

The workshop committee of New England SCBWI welcomes proposals for the Spring 2009 conference, "Many Voices." The focus of the 2009 conference is creating literature in many voices and through many forms so that all children can find themselves in the stories they read.

This is one of the largest regional SCBWI conferences, and we welcome proposals from everyone. We also encourage artists and writers of color, those who are differently abled, and others from underrepresented groups to propose conference workshops. In addition to our customary emphasis on fiction, we will spotlight illustration, poetry, graphic novels, and non-fiction.

### **Important Information**

**Conference Dates:** Friday afternoon through Sunday afternoon, April 24th through 26th, 2009

**Conference Location:** Crowne Plaza, Nashua, NH

**To Submit a Proposal:** Please [complete a conference proposal form](#) (Separate submissions are required for multiple presentations.)

**Proposal Due Date:** September 15, 2008

**Presenters Notified By:** November 1, 2008

**Types of Presentations:** 60-minute workshops on Saturday; 120-minute intensives on Sunday

### **Workshops for Saturday, April 25, 2009: 60-minute presentations**

#### ***What are we looking for?***

- Presentations that relate to our conference theme.
- Presentations that last 60 minutes in their entirety. When planning, leave time for participant questions and any required audiovisual setup.
- A range of presentations for all SCBWI members, including illustrators and writers in all genres.
- Leveled presentations. We are not trying to find one presentation that everyone can attend. Instead, presenters should direct material toward a specific experience level. For example, an "advanced" illustration presentation should not begin with "Why you should carry a sketch book," and a "beginner's" writing workshop should not address marketing a contracted novel.
- Focused presentations with clear learning outcomes. This could mean a specific genre, style, area of craft, art media, etc. Plan the presentation thinking, "I want participants to come away having learned these three things."
- A balanced combination of lecture-style presentations and hands-on workshops.
- Presentations with information that participants can take back to their desks to ponder and play with.
- Presentations that include a range of examples rather than drawing solely from the presenter's experience or body of work.
- Presenters who are published members of SCBWI, as well as editors, agents, MFA graduates and other industry professionals. Past presentation experience is appreciated.

### **Intensives for Sunday, April 26, 2009: 120-minute presentations**

#### ***What is different?***

Building on the theme of "Many Voices," we will spend Sunday looking at "Many Forms" through a series of Intensive Workshops.

Intensives will examine four forms: Graphic Novel, Poetry, Non-fiction and Fiction. The criteria for selection are similar to those listed for Saturday's workshops. Also consider the following:

- Each session in the intensive will be two hours long.
- Participants can switch forms between morning and afternoon sessions, so sessions should be stand-alone.
- Since two hours are provided, plan for exercises or some interactive element in the workshop. An intensive should not only be a lecture.
- Intensives should explore topics specific to the forms listed at a variety of levels.
- Past presentation experience and in-depth knowledge of the form are required.
- Partner presentations are welcome.

