

EIGHT FORTY-EIGHT WRITERS & ESSAYISTS' GUIDELINES

Eight Forty-Eight is Chicago Public Radio's daily magazine of news and culture.

This 60-minute program, hosted by Richard Steele and Alison Cuddy, airs mornings from 9 to 10 and evenings from 8 to 9 on WBEZ, 91.5 FM.

The essays and commentaries of Chicago-area writers are an important part of the mix of interviews, news and features that make up the program each day.

These writings include personal stories, experiences, comments on the news of the day, poetry and--sometimes-- flights of fancy. Radio storytelling has been an exciting part of *Eight Forty-Eight* for years, and we have a group of regular writers whose work airs on the program. But we are always looking for new, fresh or unique voices and points of view.

If you are interested in submitting your writing for our consideration, please follow these guidelines:

We like essays of approximately three to four minutes in length (about 2 pages, double-spaced). Of course, there are always exceptions, but that's a good rule of thumb. Again, stories about people, experiences, reflections on the unusual or the everyday, a twist or personal angle on the news of the day--all these are fodder for good storytelling. Listen to the program, and you'll hear writers tell their stories of a noisy night at Ravinia, a temporary job gone mad, a family tragedy that taught a lesson, impatience with hyper-patriotism or just an ordinary day in the neighborhood. They're funny, sad, touching and thought-provoking. The key is that it's **their** story---told as only they can tell it.

All work must be original, and your own.

Eight Forty-Eight is a program of and about Chicago. Our writers are local, and we prefer stories that reflect, illuminate or portray life in Chicago or its surrounding areas, including northwest Indiana.

If you have a script, you may send it to *Eight Forty-Eight* Senior Producer Aurora Aguilar. E-mail: aaguilar@chicagopublicradio.org. Please paste the text to e-mail, rather than send as an attachment. Please include with your script or any communication phone numbers where you may be reached, e-mail, and mailing address. If your essay airs on the program, you will be paid a small fee; you'll be asked to give us your social security number so we can pay you.

We will read and edit your work carefully. When writer and editor have a final, approved script, the editor will assign it to a producer. The producer will contact you to come into the studios on Navy Pier and record your essay. These professionals are experts at helping you make the most of the performance and presentation of your work for broadcast.

We'll let you know when your work will air on the program.

Thank you for your interest in *Eight Forty-Eight*. We look forward to hearing from you.