

## Montana Writers Rodeo Evening Author Readings 2026 Submission Guidelines

### General Information:

Author Readings will be featured during the final session of each day May 15-16, at the Helena Avenue Theatre (HAT) in Helena, Montana. To have your writing considered for a staged reading in either of two categories, please follow the **Submission Guidelines** listed below.

### Who Can Apply

- You must be a registered participant for the full conference (both days).
- You must be the author of the submitted work.
- The work must be free of significant grammatical or formatting errors.

### DEADLINE FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS: April 13, 2026

The Montana Playwrights Network is not liable for any copyright infringement by the entrant and will not become involved in copyright disputes. The Montana Playwrights Network reserves the right to reject work deemed unsuitable for performance, or that does not meet all the named criteria.

### Friday Night Author Readings Manuscript Submission Guidelines

For author manuscript questions and submissions contact  
Mindy Peltier at [mindypeltier@outlook.com](mailto:mindypeltier@outlook.com).

1. **Length:** May NOT exceed 5 pages. Pages over the limit will not be read.
2. **Genres:** Short story, novel, memoir, nonfiction, blog post, and poetry.
3. **Original work:** published or unpublished is acceptable.
4. **Format:** Industry standard is double-spaced, 1-inch margins, .5-inch indent each paragraph, Times New Roman font 12. Email as a Word document or PDF.
5. **Title Page:** The title, genre, name, phone number, and email address.
6. **Page numbers:** Include title, last name, and page number in the upper right corner, excluding cover pages.
7. **Submission:** Submit by April 13, 2026 ([mindypeltier@outlook.com](mailto:mindypeltier@outlook.com)) and label your email subject line as “MPN 2026 Author Readings Submission.” In the body include the same information as on title page.

### Saturday Night Staged Readings Stage Play and Screenplay Script Submission Guidelines

For questions regarding script submissions and/or detailed formatting contact  
Pamela Mencher at [montanaplaywrights@gmail.com](mailto:montanaplaywrights@gmail.com).

1. **Length:** May NOT exceed **7 pages of dialogue** in standard manuscript format for plays or screenplays. It should be “stand-alone” and not depend upon a larger body of work to be enjoyed, understood, or performed. However, an excerpted work may be submitted if it meets the “stand-alone” requirement.
2. **Genres:** Comedy, drama, and children’s. No musicals.
3. **Original work:** Produced, published, and unpublished are acceptable.
4. **Format:** Must be in standard play or screenplay **manuscript** format, play scripts in published format **will not be considered**.  
**For Stage Plays:** Use 12-point, Times New Roman or Courier (New) font. Email as a Word document or PDF. (Scripts generated by a software program must be exported as either a Word document or PDF.) More details at:  
<https://www.dramatistsguild.com/sites/default/files/2020-01/General-SFI-Formatting-Guidelines-Complete.pdf>  
**For Screenplays:** Screenplays must be in standard screenplay format. Standard screenplay format is 12-point courier, 1.5-inch left margin, 1 inch right, top, and bottom margins, dialogue 2.5-inch left margin. More details at: <https://www.nfi.edu/screenplay-format/> Scripts generated by a software program must be exported as either a Word document or PDF.
5. **Cover Pages** (not included in total page count):
  - a. Title page: Title, author name, email, and phone number.
  - b. Characters page: List of 1-4 characters maximum, time, and place description.
6. **Page number:** Include title, last name, and page number in the upper right corner, excluding cover pages.
7. **Submission:** April 13, 2026 ([montanaplaywrights@gmail.com](mailto:montanaplaywrights@gmail.com)) and label your email subject line as “MPN 2026 Author Readings Submission.” In the body include same information as on title page.