

## SMALL PRESSES AND LOCAL AUTHORS

The Nashville Public Library is often asked to include items in our libraries that are written and/or published independently. This can include materials that are self-published/ produced or items published through a vanity press company. We look for material with regional connections and collection relevance that will appeal to a wide audience. The best way to bring an item to our attention is through reviews. Review sources that specialize in small press reviews include the following:

- ForeWord: reviews of good books independently published [www.forewordmagazine.com](http://www.forewordmagazine.com).
- Small Press Review [www.dustbooks.com/spr.htm](http://www.dustbooks.com/spr.htm).
- Independent Publisher, an online magazine which includes book reviews and other resources for small presses and authors [www.independentpublisher.com](http://www.independentpublisher.com).

A positive review in one or more of the library review journals, such as Library Journal [www.libraryjournal.com](http://www.libraryjournal.com), School Library Journal [www.schoollibraryjournal.com](http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com), Kirkus Reviews [www.kirkusreviews.com](http://www.kirkusreviews.com), Booklist [www.booklistonline.com](http://www.booklistonline.com), Publisher's Weekly [www.publishersweekly.com](http://www.publishersweekly.com) or in the Sunday edition of the Tennessean or City Paper will give your book an improved chance for purchase by Nashville Public Library (and other public libraries as well). It is also to your benefit if your item is being carried by a local book or music store, which would generate a demand for its purchase by our system.

Please keep in mind that books in a public library get constant and sometimes heavy use from the public. Because of this, we look for ones that are sturdily bound, preferably sewn or glued. Spiral and comb bindings do not stand up well in our setting and books with pages designed to be filled in or torn out by the reader are not appropriate.

If you would like us to consider your materials, please send a **flyer** with the professional reviews attached to the address below. Drop in visits are not encouraged.

Nashville Public Library  
Collection Development Department  
615 Church Street  
Nashville, TN 37219

The flyer sent to the Nashville Public Library system should include:

**WHAT** is the content of the item? This summary should be brief and succinct.

**WHY** the item is needed at NPL. Here you should include quotations from reviews, or reader/listener testimonials if you have them. If the item has been reviewed, you should also attach a copy of the review.

**WHO** is the intended audience? Is it intended for adults, young adults, or children? Who would be interested in the book - parents, businesspersons, hobbyists, etc?

**NAME** of the author/artist? This should include qualifications, such as education, experience in the field, and experience as a writer. Be sure to mention that you are a local author/artist or publisher, since this does factor into our purchasing decisions.

**WHEN, WHERE**, etc. the item was published/created. We need all the bibliographic data, including date of publication, price, ISBN number (very important), edition statement, type of binding. If the book is self-published, please give some indication of its appearance (size, type of binding, etc.). CDs and other audiovisual materials need ID numbers.

**HOW** we can get it? NPL purchases material from wholesale vendors, such as Baker and Taylor, or Ingram. Purchases from Amazon are also allowed though not through their secondary vendors. We do not purchase directly through individuals and do not allow payments made through Paypal.

**If you choose to send us a sample copy of the item, we will not be able to return it in the event we do not purchase other copies. We will treat your item as a donation and its disposition will be covered under our Gifts and Donations Policy.**

You may also want to consider attending library conferences. This is one way to reach a large number of librarians in a short space of time. National conferences, such as the American Library Association's Annual Conference or Midwinter Meeting or the Public Library Association's Bi-Annual Conference, can be overwhelming. However smaller ones, such as the Tennessee Library Association's Annual Conference [www.tnla.org](http://www.tnla.org), attract many librarians from the local area.

Some websites which might benefit self-published authors/artists include:

- The Independent Book Publishers Association site offers a membership to individual authors: <http://www.ibpa-online.org>.
- The American Booksellers Association provides general publishing information and offers workshops: [www.bookweb.org](http://www.bookweb.org).
- Independent Publishers Group is a book distributor for a large number of independent publishers and small presses: <http://www.ipgbook.com>.
- Additional small press distributors include Consortium Book Sales and Distribution [www.cbsd.com](http://www.cbsd.com) and Small Press Distribution [www.spdbooks.org](http://www.spdbooks.org).
- Two sites for self-publishing which offer editing and marketing services are: Xlibris [www.xlibris.com](http://www.xlibris.com) and iUniverse [www.iuniverse.com](http://www.iuniverse.com).