

CALL FOR ARTISTS: BRIGHT LIGHT ILLUSTRATIONS



Southeastern Minnesota Poets is seeking six local artists interested in illustrating winning poems that will be selected for inclusion in a late-winter virtual program, **Bright Light Stories in the Night**. Winning poems are intended to bring light, connection, and joy to our community, and winning artists will be expected to match the tone of the poem they will illustrate.

Following selection in early January, artists will have several weeks to illustrate one of six winning poems in 4-6 pages of artwork for an e-chapbook. Illustration parameters, including size, will be shared with artists at the time of their selection, so that the e-chapbook can be designed efficiently during the month of February.

Thanks to grant funding from the SEMAC, the six selected illustrators will receive \$200 for their work. Two artists will also be named honorable mentions, and they will receive \$50 to create a broadside of one of the poems also named honorable mention.

The e-chapbook will be read by local celebrities—including Mayor Kim Norton—on the evening of February 26, 2021, allowing artist illustrations to reach a broad virtual audience. Broadside from the two honorable mentions may also be showcased at this virtual event.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Submissions must be emailed to poets.semnp@gmail.com by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, December 18, 2020. Artists may not send more than one submission (of up to three works). Please read submission criteria closely. Submissions that do not follow the submission criteria will not be read.

ARTWORK SUBMISSION CRITERIA

- Eligible artists must live in Southeastern Minnesota (residents of Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn, Goodhue, Houtson, Mower, Olmsted, Rice, Steele, Wabasha, and Winona Counties)
- Artists should attach digital copies of 1-3 art pieces in one email (each named the title of the artwork)—do not send individual pieces in separate emails
- Artwork may be in any medium (i.e. painting, drawing, textile, photography, digital, collage, mosaic)
- Artwork should exemplify your artistic style and the medium(s) in which you might illustrate a winning poem
- Artwork must be family-friendly, with no explicit or overly adult imagery
- Artwork will be judged blind by 3-5 peer artists—do not include your name or other identifying material in your attached artwork submission
- A cover letter with your contact information, including mailing address, and the titles of the artwork you submitted should be included in the body of your submission email
- Artwork will be judged based on the following criteria: craft, community healing, and family-friendly appeal



This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts & cultural heritage fund.