

Book Authors: 5 Reasons to Join the National Writers Union

1. Defending writers' rights. Most recently we opposed the Google Book Settlement as being grossly unfair to writers: By scanning and digitally reproducing millions of copyrighted books and articles without permission by the writers, Google violated authors' constitutionally protected rights. Yet Google offers writers' chump change for its blatant infringement. By demanding that writers opt out of its program, Google is saying "we are going to steal your work and sell it under terms we dictate unless you tell us not to." The settlement also makes assumptions about electronic rights that writers may or may not have assigned to publishers. Find out more by visiting our website: www.nwu.org.

2. Demanding adequate payment. When publishers began issuing amendments to contracts offering 25 percent royalties for e-books this spring, we advised members to negotiate for a better deal. See our advice on www.nwu.org.

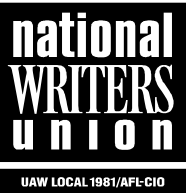
3. Advising on contracts and handling grievances. Our Grievance and Contract Division is famous for its free advice to members. The NWU's *Guide to Book Contracts* covers all aspects of traditional publishing, and our trained advisors stay on top of their game through an internal listserv where tricky issues are discussed and resolved. We've helped members collect nearly \$1.5 million in grievances since the early 1990s.

4. Promoting "Digital Bill of Rights." We issued the "DBOR" in 2008 to educate members and promote writers' rights against e-piracy in the digital age.

5. Being part of an online community. Book authors raise problems, discuss issues, and share information on a special listserv. Frequent topics are book promotion and self-publishing. It's great to have such a valuable resource literally at your fingertips.

Be sure to check out www.nwu.org to find many more reasons to join the NWU, including being part of the organized labor movement through the United Auto Workers. If you want to fight for your rights and improve the lot of all book authors in the process, join the NWU.

**National Writers Union, UAW Local 1981, 256 W. 38th St.,
Suite 703, New York, NY 10018; 212-254-0279; www.nwu.org**



MEMBERSHIP FORM

OFFICE USE ONLY

Membership. ID#. _____ Date _____

CHAPTER USE ONLY

This member joined "on the spot." Received Please send Guide

Chapter Representative _____

Please print clearly or type:

If renewal, is this an address change? Yes No

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Country (if outside the U.S.) _____

Type of membership: New _____ Renewal _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Cellphone _____

Fax _____

E-mail _____

BARGAINING COUNCIL INFORMATION

The NWU's organizing efforts are carried out by three divisions, each focused on a specific sector of the publishing industry. Please select the division(s) to which you'd like to belong:

- BizTech* Book Journalism

*Business, technical, non-profit, instructional, educational

By tracking our members' writing information, we're able to gather information on industry trends and determine our organizing strategies. Please tell us more about the kinds of writing that you do:

GENRE

- Academic Juvenile Business Labor Cartoon Literary/Small Press Fiction Nonfiction Inst./Nonprofit Poetry Instructional Public Relations Journalism Technical Other: _____

FORMATS

- Books CD-ROM Magazines Misc. Copy Multimedia Newspapers On-line Other: _____

Primary Genre: _____

Literary Agent: _____

List all books by publisher, newspapers and magazines by title, and firms or institutions for which you have worked as a writer in the past three (3) years. Use back of sheet if you need additional room.

Mag/Newspaper, Publisher, etc.	Year Last Published
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

DIVERSITY INFORMATION

In order to better serve our members, we would like to know more about you. This is optional and will be kept confidential, but we think the information will benefit us all. So please take a moment to fill it out.

- 1. Male Female 5. Race & Ethnicity African Amer/Black Native American Asian Pacific Islander Hispanic or Latino White Other: _____

PARTICIPATION/OTHER

Your participation is what makes our union strong. Please check those areas in which you can contribute to building the union:

- BizTech Issues Grievances Electronic Rights Book Issues Phone Calling Journalism Issues Cartoon Issues Membership Event Planning Fundraising PR Contract Advice Office Work Newsletter Diversity Political Issues LGBT Issues Legislative/Lobbying SPIN* Organizing Not sure, I need more info.

*African Writers Caucus

In addition, we also have the following committees. Please check which, if any, you would be interested in joining:

- Women's Committee Civil Rights/Diversity Political Issues CAP (Community Action Program)

How did you hear about the National Writers Union?

NWU MEMBERSHIP DUES

NWU dues are based on your annual writing income. If you have other sources of income, we encourage you to pay dues at one of the higher rates. If necessary, you may pay dues in half-year installments.

Annual Writing Income	Full-Year	Half-Year
1. Under \$5,000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$120.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60.00
2. \$5,001-15,000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$195.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$97.50
3. 15,001-30,000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$265.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$132.50
4. \$30,001-45,000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$315.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$157.50
5. Over \$45,000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$340.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$170.00

Donation in addition to dues (not tax deductible) \$ _____

Total amount \$ _____

Enclose check or money order. For credit card payments:

Mastercard Visa Expiration Date: _____

Card Number: _____

Signature: _____