

Latitudes: Hawaii Writers Guild Online Literary Review

Fifth Edition, Summer 2024

Call for Submissions and Submission Guidelines

Aloha All Members in Good Standing:

We are pleased to announce we are accepting submissions for the **Summer 2024** issue of ***Latitudes: Hawaii Writers Guild Online Literary Review***.

Submissions for *Latitudes* are open to Hawaii Writers Guild members only.

Submission Window: *December 1, 2023 through January 31, 2024*

Target Publication Date: *June 1, 2024*

Editors for the Summer 2024 Fifth Edition are:

Managing Editor---Margaret Zacharias; ***Production Manager***--Duncan Dempster;

Fiction Editors—Steven Foster, Mark Kelly; ***Nonfiction Editors***—Joy Fisher, Angela Leslee;

Poetry Editors—Michael Foley, Dave Fouts; ***Drama Editors***—Jan Asch, Frank Reilly;

Editors-at-Large---Cheryl Ann Farrell, Lucy Jones.

We seek your best work for publication in ***Latitudes: the Hawaii Writers Guild Online Literary Review***. Whether fiction, nonfiction memoir or essay, poetry, or drama (dramatic monologue, ten-minute play, or short film script), we wish to showcase writing that is original, compelling and written with distinction, writing that engages the reader from start to finish and evokes a response. Writers have individual styles. What is considered interesting, intriguing, compelling and flowing for some, may be too edgy and peculiar for others. *Latitudes* editors will wrestle with this conundrum and select submissions that rise above arbitrary standards and are

considered good and solid examples of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama. All submissions that are accepted for publication will share common elements of good writing in grammar, punctuation, style, syntax, story, and narrative flow.

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I. General Guidelines:

- **We are looking for human imagination and original writing to publish in *Latitudes V 2024*. These qualities will be our first priority in the 2024 selection process. Please do not submit manuscripts containing any content generated by an LLM or GPT Artificial Intelligence computer software program.**

- Artificial Intelligence writing tools based on Large Language Models (LLM) and/or Generative Pre-Trained Transformers (GPT) may contain copyrighted works of other authors that have been harvested from the internet without permission or licensure, and used to 'train' these technologies.
- The use of writing software tools based on these technologies can result in unknown, inadvertent, unintentional, and unrecognized plagiarism of the expression of original ideas of other people, and/or the published written work of other authors.
- Under copyright laws in the United States of America the use of copyrighted works to train LLM and GPT technology without permission or licensure may fit the legal definition of plagiarism. The legal issues involved are still being studied and adjudicated by experts in copyright law.
- **For these reasons, *Latitudes V 2024* Submission requirements prohibit use of these technologies for the sole purpose to protect Hawaii Writers Guild, and our member authors, from any unpredictable ethical or legal consequences of unknown, unrecognized, unintentional, and/or inadvertent plagiarism.**
- **Form C** provides a partial list of writing software tools that are based on LLM and/or GPT technologies, and may **not** be used in preparing your submission. Please note that this is only a partial list of examples. No writing software tool that utilizes LLM and/or GPT technologies may be used in preparing your submission for *Latitudes 2024*.
- **Hawaii Writers Guild will not accept submissions that include religious or political proselytizing, libelous material, material that infringes on another author's copyright, gratuitous vulgarity, or anything remotely misogynistic, racist, or**

bigoted. Cursing, within the context of the story line, and within the bounds of the characters and the plot, is acceptable.

- Submissions of book-length works-in-progress must be self-contained chapters or sections within the larger work, and must meet *Latitudes* genre word count.
- **We are theme and genre neutral—show us your best work regardless of genre or theme.**
- **Lighter themes and humor are welcome.**
- Critiques will not be given.

II. Key Elements We Look For, by Genre:

FICTION:

- A compelling story with a beginning, middle, and an end that stirs an emotional response in the reader, utilizes imaginative premises, unusual/marginalized characters, and creates high stakes.
- Well-delineated characters and setting.
- Dialogue that sounds real (Grammar rules may take a holiday.)
- Tight writing (the most arbitrary element!) should include action verbs and vivid nouns, judicious use of adverbs and adjectives—and a writing style that ***shows*** the reader, does not ***tell*** her.
- Appropriate handling of point-of-view.
- Good story / narrative flow and smooth transition between scenes.
- Good grammar (except in dialogue).

- Avoid clichés and trite descriptions.

