

Dear BAM Community Members,

Subject: Invitation to Submit Content for 2025 *Sannikat – BAM 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Special Issue*

We will be publishing a BAM 35th Anniversary Special Issue of BAM's flagship magazine, *Sannikat*, this year. In addition to the usual features and member-submitted content that we publish annually in *Sannikat*, this year's Special Issue will feature content that highlights the 35-year history of BAM and our Minnesota Bengali community through articles, interviews, photographs and excerpts of content from *Sannikat's* archives.

The 2025 *Sannikat – BAM 35th Anniversary Special Issue* will be published both in digital and print format and will be accompanied by a Special 2025 Fall and Pujo Issue of *Sannikat – The Little Magazine* that will feature content created by and for BAM's Junior and Youth members.

We are excited to invite all BAM members to send us their original content for publishing in the 35<sup>th</sup> *Anniversary Special Issue* by **October 10th 2025**.

### **Guidelines for Submissions**

Over the years, *Sannikat*, our flagship annual bilingual magazine, has provided a forum for BAM members to share their ideas and creative works with the community. The scope and types of content that may be included in the publication in the past has been quite broad and driven by the kinds of content received that year and the editorial assessment of what would be of interest to its readers. An important objective of the 2025 *Sannikat – BAM 35th Anniversary Special Issue* will be to include, as feasible, content that will highlight the history of BAM and the stories of our Minnesota Bengali community through articles, interviews, photographs and excerpts of content from *Sannikat's* archives, in addition to what other content may be submitted by our members.

### **Who Can Submit Content?**

- Open to BAM Members
  - Note: Junior BAM members (below 18 years) are encouraged to submit their work to *Sannikat – The Little Magazine*, BAM's Children's and Youth magazine.
- BAM Membership must be current on date of submission and valid through end of 2025. If 2 or more BAM Members collaborate on one submission, each contributor's membership needs to be current on date of submission and valid through end of 2025. If you have not yet signed up for BAM membership or have not renewed your BAM membership, please do so before submitting your content by visiting the BAM website using this link <https://mnbangali.org/member.php>
- Contributors do not need to be on the *Sannikat* Editorial Board in order to contribute

### **What Can You Submit?**

Content submitted may be either in English and/or Bengali. Content submitted must be original and unpublished work and may fall in any of the following 8 categories. Submissions of a combination of content type is permitted if they are connected and support each other. For example, an article about a trip may include a photo or a drawing about the place visited, or a drawing may be used as an illustration for a short story or poem. 2 or more contributors may collaborate on one submission.

### **Categories of Content**

**1. Literary works (fiction or non-fiction)**

- a. Short stories (fiction) or Articles (non-fiction) – (Maximum Word Limit: 250-450 words)
- b. Personal essays, reflections, or opinion pieces – (Maximum Word Limit: 150-300 words)

**2. Poetry**

- a. Any form of poetry - (Maximum 30 lines)

**3. Artwork and Photography**

- a. Artwork including drawings, paintings, photographs, and digital art (not AI generated/assisted).
- b. Submit in high-resolution JPEG or PNG format
- c. Provide a caption and/or include a short description
- d. Should be reproducible to completely fit within a full "Letter" (8.5" x 11") or "Half Letter" (5.5" x 8.5") paper size

**4. Comics, Graphic Stories and Cartoons**

- a. Half-page comics or graphic narratives
- b. Cartoons
- c. Black and white or color

**5. Book, Movie, Concert or Game Reviews**

- a. Share your thoughts on books, movies, concerts or games with your recommendations to the readers – (Maximum Word Limit: 150-200 words)

**6. Interviews and Profiles**

- a. Interview an inspiring leader or someone who has achieved something significant
- b. Write a profile of an interesting individual
- c. Keep it engaging and informative and relevant to the target audience
- d. Maximum Word Limit: 150-250 words

**7. "Fillers" (e.g., jokes; fun-facts, puzzles etc.) (Maximum Word Limit: 150-200 words)**

**8. Artwork for Cover Page:** We are also seeking submissions of professional grade artwork/paintings of exceptional quality suitable for a magazine cover page. If you are interested in having your artwork considered for a cover page for *Sannikat* magazine please do submit

