

# Scribble House Lit Fest

A celebration of lit mags & small presses in western PA

## INFORMATION FOR PUBLISHERS

**Date and time:** Sunday, November 16th, 2025  
2-8:30 PM (open at 1PM for setup)

**Location:** Spirit  
242 51st Street  
Pittsburgh, PA (Lawrenceville)

**Registration deadline for publishers:**  
November 1st, 2025\*

\* *Note: Space is limited and may fill before this deadline*

### Bookfair Schedule:

1:30-2 PM: Publisher set-up  
2-7 PM: Open book selling time  
Quick pitch sessions

### Stage Schedule:

2:30-3 PM: Author readings  
3:30-4:10 PM: Editor Q&A  
4:30-5 PM: Author readings  
5:30-6:10 PM: Editor Q&A  
6:30 PM: Raffle drawing  
Open mic sign-ups open  
7-8 PM: Open mic

### **What's the Scribble House Lit Fest all about?**

The goal of the Lit Fest is to create a space for writers and readers in Western Pennsylvania to engage with publishers. The core of the festival is the bookfair, where small presses and journals can sell books or issues and chat with readers or authors interested in sending work. Editors can also share their insights at the Q&As, get new audiences for their authors through literary readings, and engage directly with authors by offering Quick Pitch sessions. To keep it as accessible as possible, the event is free for both publishers and attendees.

### **Who can participate as a publisher?**

Both independent and university affiliated literary journals, magazines, and small presses. Basically, this is for any organization that:

- Is based in or has a strong connection to Western Pennsylvania
- Publishes fiction, poetry, or creative nonfiction, at least a portion of which was not written by staff of the press or journal (it's fine editors' work is published too, as long as this isn't the only thing published)

### **Book table details**

Participating publishers will be assigned half of an 8-foot table (4 feet of table space).

- If there's a particular other journal or press you want to pair off with, let us know!
- If you're a bigger press with lots of books to sell, let us know that, too! Our goal is to give space to as many publishers as possible, but if we have the room we'll give full-table spots to the folks who need them.

### **Editor Q&As**

There will be 2 Q&A sessions this year, each of which will have a particular topic of focus:

- Literary community in Pittsburgh
- What editors want in 2025

Editors are not required to participate in a Q&A to take part in the Lit Fest. To give audience members a variety of perspectives, each editor will only take part in one panel (not both). However, if your press has multiple editors, one could take part in each panel. Our plan is to have 3-5 total participants on each panel.

### **Author readings**

We will be having two 30-minute readings during the Lit Fest this year which will feature a mix of self-published authors and local authors published by participating presses. Each author will be asked to read for roughly 5-6 minutes. If you have authors you think would be interested, indicate this on your registration form and we'll reach out to get their contact information and schedule their reading. Participating press authors are also invited to take part in the final open mic if they'd prefer that to a scheduled reading.

### **Author signings**

If you would like to have authors do a book signing during the Lit Fest, let us know when they'll be there and we'll add it to the schedule on our website. We will also have an author signing table where these can take place if you feel it will be too crowded right at your bookfair table.

### **Pitch sessions**

Attendees will get the option to buy 10-minute Quick Pitch Sessions, which they can register for in advance or on the day of the festival. These sessions are a chance for the writer to pitch the press their work for potential publication. It is up to the publisher whether to exchange contact information and/or request a full manuscript after the pitch.

- Each publisher can offer up to 10 pitch sessions (or none, if you'd prefer not to do it)
- Pitch sessions cost \$10 each, \$7 of which goes to the publisher
- Writers who register in advance will have the option to send a representative sample of up to 5 pages to discuss during the pitch session

### **Raffle**

Publishers are invited (but not required) to donate books or other items like branded totes, T-shirts, etc. to be raffled off during the event. Attendees will get 1 free raffle ticket if they register in advance, and can buy additional tickets on-site (\$3 each or 2 for \$5).