

Student-run Literature Magazines

Inventio – <https://www.inventiopwsa.com/>

Inventio is a student-run online publication based out of York University, publishing in April and December. *Inventio* accepts fiction, non-fiction, poetry and visual art submissions with an emphasis on platforming post-secondary students.

Headlight Anthology – <https://headlightanthology.ca/>

Headlight is a student-run online publication from Concordia University, published annually since 1998. *Headlight* accepts fiction, non-fiction, and poetry submissions.

Flagship – <https://www.flagship-mag.com/submit>

Flagship is a newly revamped magazine devoted to publishing creative writing and visual art about travel, place, and culture. Based out of the University of Susquehanna, *Flagship* publishes online annually and as a print anthology every few years.

The New Quarterly – <https://tnq.ca/>

TNQ is a longstanding print publication currently based out at St Jerome's University, a part of the University of Waterloo. *TNQ* encourages submissions from both emerging and established Canadian writers, publishing short fiction, creative nonfiction and poetry.

Print Publications

Canthius – <https://www.canthius.com>

Canthius is a bi-annual print publication looking to platform voices from marginalized communities. After a decade of publications, *Canthius* is coming out of a short hiatus and will be open for submissions in the summer of 2025.

The Fiddlehead – <https://thefiddlehead.ca/>

Canada's oldest literary magazine, *The Fiddlehead* publishes four issues a year in January, April, July and October. A pillar of Atlantic Canada's literary community, *Fiddlehead* encourages submissions of work from emerging and established writers.

Arc Poetry Magazine – <https://arcpoetry.ca/>

Longstanding Ottawa poetry magazine publishing in print and digitally. *Arc* is open for submissions from April 1st – July 31st for their spring publication and from September 1st – December 31st for their fall publication.

Online Publications

Balestra – <https://balestramagazine.substack.com/p/submissions>

A smaller online publication based on Ontario, *Balestra* provides regular opportunities for publishing all kinds of creative work without emphasis on any one particular style, genre, or form.

Bywords – <https://bywords.ca>

A monthly, online publication, *Bywords* accepts poetry from past and present Ottawa residents in addition to maintaining an active calendar of literary, spoken word, story telling and nonfiction events in the local area. Submissions are open until the 15th of each month, and published work is considered for the John Newlove Poetry Award, the recipients of which are published in a chapbook launched at the Ottawa International Writers Festival annually.

Room – <https://roommagazine.com/>

With two themed and two un-themed submission opportunities each year, *Room* seeks to platform fiction, nonfiction, poetry and art by marginalized creators. In addition to their regular submission windows, information on contests for each category is available [here](#).

Plenitude – <https://plenitudemagazine.ca/>

Plenitude focuses on Canadian LGBTQ2S+ authors, open to one submission of poetry, fiction or nonfiction annually. *Plenitude* also accepts submissions in a ‘Genre Bender’ category, offering an opportunity for creators mixing textual and visual material in forms such as collage or cut-and-paste poems.

SmokeLong Quarterly – <https://www.smokelong.com/>

A quarterly online American magazine, *SmokeLong* has been publishing flash-fiction for over twenty years while also offering annual competitions.

Novels

While the idea of submitting novel-length material anywhere can be daunting, there are options available for new writers looking to send out manuscripts. *Jones Novel Editing* offers a [curated list](#) of 116 Canadian publishers accepted unsolicited manuscripts, with a wide-range of material sought after. Annual novel-writing contests include the [Adventure Writers Competition](#) for anyone that thinks they’ve written a “gripping, unputdownable thrill-ride action adventure,” with submissions open between January 1st and April 30th each year, and *Book Pipeline*’s [Unpublished Contest](#) which has staggered deadlines until September 25th each year.

Aggregated Submission Opportunities

Firefly Creative Writing – <https://fireflycreativewriting.com/contests-for-canadian-writers>

Canadian Authors – <https://canadianauthors.org/national/links/awards-competitions/>

These two Canadian-focused lists of literary competitions will have some overlapping opportunities, but the different formatting will appeal to different people.

Reedsy – <https://blog.reedsy.com/writing-contests/>

Based out of the EU, *Reedsy* provides a large repository of submission opportunities, though upcoming authors will have an easier time getting started with Canadian competitions first.

Dreamers Creative Writing – <https://www.dreamerswriting.com/guide-canadian-literary-submissions/>

A Guide to Canadian Literary Magazines – <https://magazine-awards.com/en/a-guide-to-canadian-literary-mags/>

These lists include submission opportunities for literary magazines across Canada. Small presses are continuously emerging, and these pages will help keep an eye on new possibilities not already detailed here.

Sub Club – <https://subclub.substack.com/>

Subscribe here for a bustling hub of information covering a wide range of online literary communities. *Sub Club* is particularly useful for writers that find frequent newsletters and submission reminders to be helpful motivation, and is not limited to just the Canadian literary landscape.

Next Steps

Writers that receive multiple paid publications and are looking for further support to continue their journey should keep in mind their potential eligibility for government grants. Ontario residents can apply for grants from the [Ontario Arts Council](#), while a broader list of possible grants for Canadian authors is available [here](#).