

Submission Guidelines: The Voices Project

Poetry and Prose

We take submissions year-round. We prefer poems no longer than two typed pages. You may submit one single piece or multiple pieces, but no more than five at a time. We accept both free verse and traditional forms. Prose, no longer than 250 words. Please be sure to proofread your work for any typos before sending. We are looking for well-written work with creative word choices that makes us feel emotion. We strive to keep our site engaging and diverse in content. Check our site and see what we may be missing and submit something to that accord, if inclined. **Please avoid submitting poetry or prose that may come across as a negative rant about a particular topic or population. This type of work will not be accepted.*

How to Submit

Submit through our website: <http://www.thevoicesproject.org/submit.html> (preferred), or email us at info@thevoicesproject.org. DOC, DOCX, PDF, or TXT attachments are OK. In the subject line, add your name – submission in the subject line. Example: “Jane Smith—Submission.” Send only one attachment that includes author information and all submissions. We always send an automatic response right away, indicating we received your submission. It may take 1-3 weeks for an answer regarding publication.

Most of the poems we publish come from unsolicited submissions. Your submissions keep us going, and we always appreciate them.

Editor’s Guidance Prior to Publication

If we find the message of a work really moves us, but the writing can be improved to make that message even stronger, we may ask to “workshop” (or help edit) the poem or prose. If we suggest this, it’s not meant to be negative. We find you have great potential and want to see your work published and we want to help you make the work the best it can be.

Required Information

Please place this information on each piece submitted: Name, email, how you heard of *The Voices Project*. In addition, send a brief contributor bio for the author (about 160-200 words). Although we do take anonymous submissions, we strongly encourage including a bio. Your bio should tell us who you are and why you love poetry, or anything else interesting about you that the reader would want to know. You do not have to be a published author or have reached a particular education level. Highlight your passion and aspiration for writing. Contributor bios should be in the third person or first person and follow the format of this sample:

Ooluss Louisa Ibhaze started writing at a very early age with her friends and sisters as her proofreaders. She loves the ability to create characters and make them do what she wants. Coming from a family with many women, growing up was fun as there was always something to gossip and argue about. Her writing is greatly influenced by spirituality, passion for African culture and tradition, gender and life experiences. If given the opportunity to come back to the world as an animal, she would come back as an eagle. She holds an Msc in Medical Sociology, a second Msc in Globalization and Development and a BSc in Sociology and Anthropology. She has one published novel, a number of magazine and online publications, and a blog. When she is not writing, she indulges in her other passions, which are taking pictures and traveling.