

Submission Instructions:

Step 1: Register for one mentorship program.

The submission window for both mentorships is **April 25 – May 16, 2021**.

Note: The submission windows may close before May 16 if we receive 30 applications.

The submission fee is a nonrefundable **\$20**, payable by credit card.

A link to the registration platform will be provided on the SCBWI-MI mentorship page during the submission window.

One entry per person.

Please have a complete draft of your novel before you enter.

Email your submission to the mentorship coordinator within 24 hours after registration.

Step 2: Submit.

The submissions consist of the **first 10 pages of your novel and a synopsis**.

Email your submission to [Ann Finkelstein](mailto:annf1234@gmail.com) (annf1234 [at] gmail [dot] com)

The subject line for your email should read:

Submission: Flores-Scott Mentorship or Submission: Baptist Mentorship

In the body of the email, write:

- Your name
- The title of your manuscript
- The intended audience for your manuscript: CB for chapter book, MG for middle grade or YA for young adult
- The name you used for SCBWI membership, if different from above
- Your email address
- Your phone number

Attach your submission to the email. Use the following format:

- Header: write the title of your manuscript and the page number
- DO NOT put your name on the manuscript.
- Leave the footer blank. The footer will be used for your identification number.
- Use 12-point Times New Roman font.
- Double space
- Use 1-inch margins.
- **Submit the first 10 pages and a synopsis.**
- The eleventh page is the synopsis. The synopsis should be one page in length and may be single-spaced.
- For **novels**:
 - Start your manuscript on the first line of the first page. (There is no need to leave several blank lines at the beginning of this submission.)
 - If your first chapter is shorter than ten pages, double space and continue with chapter 2.
 - End your ten-page submission at the end of a sentence.
- For **graphic novels with illustrations**:

- Submit the first 10 pages and synopsis **as a pdf**. [Note: The illustrations will not be judged or mentored.]
- The text of graphic novels may be in any font.
- For **graphic novels without illustrations**:
 - You may include brief illustration notes within the 10-page limit.
- For **novels in verse**:
 - Omit page breaks and extra lines between poems.

The mentorship coordinator will confirm the receipt of your submission.

Anonymity. To ensure an unbiased selection process, the manuscripts will be identified by number, not the author's name. **DO NOT** put your name or any other identifying mark on your manuscript.

Feel free to announce the mentorship on social media.

DO NOT mention that you entered the competition on social media.

Selection process. The judges will evaluate the entries based on:

- Appropriateness of Style, Language and Diction for Intended Audience
 - Are the characters' voices distinct, consistent, believable and age-appropriate?
- Development of Theme or Concept
 - Is the theme at least hinted at in the first ten pages? Does it become clear in the synopsis?
- Development of Plot
 - Is the protagonist's problem/quest defined in the opening of the novel?
 - Is the problem/quest compelling?
 - Is it clear what is at stake for the protagonist if he or she fails or does not undertake the quest?
 - Are the first 10 pages an appropriate introduction to the narrative arc described in the synopsis?
- Development of Characters
 - Can you tell from the first 10 pages what each important character wants?
 - Is the protagonist interesting/appealing enough to continue reading?
 - Does the protagonist have clear challenges either in the form of a mistaken belief, an antagonist or a situation that he or she wants to overcome?
 - Does the writer avoid stereotypes?
- Pacing
 - Is there an appropriate balance between dialog, exposition and backstory?
- Overall Impression/Originality
 - Are you eager to find out what happens next?
 - Does the novel present a unique or underrepresented personality, problem or point-of-view?

Judges will also make brief comments about how they feel the manuscript could be strengthened. Applicants will receive the judges' comments but not the numerical scores. The mentor will make the final selection.

Winners will be announced in June or July.

For questions, contact [Ann Finkelstein](mailto:annf1234@gmail.com) (annf1234 [at] gmail [dot] com).