

January-June 2027 Program Application



ABOUT THE PROGRAM: The January-June 2027 Carnegie Center Author Academy (CCAA) is a certificate program that provides aspiring and emerging writers the support to grow quickly in their craft and prepare their work for publication.

The Author Academy is open to adult writers of all genres and experience levels. The **study year** runs from **mid-January to June 2027**.

Each Author Academy student participates in:

- A January kickoff that includes an orientation, meet-and-greet, and writing retreat
- 40 hours of one-on-one mentoring with an experienced writing mentor from January – June
- Ongoing Saturday accountability group
- Unlimited Carnegie classes and seminars during the academy (excluding Master classes)
- Advanced CCAA seminars tailored to the group
- One day (10 am - 3 pm) writing retreat including lunch, a critique session, and a group reading
- Free registration to the Center's June 11-12, 2027 Books in Progress Conference
- Free consultation/pitch with a literary agent at the 2027 Books in Progress Conference
- Commencement at the Books in Progress Conference with student/mentor reading

TUITION: \$3,000

If accepted, applicants may reserve their spot in the Author Academy with a **\$500 non-refundable tuition deposit due on December 1, 2026**. The remainder of the tuition (**\$2,500**) is due on **January 31, 2027**.

Other payment plans may be considered; you must request by contacting Executive Director Jennifer Hester Mattox at jmattox@carnegiecenterlex.org with the subject title "Author Academy Payment Request."

SCHOLARSHIPS: Submit your application by **November 1, 2026** to be considered for need-based scholarship opportunities. To learn more about scholarships, **visit our website [here](#)**.

QUESTIONS? Contact Tracee de Hahn at authoracademy@carnegiecenterlex.org

**To apply for the need-based scholarship,
all required materials must be received by **NOVEMBER 1, 2026****

To apply for the January-June 2027 program without a need-based scholarship,
all required materials must be received by **NOVEMBER 1, 2026**

APPLICATION: Please submit the completed cover sheet (below), responses to supplemental questions, and a writing sample to Tracee de Hahn at authoracademy@carnegiecenterlex.org

Supplemental questions:

Record your responses and submit as a separate attachment.

- Please briefly describe your writing history.
- What are your writing goals for the six-month program?
- How will the Author Academy help you achieve those goals?
- How will working one-on-one with a mentor benefit you?
- Summary of work-in-progress: Please provide a 3-5 paragraph summary of the project you will be working on during the Academy year.
- **Writing sample:** Please include a writing sample that is reflective of your writing style and the genre you will be working on during the Academy year. The sample should be **no longer than 2,000 words or no more than five poems that do not exceed a total of 2,000 words.**

For scholarship applicants ONLY, also include:

- Explain, in as much detail as possible, why you qualify for this need-based scholarship.
 - A letter of recommendation from someone who is familiar with your writing, explaining how they know you as a writer and why you are a good candidate for a Carnegie Center Author Academy scholarship is required. Please have your letter of recommendation **emailed by the recommender to authoracademy@carnegiecenterlex.org by NOVEMBER 1, 2026.**
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To apply for the need-based scholarship,
all required materials must be received by **NOVEMBER 1, 2026**

To apply for the January-June 2027 program without a need-based scholarship,
all required materials must be received by **NOVEMBER 1, 2026**

To submit via email:
authoracademy@carnegiecenterlex.org

To submit via United States Postal Service (USPS):

Jennifer Mattox
Carnegie Center for Literacy and Learning
251 West Second Street
Lexington, KY 40507

January-June 2027 Application Cover Sheet



All applicants must complete the following and submit using the directions below.

Applicant information:

Name:

Mailing address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone number:

Email address:

Birth date:

Applicants must be 18 years or older as of January 1, 2027.

Gender:

Ethnicity:

Education:

Preferred genre:

Would you like to be considered for financial aid opportunities? (Y/N):

Without financial aid opportunities, are you still interested in being considered for the Author Academy program? (Y/N):

How to Submit Your Application Electronically

1. Complete the cover sheet by typing your information in the gray boxes.
2. When finished, click “File,” then click “Save As.”
3. Save the document with the title “YourFirstName YourLastName CCAA 2027 Application” (ex. “Tracee deHahn CCAA 2027 Application”).
4. Save the document as a .docx (default) or as a PDF.
5. In a separate Word document, type your responses to the supplemental questions listed above in the APPLICATION section. Include your 2000-word writing sample.
6. Save the document with the title “YourFirstName YourLastName CCAA 2027 Supp Materials” (ex. “Tracee deHahn CCAA 2027 Supp Materials”).
7. Save the document as a .docx (default) or as a PDF.
8. Open your email service. Create a new message, attach the two documents, and send to authoracademy@carnegiecenterlex.org with the subject line “Jan-June 2027 CCAA Application”.
9. If applying for scholarships, be sure to have your letter of recommendation **emailed by the recommender** to authoracademy@carnegiecenterlex.org **by OCT 15, 2026.**