



Submission Guidelines for *gospelandculture.org*

ILLUSTRATORS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS

Given the strong visual orientation of our site, we are always looking for gifted photographers and illustrators. If you are interested in working with us, please send an email to queries@gospelandculture.org with “Illustrator” or “Photographer” in the subject line. Please also tell us about your background, training and qualifications or send along your resume or curriculum vitae (CV) as an attachment.

WRITERS

INTRODUCTION:

Gospelandculture.org features lucidly written commentary and reporting rooted in a thorough understanding of one’s subject and a commitment to the Christian faith. We seek the opposite of writing which attempts to voice a “Christian outlook” (whatever that might mean). We mean instead for *gospelandculture.org* to allow Christians and individuals sympathetic (and at times unsympathetic) to Christianity, to bring their erudition and their faith together in addressing Christians and the world at large. It is our hope that *gospelandculture.org* will become a community that facilitates synergies across disciplines, borders, political and ideological allegiances, race, ethnic and class lines, between experts and generalists and between the theologically-trained and the laity.

We hope to be a place where a great breadth of subjects and outlooks may be considered. The best pitch phrase for our site might be “a Christian *theAtlantic.com*.” While any subject or question might be fair game for inclusion, we favor pieces that use current events, expressions or trends as a means of commenting on larger flows within disciplines, spheres of life, contemporary life or on ultimate, eternal verities. We also realize, however, that many developments do not necessarily comment on anything larger. We seek authors who write pieces for what they are worth, who enjoy capturing the essence of something in a well-honed turn of phrase or through clear, well-thought expression.

TONE:

Our readers tend to be fairly well educated. They come to us looking not for a particular approach to an issue but an accurate, detailed, grounded/imaginative take on a breadth of subjects. The reading level assumed by *newyorktimes.com* is comparable to what we would look for from submissions to the site. We encourage writers to bring their unique voice—passionate, quirky, cynical, serene, precise, or lyrical—to their writing. We strive not to be unitary but to reflect the diversity within Christ’s body.

We aspire to be voiced by the Gospel and do not see the site as a place for the showcasing of a given political approach or agenda. We anticipate that varied political outlooks will be represented here. We welcome them. While we recognize the importance of politics to our age, we also see it as yet another sphere that is underneath Jesus’ feet.

TYPES OF WRITING:

Gospelandculture.org will feature commentary, reviews, reporting and interviews. Reviews of art exhibits, film, television, books, architecture, web presences, design and about anything else that can be reviewed, are welcome. News reporting is also welcome; however, *gospelandculture.org* aspires to be an online community rather than a newsgathering organization. We hope to highlight voices that deserve to be heard, but who may not fit well into existing mainstream and religiously oriented media. We will publish on any topic, no matter how offbeat or specific, if the article's approach and the character of presentation merit publication.

APPROACHES TO WRITING:

Authors should assume that they are competing against a host of other voices to be heard by an audience with little time to listen. For this reason, it is important to write in a way that sells the piece up front so that readers will feel compelled to read to the end. Your first paragraph should present your piece in miniature. Convey why the topic and your approach to it really matter. Demonstrate why people should care what you think through your expert, lucid, engaging prose. Writers should strive for focus and concision.

LENGTH:

Although some pieces may run shorter or longer, we prefer that submitted pieces run between 1,000 and 2,500 words. We have a preference for pieces under 1,500 words. This is partly because readers on the Internet tend not to read longer pieces.

SOURCES:

Although no citation information will appear with articles, authors should provide full citation information (CHICAGO, MLA, APA or other mainstream citation styles) for any content in their pieces that is not their own. If you are unsure, err toward over-citing.

MANNER OF SUBMISSION:

Authors should send a query email before submitting pieces. Queries should be sent to queries@gospelandculture.org. In the email, please describe 1) the subject or question you plan to explore/expression you wish to review/person you wish to interview, 2) your approach to the subject/review and what would make it attractive/compelling reading for *gospelandculture.org* readers, and 3) how your background/experience/training equips you to treat the subject.

Please give us a brief idea of the nature of your proposed piece in the subject line of your email, for example: "PT Anderson review-essay" or "Joseph Henry Burnett at 60-interview," or "Obama, McCain and the Courtship of Evangelicals-commentary."

Editors at *gospelandculture.org* will respond via email as to whether we may be able to provide an audience for your work. Then please submit your essay as a Microsoft Word-formatted document attached to an email to submissions@gospelandculture.org. All writing should be in 12-point type in an easily readable typeface such as Times New Roman.

RIGHTS:

If a writer submits a piece published previously, he or she is solely responsible for obtaining permission to publish it on *gospelandculture.org*. Writers retain copyright for work published on *gospelandculture.org*.

ART:

It will be helpful if authors can also provide ideas for illustrating their work, either through photography or illustration. Authors are solely responsible for obtaining copyright permission for photographs, illustrations or other images they submit to accompany a piece. Authors submitting images with copyright should note the length of time for which copyright permission is in effect for display over the web.

PAYMENT:

Authors whose pieces are published will receive between \$100-\$200 per piece.

OTHER QUESTIONS:

Additional questions may be sent to queries@gospelandculture.org.

Thank you for your interest in gospelandculture.org.