

Call for Judges



The Women's Fiction Writers Association (WFVA) was founded in 2013 as a professional, non-profit organization for women's fiction authors, writers, and publishing professionals. With more than one thousand international members and growing, WFVA is the premier organization for women's fiction.

WFVA is seeking published authors and allied publishing professionals *like you* to help judge the 2019 Rising Star Award.

This competition recognizes excellence in unpublished women's fiction, and provides all entrants with valuable feedback on their submitted manuscripts. After the first round of judging is complete, finalists are presented to a panel of literary agents who acquire women's fiction. While we are delighted that past winners have secured representation, we believe all participants win in the end because of the invaluable feedback judges provide to aspiring authors.

Please lend us your time and talent.

You don't have to write women's fiction to know when a story is written well.

How it Works

You will be assigned three entries, each 5,000 words with a synopsis and a scoring sheet. You will read each piece and assign points based on the scoring. We also ask that you provide constructive feedback for each entrant.

In Return

You will earn our gratitude, recognition on our website as a judge, and inclusion in WFVA's social media campaigns surrounding the winner announcements and award ceremony. Additionally, you will earn the credential as a 2019 WFVA Rising Star Award judge. (You may even help discover the next best women's fiction author!)

Timeline

Judges submit a 150-word bio. You will be assigned three entrants in mid-April; scores and comments are due back to WFVA in June. Our judging material has a complete timeline.

The Finer Print

Women's fiction is defined by WFVA as any story where the main character goes through an emotional journey. Unlike a romance novel, there isn't always a happy ending or even a romantic theme. Stories may contain controversial subjects such as religion, sex, abuse, drug use, etc. We are looking for judges who are willing to read and comment on a variety of literary themes and plots with an open mind.

If you're interested in joining our 2019 judging team, or you have additional questions, please contact: Melissa Natz, Rising Star Award Coordinator, risingstar@womensfictionwriters.org.

Thank you for your consideration!