



Official Rules

The purpose of the free #PBChat Mentorship is to help writers and illustrators on their path to traditional publication of their picture books. This is an educational opportunity and the mentors are not offering access to their agents, editors, or other contacts.

The application window is March 25th, 2022 through April 11th, 2022 (11:59pm ET). Eligible applicants may apply to up to three mentors but can only work with one mentor total if selected for a mentorship. You can tailor your application and manuscript to each of the mentors you apply to. Every mentor will evaluate their applications and pick one applicant to work with as their mentee.

Winners will be announced on Tuesday, May 31st, 2022 at 11am ET via Twitter (@pbchat1) and email. If you wish to receive the email with the announcement of winners, please subscribe to the #PBChat mailing list here: pbchat.org Please use the hashtag, #PBChat for all related posts on Twitter. The mentorships will run from June 1st through September 1st, 2021 (unless otherwise noted on the mentor's questionnaire). Once selected, each mentor and their respective mentee will determine the structure and format of their mentorship together: frequency and method of communication, materials worked on, goals, plan of action, timeline, etc.

Please note that I, Justin Colón, reserve the right to read applications and manuscripts to: 1) ensure all eligibility requirements have been met 2) all rules and guidelines have been followed 3) pre-screen applications for mentors. Neither myself nor any of the mentors will use your ideas now or in the future, however, any similarity among our ideas and/or stories is purely coincidental. In addition, I may present impressive applicants with additional opportunities beyond the mentorship should they not be chosen for a mentorship this year.

If upon reading the entirety of this document and the [FAQ](#) you have unanswered, rule-related questions, please email me at 2022pbchatmentorship@gmail.com. Please wait at least 48 hours before following up.

*In the event that you become agented, accept an offer of publication from a PAL publisher for a picture book, and/or accept a spot in another mentorship program prior to the announcement of the 2022 PBChat Mentorship mentees, you will no longer be eligible to be a PBChat mentee. Accepting a spot as a mentee in another

writing/publishing-related program will deem an applicant ineligible for a spot in the 2022 PBChat Mentorship. In the case that you should become agented, accept an offer of traditional publication for a picture book, and/or accept a spot in another mentorship program, I kindly request that you email me to withdraw your application to the 2021 PBChat Mentorship.

Eligibility

The ideal applicant is a career-focused author, illustrator, or author/illustrator of picture books who is actively working toward traditional publication. They belong to at least one active critique group, participate in classes, conferences, and/or workshops, and are active in the kidlit community. They have at least three complete picture book manuscripts or dummies and/or an online portfolio.

Non-illustrator applicants may apply to the mentorship with only one complete manuscript under their belt; however, mentors may request additional manuscripts in addition to the one you've submitted if they're interested in working with you.

Illustrators applying to a mentor accepting applications from illustrators may submit an online portfolio in addition to or in lieu of a manuscript.

All applicants may submit a different manuscript to each of the mentors you submit to; however, you may submit no more than one manuscript to any mentor, unless specifically requested by the mentor after the initial round of submissions, otherwise you will be disqualified. **Once you submit your application, you may not revise it or submit a new application in its place.**

To be eligible, contestants must meet all of the following requirements:

- 1) Be un-agented if applying to or accepting a mentorship with a PBChat mentor.
- 2) Not have been traditionally published with a picture book by a PAL publisher (as an author, illustrator, or author/illustrator) for any market (excluding the educational market and licensed IP/work-for-hire books)
- 3) Not have a picture book under contract with a PAL publisher (excluding the educational market and licensed IP/work-for-hire books)
- 4) Not have been mentored as part of any publishing/writing-related mentorship for picture books within the past year (or be a current or upcoming mentee for another publishing/writing-related mentorship for any audience or genre).

Applicants who do not meet all eligibility requirements and/or do not follow all rules/guidelines, including those sent outside of the application window listed above, will receive no response and risk disqualification from the 2022 PBChat Mentorship.

Note: You are still eligible to apply if you have self-published work and/or published stories in magazines. However, you must be working toward traditional publication of your picture books to be eligible for this mentorship.

How to Apply

*The applications will remain open only during the application window: March 25, 2022 through April 11, 2022 (11:59pm ET). Submissions will not be accepted outside of that timeframe.

- 1) Create or log in to your Gmail account. To submit your application, hosted via Google forms, you must have a Gmail account.
- 2) Visit pbchat.org/2022-mentorship
- 3) Under each mentor's name, you'll find a hyperlink that reads 'Apply Now'. Click the button for the mentor you'd like to apply to, and it will take you to their submission form.
- 4) Complete the form. Please double and triple check it, because you will not be able to revise your submission or submit a new one in its place.
- 5) Click 'submit'. You should receive an automated email confirming receipt of your submission (email confirmation is not guaranteed).
- 6) You may complete this process for up to three mentors, total.

* Please label and upload your manuscript as follows:

Mentor'sLastName_YourLastName_PBChat_TitleOfManuscript

*For dummies, please label and upload them as follows:

Mentor'sLastName_YourLastName_PBChat_TitleOfManuscript_Dummy

SUGGESTION: Before you submit your application, you may want to complete your answers in a blank document so you can proofread them before copying and pasting them into the submission form. You should also save your responses in that document so you can reuse and tweak them for your second and third application. You may submit a different manuscript/ and/or samples to each mentor.

**Applicants who submit to more than three mentors risk disqualification from the 2022 mentorship and future mentorships.

****Unless encouraged by a specific mentor, please be respectful of the mentors and refrain from contacting them through social media, email, their websites, and/or other outlets with questions and/or input regarding the mentorship, your submission, your status as an applicant, feedback on your work, etc.**