA Membership

By Tina Ollenburg (Network)

September is here, which means school is back in session, pumpkin everything is hitting the shelves, and many of our WNBA chapters are entering their 2019-2020 season.

As your chapter gears up for their upcoming calendar of events, don't forget to show your support by renewing your membership.





It's easy to forget things such as annual renewals, especially as our schedules shift from slower summers to frantic falls, but your continued membership is vital to the success of both your individual chapter and the organization as a whole. Plus, you don't want to be out of the loop on all of the new and exciting networking events, books clubs, and author panels from your chapter!

Remember, your WNBA membership comes with a lot of **benefits**, including:

- automatic invites to exclusive members-only events throughout the year and across the country
- the **WNBA Promotional Program** for authors and professionals to publicize their books and/or services
- access to the website's **Members Only** section (ask your chapter for the password if you don't have one) and the online National Directory found there
- the chance to contribute to the **Bookwoman Blog**.
- free listing of your blog on the national website
- adding your book to the WNBA Collection at the Boston Public Library
- the ability to make **WNBA Award** nominations
- opportunity to join the **Great Group Reads** selection committee (watch for the announcement in January 2020)
- professional development through open local and national board positions
- a group of like-minded, intelligent women to connect with and to create lasting friendships with!

Look out for renewal communications from your local chapter, or go ahead and visit their specific website to check this item off your to-do list today!

Not in an area with a local chapter? Become a **Network Member** like me!

Membership Benefit: Write for Us

By Julie L. Frey (Greater Philadelphia)

Do you have a great idea for a blog post, article, or interview? We'd love to hear it!

Take a look at our **writing guidelines** and then **pitch us** your idea. (Please read both documents carefully.)



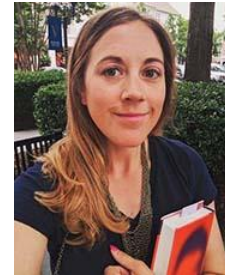
The *Bookwoman Blog* will resume publishing new content in October, so contact us at newsletter@wnba-books.org now!

Upcoming Chapter Events Across the Country

By Tina Ollenburg (Network)

As mentioned in the above section of the newsletter, local WNBA chapters are gearing up for the new 2019-2020 season.

Many chapters host Fall Kick-Off events in order for returning members to reconnect after the summer break and for interested newcomers to learn more about the chapter and the benefits of joining. Other chapters jump right back into the calendar with author meet-and-greets and other book-related plans.



Here are a few of the events coming up across the country. If you're not a member yet, but have been thinking about joining, these are great opportunities to see what the WNBA is all about. And if you are a member, get out here and have some bookish fun!



[WNBA-Boston's Fall Kick-Off Happy Hour](#)

Wednesday, September 25 from 6:30 p.m to 8:30 p.m.
Alibi Bar & Lounge, 215 Charles St., Boston, MA
This event is open to the public.

Enjoy an early fall evening with us. Eat, drink, and be merry with other book-lovers. We'll provide the snacks and a FREE "blind date" with a book table. Maybe you'll even fall in love with a new author!

[WNBA-New Orleans Awards the Pinckley Prizes](#)

Thursday, October 10, at 6:00 p.m.
Louisiana Humanities Center, 938 Lafayette St., New Orleans, LA
This event is open to the public.

The 2019 Pinckley Prizes for Crime Fiction are being awarded to [Megan Abbott](#) and [Sarah St. Vincent](#), two women crime writers.

[WNBA-San Francisco's 2019 Bay Area WNBA Writer's Contest](#)

Submissions are accepted through **October 31**.
This event is open to the public.

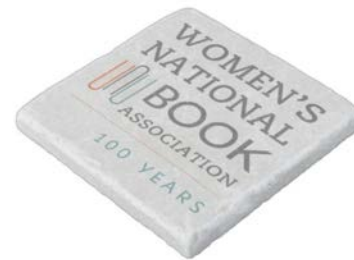
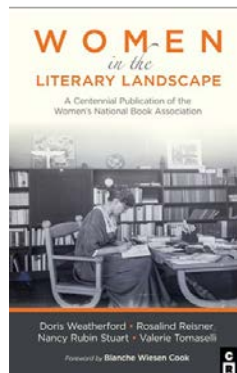
Genres include: Fiction, Nonfiction, and Poetry. Fiction and Nonfiction should be 500–2500 words. Poetry should be no more than 40 lines.

Fees are: WNBA members \$14.00 per submission, non-members \$20.00 per submission.

Multiple submissions: Participants may submit up to 3 pieces but must pay a separate fee for each submission.

We prefer unpublished work, though we do accept stand-alone excerpts from works seeking a publisher or agent. We accept simultaneous submissions, but if you are published elsewhere, please notify us immediately.

Support the WNBA



Buy a copy of [*Women in the Literary Landscape!*](#)

“Brilliantly written and researched . . . every page is filled with surprises, enchantments, and exciting new information of significance.”
–From the foreword by Blanche Wiesen Cook, *Eleanor Roosevelt Vol. 1-3*.

Add some style to your coffee with [*WNBA Stone Tile Coaster*](#)

This coaster is the perfect desk accessory to show off your membership and support the WNBA.

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[Become a WNBA Member](#)

The Bookwoman Staff

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Newsletter background: Books highlighted from the WNBA's [Celebrating Women's Voices](#) centennial program

