



Emerging Voices Program: 2010 Application

Personal Information

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

Email: _____

Gender:

Female
 Male

Ethnicity:

African American
 Latino/Hispanic
 Native American
 Caucasian
 Middle Eastern
 Asian American/Pacific Islander
 Other (please specify) _____

Genre:

Fiction (short stories, novel)
 Creative Nonfiction (memoir, essays)
 Poetry

Short Answers

Please answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper. Each response should be typed, 750 words or less; no exceptions.

1. What are your goals as a writer?
2. Tell us about the one achievement that you consider the most vital to your life as a writer. Please explain why this achievement is significant.
3. Why did you decide to apply to the *Emerging Voices* (EV) program?
4. During the course of the EV program each participant will be working on a specific writing project. What would you propose as your project? Provide a detailed explanation of your idea and include a tentative title.
5. Briefly describe your formal instruction in writing (e.g., classes, workshops, education and/or other training). Also, list any awards, grants or fellowships you have received to date.
6. List and explain how 3 writers have inspired your work.
7. The EV program runs from January to August. At times there are 1-2 events per week. Please list any programs, workshops, classes, employment, and/or other commitments you will be involved in during the course of the mentorship program.
8. The EV program is intended for aspiring writers who "lack access" to traditional writing education and publishing opportunities. In what way or ways do you feel you lack this "access"?

Financial Documentation

Submit a copy of the summary sheet from your 2008 federal tax return. If you were exempt from filing or if you feel that your tax return does not accurately represent your financial situation,

please submit a detailed explanation of why. Note that financial need is one of many criteria for admission into the Emerging Voices program. **Submitting financial documentation with your application is mandatory.**

EV Application Checklist

- EV Application**
- Summary Sheet from your 2008 federal tax return**
- Professional CV** that details your work experience, education and publications credits.
- Short Answer Section Responses**
- Two letters of recommendation** written by people who are familiar with your writing and can comment on your commitment to large projects. Letters from relatives will not be accepted.
- Writing Sample** should include up to 20 pages of fiction or creative nonfiction or 10 pages of poetry. Please indicate if/how the work in your sample is relevant to the project you plan to propose as an EV fellow.
- \$10 application fee** Please address checks and/or money orders to *PEN USA*. No cash.
- Five (5) copies of your application packet**

*Only complete application packets will be reviewed.
Materials are not returned. Please make copies for your records.*

Send applications to the following address:

PEN Center USA
Emerging Voices
PO Box 6037
Beverly Hills, CA 90212

Applications must arrive at the PEN P.O. Box by 5 pm on or before AUGUST 14, 2009.

Notification

Applicants may include a self-addressed stamped postcard to confirm receipt of materials. Finalists will be notified in early September and must be available to interview at the end of September. The list of selected participants will be posted on the PEN USA website following interviews.

Eligibility Restrictions

People not eligible for the EV program:

- M.A., M.F.A. and Ph.D. graduates in Creative Writing or related field
- Students currently pursuing B.A., M.A. or M.F.A. degrees
- Full PEN members
- Writers who have significant publication credits and writing awards. For instance, people who have books published and former or current magazine/newspaper staff writers are not eligible.