



Hogg Foundation  
for Mental Health

## **New Voices Showcase, Call for Entries**

*Due Date: Wednesday, August 31, 11:59 pm CT*

*Informational Zoom conference: Tuesday, August 9, at 2:00 pm CT*

The Hogg Foundation for Mental Health is seeking talented and aspiring writers, ages 18 and up, for its New Voices Showcase. The New Voices Showcase will publish personal essay submissions written in response to the prompt, **“Share a story that describes how a loved one’s mental health has been impacted during this time of heightened injustice, race-related trauma, and the pandemic. What did you learn from this as a family member or caregiver to that person?”** In answering this question, writers may rely upon personal reflection, critique of society, humor, advice, or any of the above in crafting their piece. Submissions must be no fewer than 1000 words and no greater than 1500 words. The primary goal of this project is to highlight talented writers who have been impacted by mental health.

As an incentive, the foundation is offering cash awards for the most meaningful submissions. All submissions will be reviewed by an internal committee of foundation staff, and rated according to writing quality and relevance to the Hogg Foundation’s mission of equitably supporting mental health and well-being for all Texans.

The foundation is especially interested in promoting fresh voices from the perspective of those historically excluded (due to race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, gender, religion, or economic standing). Never-published writers are encouraged to submit.

### **The cash awards are as follows:**

- First prize: \$500
- Second prize: \$250
- Third prize: \$100

As an additional incentive, every writer who sends a submission will be added to the foundation’s new Contributors Circle for consideration for future paid freelance writing opportunities. In addition, all accepted entries (not just the award-winning ones), will eventually be published on the Hogg Foundation website and archived for future use. Writers will retain the rights to their work while granting an unlimited license to the Hogg Foundation to use, quote from, or excerpt their work in its communications. Writers will be credited for any materials we use or share.

## Eligibility Criteria:

Currently, the New Voices Showcase seeks writers ages 18 and up. The opportunity is for **current Texas residents only**. The most important content criteria for the New Voices Showcase is that all essays should answer the question:

***“Share a story that describes how a loved one’s mental health has been impacted during this time of heightened injustice, race-related trauma, and the pandemic. What did you learn from this as a family member or caregiver to that person?”***

Decisions on style, tone, and level of biographical detail are largely up to the writer. In deciding on the cash awards, preference is given to submissions that speak to **any** of the following:

- The lived experience of being a family member or caregiver to a person with a mental health condition.
- What your experience has taught you about resilience, recovery, humor, or self-care that is relevant to others.
- What your experience has taught you about equity, justice, or rights that is relevant to others.
- What your experience has taught you about life during or in the immediate aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic that is relevant to others.
- What belonging to a historically excluded community (due to race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, gender, religion, or economic standing) has taught you about any of the above.
- Being a person residing in Texas and why your experience is particularly relevant to Texans.

Applying writers will also be asked to provide a brief summary (up to 500 words) of their background and experience with mental health.

## Submission Criteria

The New Voices Showcase encourages free expression and honest accounts of living with mental health challenges. Submissions containing profanity will not automatically be disqualified. However, applicants should keep in mind the needs of the foundation’s audience, which is for thoughtful and well-written content that contains useful information or insight.

**The foundation reserves the right to reject submissions for any of the following reasons:**

- The submission promotes ideas that are inconsistent with the Hogg Foundation’s mission and core values. This includes advocating for the exclusion or mistreatment of specific groups of people; advocating suicide or self-harm; or promoting violence.
- The submission is unreadable due to numerous typographical errors, unclear reasoning or poor organization.
- The submission attempts to promote a product or service.

- The submission is determined to have been plagiarized or previously published.

For detailed responses to questions you may have, please read the [Question and Answers](#).

## Application Process:

### Step 1. Registration

The Hogg Foundation uses an online grants management system called Fluxx. Applicants must register at <https://hogg.fluxx.io> before the proposal due date and no later than **11:59 pm, Central Time (CT), on Monday August 28, 2022**. If you have never used Fluxx before, you will need to register at <https://hogg.fluxx.io>.

Follow the instructions on the right-hand side of the screen, then proceed to Step 2. If you have registered in Fluxx in the past, go to <https://hogg.fluxx.io> and enter the username and password previously used to confirm your registration, then proceed to Step 2. If you have forgotten your password, please go to <https://hogg.fluxx.io> and follow the instructions on the right-hand side of the screen, then proceed to Step 2. If you experience technical issues with registering in Fluxx please email grants management staff at [hogg-grants@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:hogg-grants@austin.utexas.edu).

### Step 2. Enter Application Information

The next step is to enter application information online into Fluxx <https://hogg.fluxx.io>. Answers must be provided for all questions in order for your submission to be officially entered.

### Step 3. Informational Zoom Conference

The Hogg Foundation will be hosting an informational Zoom conference on **Tuesday, August 9, from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm, Central Time**. You must register in advance no later than Monday, August 8 by 11:59 pm, Central Time. Link to register for the Zoom conference is on the [New Voices Showcase webpage](#).

Questions you would like to ask during the Zoom conference may be submitted in advance no later than **Friday, August 5 by 5:00 pm**. You can submit your questions to [hogg-grants@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:hogg-grants@austin.utexas.edu).

All questions and answers taken during the Zoom conference will be added to [Questions and Answers](#) within 48 hours.

## Have Questions?

The foundation will not accept phone calls regarding the New Voices Showcase except for questions related to technical issues. Questions about the application process may be emailed to [hogg-grants@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:hogg-grants@austin.utexas.edu). Answers to questions that may have information that might be helpful and relevant to other potential applicants will be posted here. Check the [Questions and Answers](#) often for updated questions and answers as well as any additional information about this request for applications.