

# GUIDELINES FOR WIDE MARGINS MUSELETTER

**Shared by:**

**Kwil Kids**

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**Free Subscriptions** are available by signing up at [WideMargins.net](http://WideMargins.net)

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**Donations:** WideMargins.net is a one-man labour of love. It is intended to be free and ad-free. Financial support is greatly appreciated. Click [here](#) to donate by credit card or by e-interac (kalenmarquis@live.ca)

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- *Wide Margins Museletter* ("WMM") accepts very SHORT stories, poems, book reviews & recommendations, letters, photos and sketches in the spirit of love, empathy and encouragement. WMM is looking to share thought-full, reflective text and visuals that convey gentle truth, compassion, and beauty. Light-hearted, soul-full simplicity that is authentic and true is delightful. Submissions that 'weave words of wisdom, wonder and wellness' as well as light-hearted 'humour and heartstrings' are very welcome.
- WMM celebrates fantastical, fun, and far-fetched tales with rich, juicy, rhythmic and/or rhyming language. Alliteration, assonance, and repetitive rhyming refrains are popular. Jokes, riddles and 'nonsensical' word play can be the perfect addition and a good entry point for younger creators.
- WMM is perpetually 'jazzed by juxtaposition' and diverse thoughts, feelings and experiences--the many quaint ironies, paradoxes and nonlinear synchronicities of life. We cannot walk in another's shoes but we can learn and empathize with compassionate, creative, divergent, and critical thinking.
- WMM is purposefully pluralist, universal, humanistic, and where appropriate, multicultural and multifaith. Content will be selected based upon suitability for ALL ages and stages of development
- WMM will offer references or links for adults in such roles as parents, teachers, librarians and counsellors. These offerings may promote greater awareness, understanding and implementation strategies if circumstances allow. With complex and ever-expanding responsibilities, remaining present and well is top priority for those who do life-changing work as models, mentors and companions for those that look up to and need them.
- WMM seeks to entertain and educate by expanding awareness, understanding, empathy, and encouragement in the most universal humanistic traditions through such uplifting and inspirational themes as listed below. While the concepts may be deep and rich, the simplest and most authentic expressions often ring true with the words or scribbles of youth featured alongside that of an old sage from other times and places can resonate deeply and give the reader goosebumps.
- WMM promotes literacy, creativity and connection through joy-filled practice and cheerleading--not criticism. The creative spark and offerings of children (and creative 'inner children' of all ages) responds best to early and effusive encouragement with baby steps of growth towards mastery. While constructive criticism, editing and thought-full feedback are an important part of the developmental process, the celebration and showcasing of creative endeavors in all their subjectivity is the focus for this project.

- *WMM* aims to keep fledgling sparks of literacy, creativity and connection alive and joyful to help nurture bright, fulfilled futures that benefit individuals and the community. Attitudes, skills and talents flourish with interest, awareness, enthusiasm, appreciation, attunement and encouragement. The creative 'craft' may be refined over time with ongoing responsive engagement and constructive feedback from trusted and respectful models, mentors and companions who tap into the "forward pull" of what learners love and experience a sense of 'flow' and deep, inner well-being. In the words of Michelangelo, "It is only well with me when I have a chisel in my hands." From a toddler's celebrated 'scribbles and scribes' or play doh creations. . . writers, artists, photographers, inventors, architects, and all kinds of meaning-filled mastery may emerge.

### **Timeless & Universal Themes of Interest:**

- love, empathy, encouragement
- gentleness, peace, compassion
- wisdom, wonder, wellness
- gratitude, optimism, hope
- beauty, truth, humility,
- awareness, understanding
- silence, stillness, being
- nature, seasons, weather
- animals, trees, flowers
- surrender, yielding, letting go,
- inspiration, faith, trust
- learning, writing, reading, literacy
- book reviews & quotations
- notes, letters, cards & stationery
- calligraphy, cursive writing, fonts
- overcoming adversity, 'failure,' & 'mistakes'
- persistence, effort, determination
- resilience, grit, pluck
- passion, purpose, meaning
- fulfillment, "flow," "bliss"
- stages of development, rites of passage
- change, adaptation, growth
- models, mentors & companions for growth
- everyday heroes, life-changing moments
- perception, projection, perspectives
- actualization, individuation, transcendence

**Tips:** How many different types of writing have you sent? How often have you sent them? The more that you send to various projects or writing markets, the greater the chance of sharing and publication. Writers learn to be patient and never give up. Trust that your thoughts and feelings are worthy of expression and that the creative 'craft' will evolve over time if nurtured and tended like a garden. Kwil Kids motto is: "Keep your pencil moving and your keyboard tapping!" (See below for Statement of Originality and Consent to Share).

**Frequency:** As a one-man labour of love, *Wide Margins Museletter* will be offered periodically, subject to time, submissions and funding available. It may increase in frequency and regularity as it evolves with reader, writer, and creator support and engagement. Let the fun begin! :-)

**Giggling Grats:** Thank you in advance for your interest and support for *Wide Margins Museletter*. Note: Correspondence and submissions will be gratefully acknowledged subject to email volume, time and funds available for this one-man labour of love. Heartfelt apologies in advance when this is not possible.

**Dedication:** This project is dedicated to LG, LM, and the memory of KM for years of selfless service and dedication to young writers, readers, and creatives via Kwil Kids over three decades. It would not exist without them.

**Past Projects:** The Harry Hooge Herald; Kwil Kids newsletter; Kwil Kids newspaper column; Kwil Kids Publishing Centre & Publishing Parties; Kwil Kids Quarterly; Mr. M's Museletter; Kwil Kids Writing & Reading Camps (West Vancouver & Bowen Island); Soul Stories; BICS Writer-In-Residence (Creative Connections); Digital Dialogues

**Mascot Mania & The Writing Coach:** Now offering virtual tutoring and coaching in writing, reading and literacy for all ages. From early 'scribbling and scribing' to academic and creative writing, let Kalen Marquis and/or his educational mascots help bring literacy to life! Send him an [email](#) to learn more. For qualifications, testimonials, and a sense of the possibilities, please read below and click on the [Creative Connections](#) tab above.

**Statement of Originality & Informed Consent to Share:** Although there is intrinsic joy in creating and connecting itself, if you would like your contribution to be considered for sharing via WideMargins.net and/or the Wide Margins Museletter, please send a signed and dated copy of the following (with parent/guardian signature for those under 18). Suggestion: Print or write the following, sign, and send a smart phone photo or scan. Please feel to add extra information to make your wishes clear.

"I verify that I am voluntarily submitting my original work ("Title" or Description of Art/Photo/Other) for sharing with WideMargins.net and Wide Margins Museletter. This work is not copied, borrowed or artificially generated and does not refer to other people without their signed and informed consent to share. I understand that I retain all rights to this original work and that there is no payment or royalty. I understand that Wide Margins is an educational project intended to offer participation, celebration and encouragement only. Please use 'by \_\_\_\_\_' in the byline to credit the author/creator." (Initials only by default unless specified by the creator in signed consent).

Creator Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: x \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: (under 18) x \_\_\_\_\_