

The
Bellwether Prize for Fiction

APPLICATION

In Support of a Literature of Social Change

Please type or print legibly

Your Name _____

Date _____

Literary Agent (if applicable) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone(s) _____

Title of novel manuscript you are submitting:

Please read the following carefully.
Failure to supply all information requested will disqualify your entry.

Eligibility:

You must be a United States citizen, and you must not have previously published a book that sold more than 10,000 copies. Your submission must be an original, previously unpublished novel, written by one person, in English, at least 80,000 words in length. You must have a previous publication record of at least four works of fiction or creative nonfiction. (*Please see page two of this application.*)

Your submission may not be under consideration by any publisher, or available online, during the judging period. You will be notified when your ms is no longer under consideration (in January for all but finalists).

You must include the following:

- One copy of your manuscript (Direct print-out or *clear* photocopy).
Manuscript must be typed, double-spaced, paginated, with title appearing on every page (but not your name).
- This application and all three pages completed, and must be signed by you.
- Résumé or curriculum vitae (5 pages maximum).
- \$25 processing fee—Check only, payable to NWUSO/Bellwether.
- Postmarked entry between September 1 and October 2, 2009.
- Self-addressed, stamped postcard for verification of receipt of your entry.
- Self-addressed, stamped business envelope for notification of results in January.

Manuscripts will not be returned.

Terms of the Prize:

Only one manuscript will receive the Bellwether Prize in a given year, and the board's decision is final. The winner will be notified directly or through an agent/representative. Author of the winning manuscript will receive \$25,000, and will enter into a publishing contract with the participating publisher, Algonquin Books.

The author of the winning manuscript is expected to work with the publishing editor on final manuscript preparation prior to publication. (The editor has been chosen on the basis of his/her understanding of the criteria for the Prize.) It is an ordinary and usual requirement for the author of any manuscript to accept editorial assistance in preparing a manuscript.

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Your name _____

Publication requirements:

Please list the titles of four (4) of your published works, and the names of literary magazines or other professional venues in which they appeared; self-published works may not be included. List only the following: short stories, creative non-fiction, books. Poems and articles may be listed if published in serious literary magazines or national markets. *Brief excerpts* of your manuscript may have been previously published and may be used as a sample.

Date of Publication	Title of work	Magazine, journal, or publisher
1.	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____

IMPORTANT: For each publication listed here, enclose some proof of publication (e.g. tear sheet or photocopy of first page, table of contents, etc.) For books, send photocopy of copyright page.

All correspondence concerning the Bellwether Prize should be addressed *only* to the National Writers United Service Organization, 256 W. 38th Street, Suite 703, New York, NY 10018.

The Bellwether Prize reserves the right to withhold the Prize in any given year.

The three pages of this application may be photocopied.

I have read all the pages of this application. I understand and agree to all terms.

Your signature _____

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Title Page

Your manuscript must include this title sheet.

IMPORTANT: Author's name must not appear on this page. Each page of manuscript must show only the title.

Title of work you are submitting:

Must be identical to title as it appears on page one of this application.

Plot Summary:

Provide a *brief synopsis* of the novel to establish why it qualifies as "literature of social change," as defined by the Bellwether Prize. Do not add additional pages for your Summary.