NONFICTION

Memoir:

- A compelling event with a beginning, middle, end that the reader understands (relates to) and that emotionally impacts the reader.
- Well-delineated settings and/or characters driven by life experiences and complex motives.
- Dialogue that sounds real (Grammar may take a holiday).
- Tight writing (the most arbitrary element!) should include action verbs, vivid nouns, limited adverbs and adjectives—with the purpose of ***showing*** the reader, not ***telling*** her.
- Good story / narrative flow and smooth transition between scenes / years.
- Good grammar (except in dialogue).
- Avoid clichés and trite descriptions.

Essay:

- Clear statement of topic or intent with clear, explicit main ideas or thesis.
- ***Bravery*** not required but appreciated—show us the stuff you never thought would be published elsewhere—i.e., ***be different***.
- Information or personal experience / ideas / philosophy that support the topic logically.
- Tight writing (the most arbitrary element!) should include action verbs, vivid nouns, judicious use of adverbs and adjectives—that ***show*** the reader, not ***tell*** her.
- A conclusion or presentation that follows from the material presented.

DRAMA

Dramatic Monologues:

- Dramatic monologues are a way of expressing the views of one character and offering the audience greater insight into that character's feelings.
- A dramatic monologue usually occurs when a character is facing an extreme crisis, or a dramatic moment in the plot. A dramatic monologue should add tension, conflict, or emotion to the rest of the play and give the audience new insight into an existing issue or problem.
- A dramatic monologue should have a clear beginning, middle, and end.
- Dramatic Monologues may be either soliloquies or monologues.
- A *soliloquy* is a long speech spoken aloud by a character to himself or herself. (Example: Shakespeare's "To Be or Not to Be" in *Hamlet*).
- A *monologue* is a long speech spoken aloud by a character to another person or persons. (Example: Shakespeare's "Friends, Romans, Countrymen" speech in *Julius Caesar*).

Ten-Minute Plays:

- **A ten-minute play lasts no more than ten minutes.** Use the word count as a guide but please read it out loud to double-check.
- **Write a story with an arc, not just a "sketch" with a "punchline."** Technically, a play is described as having a beginning, rising action, a climax, falling action and an ending. A key difference between a "play" and a "sketch" is that a play will include character

development. Although plays should have multiple characters, you should develop at least one complex character to create meaningful connection with the audience.

- The thesis of your play should be a question that gets answered by the end of the play. It can be a simple one, such as "What would happen if someone found their true love two months before their death?" to something more ambiguous like "Is loyalty good?"
- The key component in drama is conflict. Introduce it early, ideally within the first page or two. Skip exposition and extraneous details.
- Since these plays are normally read to an audience, there should be a part for a narrator who will describe the setting, characters, and action vividly but briefly. In this format, the narrator replaces stage directions.
- Apart from the addition of a speaking narrator, the only difference from standard play format is that characters' names should be in all caps at the beginning of a line followed by the dialogue. For example:
 - JOHN: I'm thinking of writing a ten-minute play this year.
 - ELLEN: Save a part for me.
 - JOHN: For sure, honey. You're the real talent in this marriage.
 - NARRATOR: They kiss.

Short Film Scripts:

- **Short Film Scripts should be between five and 20 pages in length and written to "industry standards."** Writing to industry standards means using either commercial or free screenwriting software, such as Final Draft or Celtx. Do NOT use Word or any other word processing program. Here is a link to a video about the various kinds of

screenwriting software that you might consider:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0yCHxlaLgRU> (click to bypass ads)

- **Whatever screenwriting software you choose, please remember to *submit your finished script in PDF format*.** Our editors may not have access to the screenwriting software you choose, but when you submit your script in PDF format, it can be easily shared among all of our editors during the *Latitudes* selection process.
- **Because short film scripts are, well, short, they should focus on a specific protagonist and on a single moment in that protagonist's journey.** Good short film scripts should nevertheless have a beginning, middle and end and should tell a complete story that packs a punch. If you're new to screenwriting, but would like to try it, here's a video called *How to Write a Script for a Short Film: A 9 Step Guide: (302) How to Write a Script for a Short Film: A 9-Step Guide | Script Reader Pro - YouTube*
- **Your short may be live-action, documentary or animated.** The Academy Awards has three categories of documentary shorts, and so will *Latitudes*. The Academy Awards requires the submission of finished films. *Latitudes* only requires the submission of your film script.
- **A live-action short:** this category is for original and adapted work that tells an invented narrative where actors play characters that are not themselves. Here's a classic example:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cWs4WA--eKU>
- **A documentary short:** this category is for nonfiction short films.
- **An animated short:** Animated shorts use animation for the length of their runtime, whether it be traditional 2D, stop-motion, computer 3D, or any other technique.

