



South Dakota Humanities Council
1215 Trail Ridge Road, Suite A
Brookings, SD 57006 - 4107

PRESENTER APPLICATION

2025 SOUTH DAKOTA FESTIVAL OF BOOKS

THANK YOU for your interest in presenting, or nominating an author/illustrator to present, at the 23rd annual **South Dakota Festival of Books, Sept. 26-28, 2025, in Spearfish** (with Young Readers Festival activities Sept. 25 in Rapid City and the surrounding area).

SDHC will consider submissions and issue invitations on a rolling basis until two hard deadline dates:

- SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED THROUGH: May 1, 2025
- FINAL INVITATIONS ISSUED BY: June 1, 2025

CRITERIA considered in selection include timeliness (a new book in the past two years; one year preferred), literary merit, thematic appropriateness, regional relevance, audience appeal, ability to spark reflection/conversation, and contribution to a balanced lineup (of genres, topics, etc.). The number of presenters invited to participate is limited by budget, space, schedule, and personnel constraints.

AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR INFORMATION

Name	
Street Address	
City State Zip	
Cell Phone	
Other Phone (if preferred)	
E-Mail Address	
Nominator (if not self) Name, Email, Phone	

FEATURED (RECENT OR FORTHCOMING) BOOK INFORMATION

Title	
Publication Date	
Publishing Company	
Publisher Contact	
Publisher Contact Phone	
Publisher Contact E-Mail Address	

SUPPORTING MATERIALS

REQUIRED

- Brief proposal(s) for Festival presentation(s)

OPTIONAL

- 1-2 galleys, ARCs, or final copies of book (print preferred when available, but digital accepted)
- Information about other books published
- Press kit or promotional materials
- Book reviews
- References from event organizers, audience members, booksellers, etc.

SUBMIT APPLICATION AND SUPPORTING MATERIALS by May 1 to

- **Email:** festival@sdhumanities.org
- **Mail:** South Dakota Humanities Council, 1215 Trail Ridge Road, Suite A, Brookings, SD 57006

FAQs

Q: Can self-published authors be considered as Festival presenters?

A: Yes, provided they meet the criteria listed above. It is preferable if the book ...

- Is professionally edited and presented,
- Has an ISBN and a barcode, and
- Can be purchased wholesale through an established retailer/distributor.

Q: How do I sell my books at the Festival?

A: As a rule, presenters do NOT sell their books directly at the Festival. Instead, their books are made available for purchase in Exhibitors' Hall (the site of mass book signings by presenters) by one of the official Festival booksellers. If you prefer to sell your books directly, you must reserve table space as an exhibitor. To receive an exhibitor information/application packet in April, please send your contact information, including a complete mailing address, to festival@sdhumanities.org.

Q: If I am not invited to present, are there other ways to be part of the Festival and SDHC?

A: Yes! We welcome you to attend our events and get involved. Maybe you would like to ...

- Reserve exhibitor space so that you can promote and sell your books at the Festival (see above).
- Serve as a moderator/interlocutor for a Festival author session or a panel discussion (contact jennifer@sdhumanities.org to discuss possibilities).
- Volunteer to help behind the scenes (contact stacy@sdhumanities.org to get more information).
- [Donate to SDHC](#) or become a Festival sponsor (contact development@sdhumanities.org for details on the latter).
- [Sign up for e-Updates](#) and [follow us on social media](#) to learn more about opportunities for involvement with SDHC programming!

