

Unity House Writer's Guidelines

What is Unity House?

Unity House is the publishing arm of Unity, a spiritual organization based in Unity Village, Missouri, that through books, multimedia products, branded items and pamphlets provides resources and tools that empower people to realize and express their divine potential for healthy, prosperous and meaningful lives.

What we're looking for

Submissions that meet the following criteria:

1. Supports Unity principles and spiritual teachings
2. Non-fiction targeted to adults (currently, we are not publishing fiction or children's titles)
3. Covers a hot new topic or subject of national conversation, such as the Law of Attraction, Law of Mind Action or Spiral Dynamics (to name a few)
4. Appeals to persons at advanced levels of consciousness and/or is user-friendly enough to appeal to new spiritual seekers
5. Works that are based in metaphysical interpretations of the Bible
6. Is an enjoyable, inspirational read; a page-turner
7. Serves Unity's constituent base
8. Fills a void in the current Unity product line
9. Complements current book/multimedia products
10. Quality multimedia products produced by artists, authors and outside vendors that promote Unity principles and teachings

Completed works should:

1. Promote integration of the mind, body and soul
2. Share new ways to create and maintain prosperity
3. Seek to help reader understand universal law
4. Apply Unity-based principles to everyday life
5. Focus on spiritual practice, including prayer, meditation, affirmations and denials, intuition, awareness, forgiveness, and the exercise of faith
6. Represent Jesus Christ as a way-shower
7. Shed spiritual light on psychological, social and cultural issues
8. Demonstrate the universal in all religions and human kinship

Examples of topics include:

- Tools or resources that help people to live their dreams
- Experiences of spiritual awakening and transformation
- Encouragement of calling forth authentic expression and spiritual gifts
- Spirituality in the workplace

For samples of our publishing offerings, see our online bookstore:

<http://shop.unityonline.org/>

Suggested author profile:

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- Unity minister
- Unity School employee
- Unity Spiritual Education Enrichment (SEE) student
- Licensed Unity Teacher (LUT)
- Unity center board member
- Unity center staff person
- Ministry and Religious Studies (M&RS) student or spouse
- M&RS applicant
- Author previously published by Unity House or other organization whose works fit criteria
- Writer/contributor to *Unity Magazine* or other spiritual publication
- Author with works that promote Unity principles and teachings
- Author supporting and writing about New Thought principles
- Inspirational speaker or writer with an established platform, constituent base, or following of readers

Submitting Your Work

Unity House requires the submission of a proposal of five to ten pages and a sample of writing. We recommend that prospective authors read *How to Write a Book Proposal* by Michael Larsen (Sourcebooks) for guidance and instructions. For your convenience we've provided mini-proposal instructions courtesy of the Larsen Pomada Agency. <http://www.larsen-pomada.com>. Our own specific guidelines for sending us book ideas are as follows.

The Unity House Book Proposal

Unity House invites you to submit your book idea. Tell us why you are excited about it, why Unity House should publish it, and why readers will buy it. Please submit your proposal using the following format:

- ***A one-to-two-page overview of the book:*** *This includes the subject hook, special features, markets for the book, competitive and complementary books.*
- ***Compatibility:*** *Why you feel publication with Unity House would be a good fit.*
- ***Your platform:*** *Provide a bulleted list of your accomplishments that support publication, and what you are doing to give your work and yourself continuing national visibility. Describe your following, readers who are ready and willing to buy your book.*

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- **A half-page promotion plan:** List the five or six most significant things that you will do to promote your book, such as:
 - The number of talks you will continue to give a year
 - The number of major markets you will visit during your book's one-to-three month launch window.
 - Contacts you have in the media that you will approach for publicity
 - Events you will organize or are scheduled to attend to promote your book
 - The name of the publicist you might consult with or hire, ideally someone experienced in book promotion.
 - Anything else of equal promotional power
- **Outline:** Provide a two-page table-of-contents, including short paragraphs about what each chapter will include.
- **Timetable:** Give an idea of how long the book will be (at least 200 pages at 250 words per page or 45,000 words). Also supply a date of completion.
- **Author profile:** A one-page bio with your experience with your topic and as a writer and/or author. Why you are the person to write the book and list where you have been published in the past (i.e. magazine articles, previous books). Include a Web link, if available.
- **Sample pages:** If your proposal is of interest to our editorial review team, you will be asked to submit 50 sample pages of your manuscript.

The most successful authors know that it is not enough to write a book. One must also partner with the publisher in promoting it. If your background has prepared you for the task and you have a great idea for a book that espouses Unity spiritual principles in a positive and inspiring way, we look forward to considering your proposal.

Please submit three copies of your proposal, incorporating these and the submission requirements provided below to:

*Sharon Sartin, Editorial Assistant
Unity House Publishing
1901 NW Blue Parkway
Unity Village, MO 64065-0001*

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Remember to include a self-addressed postage-paid envelope with your work if you would like Unity to return unpublished work to you. Unselected works that are submitted without these items become the property of Unity House.

We will acknowledge receipt of your proposal within 30 days of submission. If we select your work, we will contact you within 90 days to discuss further.

Thank you for your interest in Unity House.