

**Writers of the Mendocino Coast
Anthology Submission Guidelines 2027**

Theme: *Boxes in the Attic*
(This may be interpreted loosely.)

Prose/Poetry submission dates: June 1 through August 30 (midnight)
Photo/Cover art deadline: September 15 (midnight)

Who can submit: Any member of Writers of the Mendocino Coast, a branch of the California Writers Club, *in good standing*, at the time of submission.

Prose/Poetry entry rules:

What to Submit:

- Prose (fiction, nonfiction) or poetry, two pieces maximum. The two pieces, combined, may not exceed 4,000 words.
- Send only publishing-ready pieces. Edit yourself for spelling, grammar, punctuation, and development before you submit.

Submission Guidelines:

- Pages must have one-inch margins, 12pt Times New Roman font.
- Double space your prose pieces.
- .DOC, DOCX or RTF format only. It will be returned if sent in any other format.
- DO NOT put your name anywhere on the piece itself.
- Submit each piece in a separate email, as an attachment in a cover letter stating genre, word count, and title. No formal cover letter is required.
- Include, as a separate attachment, a 50-word biography written in the third person. (For editor ease, please attach your bio with EACH submission.)
- Paginate prose pieces and add the title of the piece to each page, *but, again, your name should not appear anywhere on the piece.*
- Do not include any audio or visual explanations with your piece: it must stand alone.
- Unpublished work only. Self-published books and blogs count as published.
- Email your submission(s) with “Boxes in the Attic submission” or “BITA submission” in the subject line to the 2027 anthology editor, Ericka Lutz, at ericka.lutz@gmail.com.

Photo Submission Guidelines:

- The contributor must own rights to reproduce the image
- Include a photo title or physical location with each submission
- Watermarks or other labeling must be removed from the photo
- Submit pieces in high resolution and portrait mode (300 dpi is adequate)
- Photos must be appropriate to the anthology theme *Boxes in the Attic*
- Photos will be printed without color, but color submissions are accepted
- Please submit no more than 10 photos.

For Cover Photos:

- We are looking for artwork (paintings, drawings, or color photos) with images/patterns that have good contrast and allow areas where text can be placed
- Only digital submissions will be accepted
- Landscape orientation for continuous front and back cover
- Portrait orientation for front cover photos under the anthology title
- Send artwork entries to Ericka Lutz: ericka.lutz@gmail.com

Our AI Policy:

Writers of the Mendocino Coast does not and will never accept work that was written, created, or developed, in whole or in part, using generative AI. This includes prose, poetry, and all mediums of art and photography. The policy extends across all our activities including our annual anthology.

AI may have its place, but that place is not within the creative fields. At Writers of the Mendocino Coast, we value human creativity and expression, abhor plagiarism, and are keenly aware of—and deeply concerned about—the writers, artists, editors, and other creators whose copyrights and livelihoods are increasingly compromised by the use of artificial, non-human, intelligence.

By submitting your creative work to the *Boxes in the Attic 2027* anthology, you pledge that no AI was, or will be, used.