BAY COUNTY WRITERS FEST

2027 Application - Calling All Authors

Application Deadline: December 30, 2026
Date of Event: Saturday, February 20, 2027

Call for authors for the 5th Annual Bay County Writers Fest at the Bay County Public Library. Each featured local author will have a table during the event to sell their book(s). Authors are responsible for the sales portion (cash, check, or card). Due to limited space, the focus will be on more recent book releases (within 3 years). Turn in your application for review to Ashley Burlon by email at aburlon@nwrls.com, or drop-off at the Bay County Public Library Front Desk. You will receive notification if accepted into the Bay County Writers Fest in late December. We encourage all published local authors to apply!

This year's writers fest will feature author tables, an author panel, and a writing workshop in the afternoon. Authors will need to be available at their tables from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm CT that day. Email applications to aburlon@nwrls.com.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Do you currently live in Bay, Gulf, or Liberty County, or are originally from one of those counties? Yes ☐ No ☐

Website (if applicable): _____

Authors are somewhat grouped based on genre/focus. What genre would you prefer to be grouped with? Juvenile authors are all grouped together.

Genre: _____

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Featured Title(s) and Year of Publication:

Are your books available for purchase? If so, where?

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Bay County Public Library
898 W. 11th Street
Panama City, FL 32401

Event Itinerary: (subject to change prior to event)
Saturday, February 20, 2027

- 10:30 am - 12:30 pm CT - Local and Regional Author Meet & Greet/Tables (Adults Services side of library)
- 1:00 pm - 1:45 pm CT - Author Talk or Author Panel (Meeting Room)
- 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm CT - Writing Workshop led by Gulf Coast State College (Youth Services Program Room)
- A food truck (TBD) will be on-site for the purchase of lunch. Food and drink is allowed at the tables in the lobby and tables in front of the library. There is no food or drink allowed on the carpeted areas of the library.

Author Guidelines:

- Local authors need to be available at their table from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm CT.
- All authors are guaranteed **one** table (18" x 6') OR (3' x 5') depending on their assigned area. Two chairs will be provided for each table.
- Setup may begin at 9:30 am CT or after. Please be at your table by the opening of the event at 10:30 am CT.
- **No balloons (including balloon arches/banners)** due to our fire safety system and high ceilings.
- Freestanding banners that easily fit behind your chair or on your table are fine; please no large displays separate from your table due to limited space between authors. Table decor is allowed and welcome.
- While friends and family are welcome to assist you with manning your table, children shouldn't be left unsupervised at your table or in other areas of the library at any time. Tables shouldn't be left unattended.
- All authors will be grouped according to genre listed in their application as much as possible. All authors will be on the adult services side of the library. Seating maps will be provided prior to the event.
- Authors are responsible for all book sales (cash/check/credit) during the event. The library cannot provide change.

For any questions or concerns, please contact Ashley Burlon at aburlon@nwrls.com or the library at 850-522-2100.