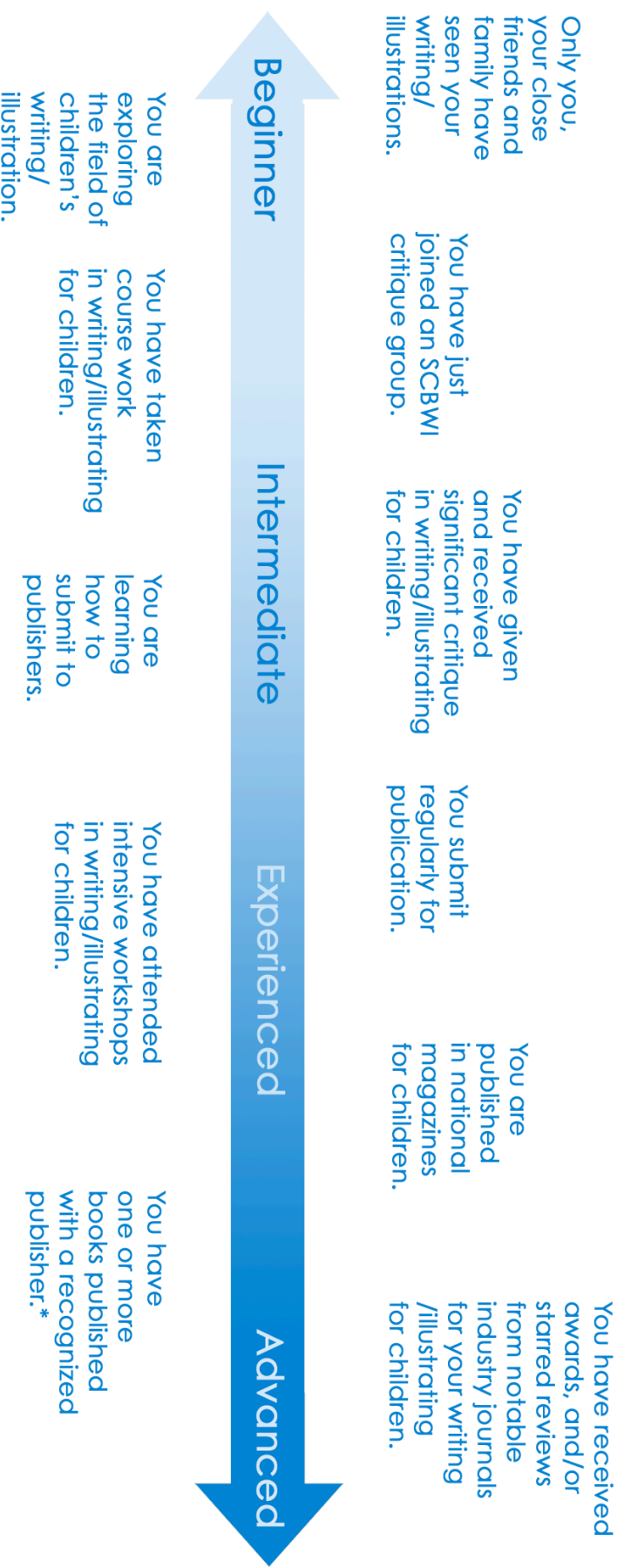
Every year SCBWI New England receives many excellent proposals, more than can fit into a conference schedule. Therefore, we must choose on the basis of experience, quality, variety, novelty, attendant costs, and other factors. Please use the NESCBWI Workshop Rubric included below for more explicit selection criteria and standards.

The following presentation topics were suggested by 2008 conference participants. If you are an expert on one of these topics, we would love to see your proposal.

- Public Speaking and Presenting at Conferences for Experienced Authors
- Love and Sex in YA
- Graphic Novels
- Craft for Advanced Writers (variety of topics)
- How to Move from Mid-list to A-list
- Mystery Writing
- Writing for Boys
- Art School vs. Self-taught: How do I get good enough?

Note: If you apply to present at Saturday's Workshops or Sunday's Intensives and we think your proposal is more appropriate for the other day, we will let you know!

## NESCBWI Workshop Level Continuum



Writers and illustrators all have different journeys as they evolve in their craft. The continuum above is intended to help workshop presenters level their proposal for the correct audience and for conference participants to choose workshops that are most appropriate for their current level. Presenters are encouraged to challenge their audience to achieve above their level. If you say your workshop is for "all" levels, you must address all levels throughout the presentation.

\* Listed in the SCBWI Market Survey or the CWIM.

## NESCBWI Workshop Selection Rubric

Criteria (What every proposal should address.)	Standards (How we know it is good.)
Content/Topic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sparks new insight, gives new perspective, or reinvigorates the audience.</li> <li>• Specific rather than general.</li> <li>• Targeted for a clearly identified audience.</li> <li>• Provides information or techniques that will help participants grow in the topic.</li> </ul>
Presenter's Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presenter has significant practical experience in a field relevant to the topic AND/OR</li> <li>• Presenter has degrees in a field relevant to the topic AND/OR</li> <li>• Presenter has publication credits that support their expertise in the topic. AND/OR</li> <li>• Presenter has past teaching or presentation experience.</li> </ul>
Organization of Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workshop follows clear and logical progression.</li> <li>• Workshop created with the target audience in mind.</li> <li>• If the workshop is for "all" levels, all levels are challenged throughout the workshop.</li> </ul>
Handouts/Visuals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation includes exemplar. *</li> <li>• Includes a list of books/references mentioned during the workshop.</li> <li>• Includes practical, tangible tools for participants to take home.</li> </ul> <p>*An exemplar is a high-quality model. Example: If you are giving a workshop on query letters, you provide one or two excellent queries that got the writer the job.</p>