



# Emerging Voices Fellowship: 2015 Application

## Personal Information

PLEASE PRINT/TYPE CLEARLY

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

**Gender:**

- Female
- Male

**Ethnicity:**

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

**Genre (Choose One):**

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

**How did you hear about the Emerging Voices Fellowship? [Required]**

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| _____ PEN Center USA website              | _____ Emerging Voices Apply Card    |
| _____ Online                              | _____ Emerging Voices Alumni (Name) |
| _____ <i>Poets &amp; Writers Magazine</i> | _____ PEN Center USA event          |
| _____ Person (Name)                       | _____ Other                         |

## Short Answers

Please answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper. **Each response should be typed, double-spaced, with a 500-word maximum for each question. There are no exceptions.**

1. Why are you applying for the Emerging Voices Fellowship?
2. What are your goals as a writer? Be specific.
3. How will the Emerging Voices Fellowship help you achieve those goals?
4. Are you working on a long-term writing project? During the course of the fellowship, each participant works on a specific writing project (short story collection, collection of personal essays, novel, memoir, or poetry chapbook) with a professional mentor. Provide a detailed explanation of your project and include a tentative title.
5. Briefly describe your formal writing instruction (e.g., classes, workshops, education, and/or other training).
6. List any awards, grants, or fellowships you have received to date.
7. List and explain how three books and/or writers have inspired your writing.
8. The Emerging Voices Fellowship runs from January to August in Los Angeles. At times there are multiple events per week. Please list any programs, workshops, classes, employment, and/or other commitments you will be involved in that could interfere with the fellowship.
9. This fellowship is intended for promising writers who lack access. How do you lack access?

## Financial Documentation

Submit a copy of the summary sheet from your 2013 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. **Submitting financial documentation with your application is mandatory.**

## Emerging Voices Application Checklist

- Completed Emerging Voices Fellowship Application**
- Summary sheet from your 2013 federal tax return**
- Professional CV** detailing your work experience, education, and publication 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 of recommendation must be recent and sealed in envelopes with wet signatures across the back. Letters should include the recommender's e-mail address and phone number.** Both sealed envelopes are to be mailed alongside with the application. 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. Writing sample should be relevant to the project you plan to propose as an Emerging Voices fellow. **Sample should be typed, double-spaced, paginated, and printed in 12-point font.**
- \$10 application fee** Please address checks and/or money orders to PEN Center USA. Do not send cash.
- Five (5) copies of your application packet** (excluding the two sealed recommendation letters).

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

## Send applications to the following address:

**Applications must arrive at the PEN Center USA mailbox by 5 p.m. on or before AUGUST 11, 2014. Do not use FedEx or signed delivery confirmation service. THIS IS NOT A POSTMARK DATE. Applications will not be accepted if dropped off at the PEN Center USA office. Complete applications must be mailed to:**

Emerging Voices Fellowship  
c/o PEN Center USA  
269 S. Beverly Dr. #1163  
Beverly Hills, CA 90212

## Notification

Applicants may include a self-addressed stamped postcard to confirm receipt of materials. **Finalists will be notified in early October and will be required to interview in person with the selection committee in Los Angeles.** The list of selected fellows will be posted on the PEN Center USA website following interviews.

## Eligibility Restrictions

People ineligible for the Emerging Voices Fellowship:

- Those who have a B.A. in English with a Creative Writing emphasis or an M.A., M.F.A., or Ph.D. in Creative Writing.
- Students currently enrolled in undergraduate or graduate degree programs.
- Professional PEN Center USA members.
- Writers who are widely published or have received noteworthy writing awards.
- Published authors or current professional magazine/newspaper staff writers or editors.
- Anyone under the age of 21.