

For Release: March 17, 2021



## **Owlkids Books Issues an Open Call for BIPOC Voices**

Jennifer Stokes, editorial director of Owlkids Books, launched an open call for picture book and early chapter book manuscripts from BIPOC writers earlier today. The call for previously unpublished manuscripts has a deadline of April 30, 2021, and all eligible submissions will be reviewed by Owlkids Books editorial staff.

Stokes issued the following announcement regarding the call:

Owlkids Books is committed to creating books that reflect and include a diversity of voices, communities, and experiences. We believe that all children should be able to see themselves represented in the books they read. In order to support voices that have been underrepresented in the publishing industry, we are issuing an open call for submissions of picture book and early fiction manuscripts from BIPOC authors.

Picture book texts should be aimed at readers aged 3–7, and early fiction manuscripts should be aimed at readers aged 6–9. Author/illustrators are also welcome to participate and may submit dummies showcasing both text and illustrations.

Submissions must be previously unpublished. We are limiting this call to unagented authors aged 18 or older who are either Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada. All submissions will be reviewed by Owlkids editors.

Please submit your manuscript by April 30 to [open.call@owlkids.com](mailto:open.call@owlkids.com), using the following subject line: OPEN CALL SUBMISSION.

“The Owlkids team is excited at the prospect of reviewing new voices and helping to break down some of the barriers facing emerging writers in a tangible way,” said Stokes.

### **About Owlkids Books**

Owlkids Books is a Canadian children’s book publisher whose books reflect and respect the intelligence, imagination, and curiosity of children, marrying substance and style. Covering a wide range of subjects, from insightful picture books and humorous graphic novels to thought-provoking non-fiction, our books for children aged 0–13 are recognized for their signature energy, creativity, sense of humour, and thematic relevance.

For media queries, please contact Judy Brunsek at [judy.brunsek@owlkids.com](mailto:judy.brunsek@owlkids.com).