- To get inspired, take a look at the many short films being featured now on the PBS Short Film Festival 2023: <https://www.pbs.org/filmfestival/>

POETRY

- Clear speaker's voice and point of view.
- Language compression skills.
- An array of similes, metaphors, images.
- Rhythm and *sound* employed.
- Explosive word choices that express passion, emotion, the poetic image.
- Form or structure that fits the poem's meaning.
- Skillful grammar and word order techniques.
- Compelling ending—*leave an impression*.
- Scope and significance.

III. Submission Procedures and Requirements:

Email your submissions to: Margaret Zacharias, makzacharias60@aol.com, managing editor of *Latitudes V 2024*, between *December 1, 2023 and January 31, 2024*.

- *Place your name and contact information (phone number, current email address), and the title of the piece, its genre and actual word count, in the cover email.*
- **To facilitate anonymous consideration for publication, you must send your actual submission manuscript, without your name or identification on any page, but include the**

title, genre and word count on the first page, and attach the manuscript to your cover email.

- **Submissions must follow standard publishing industry formatting: MS Word or equivalent in .doc or .docx format. Pages should be numbered bottom center. Genre and word count, top left on first page. Title of the work centered. 12-pt Times New Roman font. Double-spaced, except for poetry, which can be single-spaced. One-inch margins.**
- **The anonymity requirement and formatting specifics are critical for your submission to be accepted. If you are confused about how to comply with these requirements, please contact the managing editor for assistance.**
- **Margaret Zacharias, the 2024 managing editor, will record your submission and authorship, then distribute your work without any identifying information to the appropriate genre editors for the first stage of the selection process.**
- **Selection for publication in Latitudes is based on professional peer review of anonymous manuscripts. The Editorial Committee has 12 voting members selected from the Guild each year to represent a variety of literary tastes within Hawaii Writers Guild's diverse membership.**
- **There are 2 co-editors per genre. We believe this structure enhances discussion and evaluation in the first step of the submission process and broadens the Guild's literary range. Co-genre editors discuss each entry and select submissions to be sent for further evaluation by the full twelve-member editorial team.**
- **Submissions are assessed based on the general guidelines and key elements for genres applicable to your work, as outlined above.**

- After reviewing your work, genre editors make recommendations to the entire editorial team. This group of twelve Hawaii Writers Guild members makes the final selections of all the pieces to be included in the issue, based on a vote by the full editorial team.
- *You will be notified by the managing editor if your submission is accepted for publication in *Latitudes: Hawaii Writers Guild Online Literary Review*, and a copy of your work, showing any editing deemed necessary by editors for publication, will be sent to you.*
- Editing suggestions will be limited to grammar, punctuation, style, syntax, and story/narrative flow.
- In rare cases, more extensive editing may be requested by the managing editor based on recommendations from the editorial team. **No submission will be published with any edits that have not received approval from the author.** Occasionally, it may be to an author's advantage to take their own time to perform more extensive edits, and to resubmit at a later date, to be reconsidered for the next issue.
- *Upon notification that your submission has been accepted, please respond to Margaret Zacharias, makzacharias60@aol.com, within 14 days, stating that you agree to our publication of your work.*
- Multiple submissions or submissions in more than one genre are acceptable, but please send only one submission per email.
- If you have any questions, please contact Margaret Zacharias, makzacharias60@aol.com
- Please be advised that compliance with the anonymity requirement and formatting specifics is critical for your submission(s) to be accepted for peer review.

IV. Genre of Submission Maximum Word Counts:

- **Fiction, 2,000 – 4,000 words**
- **Flash Fiction, up to 4 pages**
- **Nonfiction Memoir, 2,000 – 4,000 words**
- **Nonfiction Essay, 2,000 – 4,000 words**
- **Drama, Dramatic Monologue, 500 words**
- **Drama, Ten-Minute Play, 2,000 words**
- **Short-Film Scripts, between 5 – 20 pages and written to industry standards with industry-approved screenwriting software.**
- **Poetry - NOT limited by number of poems, but submissions are limited to no more than 4 pages per submission.**
- **Word Count of Submission manuscript is usually provided automatically via your word processor application.**

V. Previous Publication, and/or If Accepted Elsewhere:

- **Previously published pieces may be submitted if the author holds the rights to the piece and if previous publication credits are noted.**
- **Simultaneous submissions elsewhere are permitted, but if your work is accepted by another publication, please notify Margaret Zacharias ASAP.**
- **If your submission has been *previously published and you hold the rights* to the piece, *please note the full previous publication information* in your submission cover email.**

- **Or if your submission has also been sent to another publication and acceptance there is pending, if your work is accepted by another publication, please notify Margaret Zacharias, makzacharias60@aol.com, immediately.**

VI. Submission Steps:

- **Include your signed Submission Form A, below, as *a separate document*, and as *a separate attachment to your email*, at the same time you submit your anonymous manuscript.**
- **A Formatting Checklist B is also provided below for your convenience.**
- **Form C below provides a partial list of writing program software that is based on LLM and/or GPT technologies and may not be used in preparing your submission manuscript. Please review this list and make sure you have not used any of these programs, or any other writing program software that utilizes LLM or GPT, before you submit.**

FORM A: *LATITUDES V 2024* SUBMISSION FORM

Name:

Contact Information:

Phone #:

Email Address:

Title of Submission:

Attestation: I understand that the presentation of written work online constitutes publication.