**How to Submit?**

1. Content submitted may be either in English and/or Bengali. All written material must be typed using standard English or Bengali font, as applicable, and saved as an electronic file before submitting. Please do not send us handwritten articles, but convert them to an electronic file and submit the same.
2. Written material in **Bengali** may be typed in Bengali using **Google Input Tools or other standard third-party software like Avro Keyboard**. Do not try to put special formatting or special effects or submit images of text materials
  - a. Margins: 1 inch (2.54 cm) on all sides around your text.
  - b. Use an easily readable font style (e.g., Noto Serif Bengali) and size 14 font.
  - c. Justification: Left-justify the text
  - d. Sentence Spacing: Use one space after each sentence.
  - e. Please note the following information at the beginning of your Word document:  
"Submission by:– [Your Name (Age) ] – Content Category: [ Enter category from 8 listed

above]". If you are below 18 years, please provide name of parent(s) who is/are members of BAM

3. Written material in **English** should be saved as **Word Documents (Microsoft Word or Google Docs)**. Do not try to put special formatting or special effects or submit images of text materials.  
**Note:** If using Google Docs, please download the file in **.docx** format as follows: File >> Download >> Microsoft Word (.docx).
  - a. Margins: 1 inch (2.54 cm) on all sides around your text.
  - b. Font: Use *Times New Roman* or other readable fonts like *Arial* or *Courier*. Use a 12-point size for optimal readability.
  - c. Justification: Left-justify the text
  - d. Sentence Spacing: Use one space after each sentence.
  - e. Please note the following information at the beginning of your Word document:  
"Submission by:– [Your Name (Age) ] – Content Category: [ Enter category from 8 listed above]". If you are below 18 years, please provide name of parent(s) who is/are members of BAM
4. Images of art work and photos should be submitted as high-resolution **jpeg** or **png** files. We may resize the images as needed for the formatting and editing of the magazine. Images should be accompanied by a coversheet with the title and (optional) brief description of your art work, and the following information: "Submission by:– [Your Name (Age) ] – Content Category: [ Enter category from 8 listed above]". If you are below 18 years, please provide name of parent(s) who is/are members of BAM
5. Due to limited space in the magazine and the need to accommodate content submitted by multiple contributors you may submit not more than one piece of writing and one artwork OR one piece of writing with accompanying artwork relating to that piece (e.g., a poem with a drawing relating to the poem or an article with a photograph related to the article. Please note that we may need to limit the number of submissions published in an issue and defer publication of some content to a later issue due to space limitations. In that event, we may decide to publish only one piece of writing or one artwork.
6. All content will need to meet the editorial standards of the magazine in order to be published.
7. Please Fill the **Content Submission and Registration Form** and upload the content files using the following **link**: <https://forms.gle/ekdhzqzx6hxX5PRr7>
8. Keep a copy of your submission in case there is any issue with the original submission

### **Submission Deadlines**

Submissions will be accepted on a rolling basis. The deadline for submissions for being considered for the 2025 Sannikat – BAM 35th Anniversary Special Issue is **October 10th, 2025**.

### **Important Notes**

- All content will need to meet the editorial standards of the magazine in order to be published
- Please keep content and language appropriate for all ages
- Only original material should be submitted; any use of quotes or excerpts from works authored by others must be duly acknowledged and referenced.

- AI-generated content will not be accepted.
- We reserve the right to edit submissions for clarity, grammar and length, or ask you to revise the content in a particular manner
- Due to the volume of submissions received, receipt of duplicative content on same or similar subject, publication size limitations, etc., we may not publish all submissions, but we appreciate every contribution! In appropriate cases the Editorial Board may choose to not publish your contribution in this issue and reserve your contribution for publication in a future issue or in another BAM publication.
- The decision of the Editorial Board with regard to the submissions will be final.

We look forward to receiving your submissions!

Thanking you,

Sincerely,

Sannikat Editorial Board  
BAM Governing Body  
Bengali Association of Minnesota (BAM)

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