

# NJ SCBWI – ONE DAY MENTORING WORKSHOPS

## GENERAL INFORMATION

- LOCATION:** Princeton Hyatt Regency Hotel, Princeton, NJ
- HOURS:** 8:45 am to 5:00 pm (doors open at 8:15)
- PARKING:** Free parking is available.
- MEALS:** Continental breakfast (8:15-8:45) and lunch.
- SCHEDULE:** You will receive a detailed schedule, including your critique times and the name of your mentor, a few weeks before the workshop. The day consists of a one-on-one critique, group critiques, and a first page session.
- DATES:** <http://www.newjerseyscbwi.com/allevnts.shtml>
- QUESTIONS:** Before the workshop: Kathy: 856-478-4110 [Kathy@newjerseyscbwi.com](mailto:Kathy@newjerseyscbwi.com)  
Day of the workshop: Kathy: 609-841-3973

### ONE-ON-ONE CRITIQUE

About five weeks before the workshop, you email a copy of your manuscript to us. Here are the instructions: <http://www.newjerseyscbwi.com/events/emailing%20manuscripts.pdf> (Check the website for the exact date.) This can be either a full picture book or thirty pages plus a short (1-2 pages) synopsis of a novel. Do not include any illustrations or dummies. (You may share these with your mentor during your critique.) Use industry standard manuscript formatting:

- Use double spaced, left justified, 12 point Times New Roman or Courier font.
- Allow one-inch margins all around, half-inch indents for each new paragraph.
- Break to a new page at chapter breaks
- Print on only one side of the paper.
- Put your name and full contact information on the first page.
- On subsequent pages, put your name, title (shortened if necessary), and page number.

We will forward your manuscript (text only) to one of the mentors for critiquing. Assignment to a particular mentor cannot be guaranteed. During the workshop, you will meet individually with your mentor for twenty minutes. At that time, you will receive a written critique and your mentor will review your manuscript with you. If there's time, you may choose to discuss other manuscripts or any questions you might have about children's book writing.

### GROUP CRITIQUES

About a month before the workshop, you will be assigned into a group with seven other attendees. Everyone in the group e-mails a copy of his/her manuscript to the others in the group. This does not have to be the same manuscript as the one for your one-on-one critique. Again, you can submit either a full picture book or thirty pages plus a synopsis of a novel. Before the workshop, read all the manuscripts and write down your comments. You will share these written critiques with your group members, and give them your written notes, during the workshop.

### FIRST PAGE SESSIONS

Bring three copies of a first page of a single manuscript with you. Do not put your name on the paper, but do include a title and indicate the genre (picture book, chapter book, middle grade, young adult, non-fiction). Your manuscript must fit on a single sheet of paper. If you submit a second page, only the first page will be read.

Use standard manuscript formatting—double spaced, 12 point Times New Roman or Courier font, one-inch margins all around, half-inch indents for each new paragraph, single column of text. You may include up to the first 23 printed lines (not sentences!) of text from your manuscript. For picture books, this will be more than the first physical page of your manuscript. If your text is rhyming, put each rhyme on a new line.

All the first pages will be read aloud by volunteer readers and two editors/agents will give their critiques.