

# 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](http://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](http://www.nwu.org).

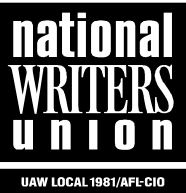
**3. Advising on contracts and handling grievances.** Our Grievance and Contract Division is famous for its free advice to members. The NWU's *Guide to Book Contracts* covers all aspects of traditional publishing, and our trained advisors stay on top of their game through an internal listserv where tricky 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](http://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](http://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  Lesbian/Gay/Bi/Trans  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?

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### 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: \_\_\_\_\_