

Montana Summer Two Step

SCBWI-Montana Two-Step

Hello SCBWI Montana Authors and Illustrators! Your Regional Team and I have been designing a fun new contest activity to participate in this summer!

Since we can't meet in person right now for meetings or conferences due to COVID19, we came up with a contest we can ALL participate in from all ends of the state!

This exercise is designed to help get our creative juices flowing, and also to allow us the opportunity to practice working on a deadline. It is called the "Montana Two-Step" because it is a two-step process which I will outline below.

In August, after the contest has been completed, the Regional Team Volunteer Committee will select two winners from all entrants--one author and one illustrator--and each will be awarded a free year of membership!

All entrants will get promoted online on our social media channels, and everyone can feel free to share these posts as much as they want!

The contest will work like this:

Step One: By July 1st, you must contact me by email to let me know you plan to enter the contest, and on July 1st I will announce the THEME to be used for inspiration in the contest. Your work must incorporate the theme in some way.

You will have until July 15th to complete your entry for the first step of the contest.

FOR AUTHORS THIS MUST BE:

A complete picture book manuscript

-or-

A complete chapter of a MG or YA book

-or-

A finished poem intended for the children's market.

FOR ILLUSTRATORS THIS MUST BE:

A complete, full color two-page spread illustration, in any medium and any style.

* You must submit your entries to me via email by midnight on July 15th to continue on in the contest. *

Step Two: After I have received all entries, I will then randomly "assign" each of these works to a member in the opposite group of entrants. (Authors' submitted works will go to Illustrators, and Illustrators' submitted works will go to Authors.)

In this step, you will complete one additional entry, this time working off the work you received from an anonymous fellow SCBWI-Montanian!

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If you are an Illustrator, you will create one more two-page spread illustration, based on the written work you receive.

If you are an Author, you will write any of the three acceptable works listed above in Step One, based on the illustration you receive.

You will have until the end of July to finish your Step Two assignment. Entries must be emailed to me by July 31st at midnight to be eligible for judging.

In early August, I will compile an online album for display of all illustrations and the sharing of all written works (which must be in pdf format.) The committee and I will select the two winners and announce them on or before August 10th!

NOW FOR THE TECHNICAL DETAILS:

Artwork and written materials should both be submitted to me in digital form, to my SCBWI email: montana-ic@scbwi.org. Please send jpg files that are a maximum of 2 MB in size, but keep a high-resolution file on hand. No hard copies will be accepted.

Some members’ work may be sent to more than one other entrant, if I don’t have an equal number of authors and illustrators participating.
That’s it! Please send me an email if you would like to enter, and I will announce the theme on July 1st!

Thanks everyone! Hope you will join in on the fun!

Erika Wilson
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