



# Alive

magazine

*by young women,  
for young women*

## Guidelines for Contributing Writers

*Alive Magazine* is devoted to promoting positive media and artwork created by young women in the format of an online magazine. All published pieces should reflect AM's commitment to encouraging and empowering young women, and the editors of AM reserve the right not to publish submissions that conflict with our mission and vision statements.

### Written Submissions: General Guidelines

- Pieces accepted for publication must fit an existing column or feature section [see list below], and will be assigned accordingly by the Managing Editor.
- Fictional pieces should focus on issues relating to young women and their development, and will be published less frequently than non-fiction pieces.
- Non-fiction submissions should always have a narrative component, even when research-based. Mediums can include, but are not limited to, poetry, essays, journal entries, editorials, travelogues, and newsfeatures (with elements of personal narrative).
- Profanity will not be allowed in submissions accepted for publication, and appropriate changes will be suggested and/or approved by the Managing Editor and Executive Director.
- Submissions should generally be between 400 and 2000 words, although exceptions may be granted by the Managing Editor under certain circumstances.
- For guidelines specific to poetry submissions, see "Guidelines for Poetry."

### Submission Procedure

- Submissions must include contact information, including name, mailing address, telephone number, E-mail address, and age (if over 25, just note 25+).
- Send submissions to [contribute@alivemagazine.org](mailto:contribute@alivemagazine.org), or to: *Alive Magazine* c/o Managing Editor, 1720 Madison St. NE Suite 300, Minneapolis, MN, 55413

### What Happens Next

- Each submission is reviewed by our editorial team.
- If your submission is chosen to move on to the workshopping & editing phase, we will contact you to:
  - Sign a usage permission release form
  - Make edits, as determined by your editor
  - Set deadlines
- Once the piece goes through the workshopping & editing phase, our editorial team will revisit your piece and decide if and where it will be published (Web site or PDF magazine).

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### How is my story chosen?

We choose written works for publication in *AM* based on its quality of writing, relevance of content (timeliness, level of interest to young women) and its voice. We do not choose submissions that denigrate groups of people, customs, ideas, or religions. We give preference to personal narratives with engaging and unique topics or writing styles.

#### What is the difference between *Alive Magazine* and the *AM Web site*?

When we went all-online in 2007, we didn't want to be just another blog or magazine on the Web. We wanted to offer our readers timely content, but also reserve the chance to incorporate artwork and stories in a similar way as we did with our print magazine. So, we have the best of both worlds: new articles twice a week on our homepage, plus a fully-designed, downloadable PDF of the magazine every other month.

#### Who can contribute written work to *Alive Magazine*?

If you are a female, ages 25 and under, you can contribute stories for all of our columns except *Mister and Listen*. *Listen* is reserved for writers (male or female) over 25, and *Mister* is reserved for a male columnist ages 25 and under.



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Departments and Feature Sections (Web site and PDF magazine)

**Features** (typically longer pieces)

- Discover – “What makes you come alive?”
- Believe – “Finding God in unexpected places”
- Explore – “Tales of travel and adventure”
- Give – “Stories of service and volunteering”
- Aim – “Inspiring successes, curious ambitions, and unique interests”
- Mend – “Picking up the pieces when life falls apart”

**Departments** (usually shorter than feature pieces, although not always)

- Muse – “Original poetry and fresh lyrics”
- Groove – “Music, dance and other inspiring sounds”
- Flair – “Creative styles and ideas for adding a personal flair to current trends”
- Listen – “Perspectives on life from someone older and wiser”  
[reserved for writers, male or female, over age 25]
- Wonder – “Answers to life’s hard-to-ask questions”
- Imagine – “How would you change the world, if given the opportunity?”
- Spend – “Where to spend your money wisely and effectively”
- Consider – “News-related stories relevant to you and your world”
- Taste – “Favorite dorm recipes, easy snack ideas, and cafeteria creations”
- Mister – “Life from his perspective”  
[reserved for male writers 25 and under]
- Mischief – “Tales of fiction and truth, silly shenanigans, and friendly foolery”



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## Guidelines for Poetry

Alive Magazine is devoted to promoting positive media and artwork created by young women in the format of an online magazine. All published pieces should reflect AM's commitment to encouraging and empowering young women, and the editors of AM reserve the right not to publish submissions that conflict with our mission and vision statements.

### Poetry Submissions: General Guidelines

- Poems will be considered for publication on the basis of content, meaning no conflicts with AM's mission to provide positive media for young women.
- Please provide a short narrative explaining the poem (100-200 words).
- The short statement may or may not be published, but no poem will be considered for publication without the simultaneous submission of a narrative.
- All submissions should be in a polished, near-final form, but are still subject to an editing & workshopping process.
- Profanity will not be published as part of any poem.
- Because our magazine reaches readers age 13 and up, the Managing Editor and Executive Director reserve the right not to publish poems about explicit topics.

### Submission Procedure

- Submissions must include contact information, including name, mailing address, telephone number, E-mail address, and age (if over 25, just note 25+).
- Send submissions to [contribute@alivemagazine.org](mailto:contribute@alivemagazine.org), or to: *Alive Magazine* c/o Managing Editor, 1720 Madison St. NE Suite 300, Minneapolis, MN, 55413

### What Happens Next: Workshopping Phase

- Each submission considered for publication will be reviewed by our Poetry Editor and editorial team.
- An editor will work with each selected poet personally during the revision process.
- Once the piece goes through the workshopping & editing phase, our editorial team will revisit your piece and decide if and where it will be published (Web site or PDF magazine).

Questions? Please contact:

Managing Editor: Lauren Melcher, [lauren@alivemagazine.org](mailto:lauren@alivemagazine.org)  
Poetry Editor: Kelin Loe, [kelin@alivemagazine.org](mailto:kelin@alivemagazine.org)