

We're looking for people to write children's books

By Patricia Pfitsch

If you've ever dreamed of writing for publication, this may be your best chance to turn that dream into a reality. If you qualify and show promise, we'll teach you—the same way I was taught—how to break into one of the most rewarding of all markets for new writers.

The \$3 billion children's market

The continued success of publications for young people has led to a growing need for new writers to help create the \$3 billion worth of children's books published each year, plus stories and articles for more than 600 magazines.

"But am I good enough?"

My dream of writing professionally while raising three kids on a farm was once bogged down in the same kind of uncertainty you may have experienced.

Then, an ad for the Institute seemed to offer the writing and selling skills I needed. I passed its test and entered into a richly rewarding relationship with an author-instructor, which was a major turning point in my life—as I hope it will be in yours.

The at-home training that has launched more successful children's authors than any other school

The Institute of Children's Literature has successfully trained more new writers to meet the needs of this market than any other school. Its unique program turned my dream into reality, and I became one of more than 11,000 Institute graduates who have published children's stories, articles, and books, including prestigious award winners. Now I'm using my skills at the Institute to train promising new writers.

The promise that paid off

The Institute made exactly the same promise to me that it will make to you if you demonstrate basic writing aptitude:

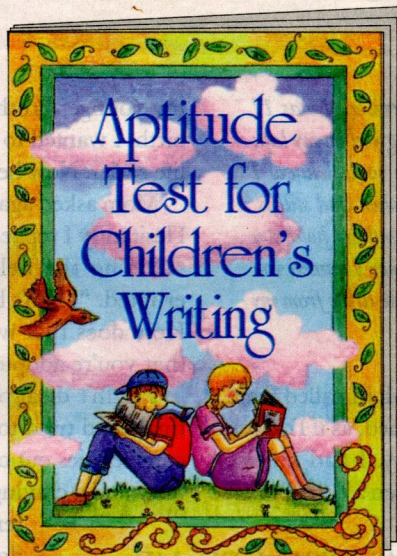
You will complete at least one manuscript suitable to submit to editors by the time you finish the course.

With skill, empathy, and tough love when needed, my Institute instructor helped me complete and sell three of my course assignments, which, I later discovered, was not unusual.

Now, as a nationally published author of 7 children's books and over 500 stories and articles, I enjoy helping aspiring writers—as I was helped—to change their dreams into bright reality.

A nationally published author or editor is your one-on-one writing and selling coach

If you are accepted, you will be assigned a personal instructor who is a successful



Our test and expert evaluation are free

author or experienced editor—and who becomes your energizing spark plug and deeply committed writing and selling coach. We all work the same way.

When you've finished an assignment at your pace, you send it to me. I edit it line-by-line and send you a detailed letter explaining my edits.

I point out your strengths, help eliminate weaknesses, and even show you how to turn bits of your everyday life into saleable writing. You push and I pull, and between us both, you learn how to write—and how to sell what you write.

From "wannabe" to published author

What I got from my instructor at the Institute changed me from a "wannabe" into a nationally published writer. While there's no guarantee that every student will have the same success, we're praised by students and publishers alike.

"I just wanted to let you know how pleased we are with the work and professionalism of your students, Michelle Barone and Dorothy Heibel," writes Joanne Deitch, editor and former President of Discovery Enterprises. "We just launched a new series entitled Adventures in History. Our first two books were *Out of the Ordinary* by Michelle Barone and *Message for a Spy* by Dorothy Heibel.

"We want to congratulate the writers on their work. Often we read of the struggle to get published, but not so often of the successes, so we just thought you'd like to know how well prepared these students were. Keep up the good work."

Dorothy Heibel, who lives in Wessington Springs, South Dakota, also

Patricia Pfitsch, a graduate of our course, has published 552 stories and articles, plus 7 books, including 3 award-winning novels and an Edgar nominee. She is also an instructor at the Institute.

sent us a note. "I graduated from the Institute 20 years ago. The help I received from your course proved to be a wonderful foundation for writing. You planted the seeds that took root and are now producing the results I had hoped for. In addition to *Message for a Spy*, I currently have two mysteries out making the rounds of publishers."

We also talked to Michelle Barone of Denver, Colorado. She applied to the Institute 25 years ago, was accepted, then "forgot about it." Her careers as a medical worker, real estate agent, curriculum writer, and adoptive mother (before she started teaching 5th grade English and math), came first. She finally enrolled in 2000. "Now," she says, "I grab time for my writing when I can find it. Besides my stories and articles, I've had five books published. You've opened up a whole new world to me."

Don't let your dream die—send for your free test today!

If a writing life is the one you long for, here's your chance to test that dream. The Institute offers a revealing aptitude test for children's writing based on its 39 years of experience, and it's free.

If you pass, it's because you have the aptitude to make it in the world of writing for children. It takes work, it takes commitment, it takes courage—but you can do it.

Just fill out and mail the coupon below to receive your free test and 32-page introduction to our course, *Writing for Children and Teenagers*, and 80 of our instructors.

There is no obligation.

Institute of Children's Literature
93 Long Ridge Road
West Redding, CT 06896-0812

Yes, please send me your free *Aptitude Test for Children's Writing* and illustrated brochure. I understand I'm under no obligation, and no salesperson will visit me.

Please circle one and print name clearly:

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Recommended for college credits by the Connecticut Board for State Academic Awards and approved by the Connecticut Commissioner of Higher Education.