I understand that current Artificial Intelligence writing tools based on Large Language Models (LLM) and/or Generative Pre-Trained Transformers (GPT) may contain copyrighted works of other authors that have been harvested from the internet without permission or licensure, and used to 'train' these technologies.

I understand that the use of writing tools based on these technologies can result in inadvertent, unintentional, and unrecognized plagiarism of the expression of the original ideas of other people, and/or the published written work of other authors.

I understand that under copyright laws in the United States of America the use of copyrighted works to train technology without permission or licensure may fit the legal definition of plagiarism, and that the legal issues involved are still being studied and adjudicated by experts in copyright law.

I understand that for these reasons, the *Latitudes V 2024* Submission requirements contain new guidelines for the sole purpose to protect Hawaii Writers Guild and our member authors from any unpredictable ethical or legal consequences of unknown, unintentional, inadvertent, and/or unrecognized plagiarism.

I have read these guidelines, and the list of examples provided in Form C below, regarding LLM/GPT writing program software that is prohibited for use in the preparation of my submission for *Latitudes V 2024*.

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, I have followed all guidelines, and have done everything else in my power to ensure that my submission is my original work and does not contain plagiarism of the expression of ideas or copyrighted content from any other author.

Author Signature _____

Date _____

*An electronic signature is acceptable. You do not need to print or scan the signed copy of this form. Please send this form to the managing editor as a *separate attachment* to your cover email.

FORM B: Summer 2024 Fifth Edition Manuscript Formatting Checklist
(non-compliance may result in the submission's return without acceptance):

- MS Word or equivalent in .doc or .docx format, for *Fiction, Nonfiction, Poetry*.

Manuscripts must be formatted in 12 pt. Times New Roman Font, and double-spaced with 1" margins and page numbers bottom center. Poetry margins and spacing may differ.

- Please refer to each genre's other specific requirements, such as word count, in their individual sections above. To format a *Ten-Minute Play*, you can also use Word or equivalent.

Please refer to the sample format on pp.6-7 above.

- *For Short Film Scripts*, submissions must be in Final Draft or equivalent script-standard format such as Celtx. Do NOT use Word or any other word processing program. Please do not forget to Save your script in PDF Format before you send it to us, so that it is accessible for all of our editors to read. Please refer to pp. 7-8 above for more information.

- Pages numbered bottom of each page and centered
- Text in 12-pt Times New Roman font
- Double-spaced text
- Margins one inch all sides
- Do not include any identifying author information (to facilitate anonymous review)
- Title of work centered on first page, with genre and word count on top left side
- **Your cover email, containing your name, title of the work, genre, and word count, will have *two attachments* as *two separate documents*: a signed Submission Form(A), and a copy of your manuscript formatted without your name, for the purpose of anonymous evaluation.**

- **The anonymity requirement and formatting specifics are critical for your submission to be accepted for consideration to publish. If you are confused about how to comply with any of these requirements, please contact the managing editor.**

FORM C:

PARTIAL LIST OF LLM/GPT-TECHNOLOGY-BASED WRITING SOFTWARE

These Programs May NOT Be Used in Preparing Your Latitudes V 2024 Submission

1. Open AI ChatGPT, any version
2. Chatsonic (Writesonic)
3. OpenAI playground
4. Claude
5. Google Bard AI
6. LaMDA (Language Model for Dialog Applications)
7. Jasper Chat
- 8.. Socratic
9. Bing AI
10. DialoGPT
11. Megatron-Turing Natural Language Generation
12. Chatsonic on Opera
13. NeevaAI
14. CoPilot
15. Tabnine
16. Amazon Codewhisperer
17. Elsa Speaks
18. Bloom

19. DeepL Write
20. YouChat
21. Perplexity
22. Elicit
23. Chinchilla
24. Replika
25. Character AI
26. Poe by Quora
27. Chatsonic Slack Bot
28. CoGram
29. Otter
30. Botsonic
31. LLaMA by Meta
32. Mentum
34. Copy.ai
35. *Any other* AI writing program or software that utilizes LLM and/or GPT technologies.

