



CHICAGOPEX 2026

Sixtieth Annual Philatelic Literature Exhibition

November 20–22, 2026, Itasca, Illinois

Literature Exhibition Prospectus

Chicagopex Literature Exhibition, PO Box 56, Rockford, IA 50468 <ChicagopexLiterature@gmail.com>

How we conduct our Literature Exhibition

About our exhibition

Our exhibition considers “philatelic literature” to be printed and electronic publications related to the collection and study of postage stamps and stationery, postal history, revenue stamps and stamped paper, cinderella stamps and associated specialized fields.

Our exhibition is conducted and judged according to the APS *Manual of Literature Judging and Exhibiting* dated August 2021 which is available free online at <[HTTPS://STAMPS.ORG/PORTALS/0/REVISEDLIT%20MANUAL61OLINKED.PDF](https://stamps.org/portals/0/REVISEDLIT%20MANUAL61OLINKED.PDF)>.

What can be exhibited

Philatelic literature is accepted for judging, whether in hard copy, via electronic media, or in combination, and in one of two categories – Open and Articles.

The Open category includes:

Philatelic books, compendiums, and handbooks. Release date should be within the 24 months prior to the show at which the competition is taking place.

Catalogs (both specialized and/or priced philatelic catalogs and auction catalog formats). Release date should be within the 18 months prior to the show at which the competition is taking place.

Philatelic society journals, periodicals (including philatelic study group bulletins). Release date should be within the 18 months prior to the show at which the competition is taking place, and a full year of the publication (not necessarily a calendar year) should be provided. (Club newsletters, websites, and show programs are not accepted.)

Monographs in excess of 8,000 words published within the 24 months prior to the show at which the competition is taking place. The monograph may have been published as a stand-alone publication or within a compendium or journal.

Websites, digital media, blogs, and message boards that either stand alone or are an adjunct to one of the above categories. Websites, blogs and message boards are evaluated as they appear prior to the show; normally a month or so before the show. Release date of digital media, should be within a year of the date of application. If your digital media contains any passwords, a temporary password must be supplied for the use of the jury. The number of websites accepted may be limited.

The Articles category includes:

Philatelic columns by a regular columnist in the philatelic or non-philatelic press that appear at least quarterly. Entries should consist of all four most recently published columns for quarterlies, all six most recently published columns for bimonthlies, at least eight of the last 12 columns for monthlies, or 20–25 representative columns for weeklies.

Individual articles or short series of articles on a single theme. Total words, excluding captions and notes, cannot exceed 8,000 words. Release date should be within the prior 24 months from the date of the show.

Limitations: Literature must be primarily in English or bilingual (English and another language. The English text will be judged). Literature in other languages cannot be fairly judged and, therefore, must be declined. A publication which has previously won a gold medal at CHICAGOPEX is not eligible. The most recent run of a periodical or a new edition of a handbook or catalog with significant changes in content is considered a new publication, and is, therefore, eligible.

The CHICAGOPEX Literature Exhibits Committee will decide whether an exhibit is accepted or rejected; no reason need be given for a rejection. Decisions of the CHICAGOPEX Literature Exhibits Committee are final. The Jury may disqualify an exhibit in accordance with the judging manual. All rules apply to all entries.

Who may enter

Entries may be made by individuals, societies, or commercial businesses. This may be authors, editors, publishers, sponsoring organizations, or webmasters. A separate application is required for each title entered. The exhibitor's signature on the Application constitutes acceptance of the rules stated in this Prospectus.

Fees and When to enter

The entry fee is \$30 per competitive entry. Payment should be a money order or a check in US funds drawn on a US bank, payable to the Chicago Philatelic Society. Exhibitors outside the U.S. may pay via PayPal; contact the literature exhibit chairman by email. The entry fee is waived for non-competitive entries. Entries including the completed and signed application must be received by September 19, 2026. Two physical copies of the publication (one copy if entry is non-competitive) should be received no later than September 26, 2026. Prospective exhibitors will be notified of acceptance as soon as possible. If an extension is required, please contact the Exhibit Chairman by email.

Due to increasing postage and customs regulations we cannot mail medals outside the United States or territories. Exhibitors outside of the US can provide a US mailing address or indicate someone to pickup the medal at the show on the entry form. Entry fees will be discounted \$5 if no medal is to be given. A certificate will be sent in lieu of the medal with the ribbon and written evaluation.

Where to send the entry

All inquiries, applications, fees and entries should be sent to Chicagopex Literature Exhibition, PO Box 56, Rockford, Iowa 50468-0056. Inquiries can be made via email to the Literature Exhibits Chairman at <ChicagopexLiterature@gmail.com>.

What to send

Entry form: Entry forms and fees. (US\$30; \$25 outside US and territories without medal)

The Literature: Two copies of the entry are required (one copy for non-competitive) in the same format provided to the public.

Synopsis: Authors and/or editors should email or mail 3 copies of a brief synopsis with the application (as is done with philatelic exhibits), stating the purpose and intent of the entry, to assist the jury in evaluating the entry. This is your opportunity to speak to the jury. Do not send other "supporting documents" such as critique sheets from previous shows as they will not be forwarded to the jury.

Photocopy of cover: All entries should email a color scan to the Literature Exhibit Chairman at <CHICAGOPEXLITERATURE@GMAIL.COM> of the cover of the book, the cover of one representative issue, or a color printout of the title page/screen of digital entries. In lieu of the scan, the exhibitor may mail a color photocopy on a letter-size sheet of paper to be displayed in an exhibit frame at the show.

Judging and awards

A panel of APS accredited literature judges will act as jury. Evaluations will be made according to the latest *APS Manual of Literature Judging and Exhibiting* of the APS Committee on the Accreditation of National Exhibitions and Judges. This may be found on the APS website <[HTTPS://STAMPS.ORG/PORTALS/0/REVISEDLIT%20MANUAL610LINKED.PDF](https://stamps.org/portals/0/REVISEDLIT%20MANUAL610LINKED.PDF)>. The decisions of the jury shall be final.

A Literature Grand Award, a Reserve Grand and an unlimited number of medals in eight levels will be available to the jury.

Awards will be announced at the Awards Presentation. The medal or certificate awarded and Palmares will be mailed to the exhibitor as noted on the application after the show. Only one medal is provided per entry regardless of the number of authors, editors, etc.

A jury feedback session will be held during the show. A written evaluation will be mailed to the exhibitor after the show; there will be no subsequent correspondence by the jury. Non-competitive entries will not receive a jury evaluation, ribbon or medal.

What happens to the literature entry

Upon submission, the literature entry automatically becomes the sole property of CHICAGOPEX, to be donated to a philatelic library, museum, or other organization at the close of the exhibition. The literature will be offered as a donation to the Collectors Club of Chicago, to the APRL, and then to other regional philatelic libraries, with preference being given to libraries that circulate their holdings.

The "Fine Print"

The exhibitor agrees to release and hold harmless the judges and the American Philatelic Society and Chicago Philatelic Society, their officers, directors, employees, and representatives from any damages, including but not limited to damages to the exhibitor's reputation or that of the exhibitor's exhibit, suffered or incurred as a result of the judging.

Due precautions will be taken to protect exhibits against loss or damage. No responsibility of any kind or character shall attach, however, to CHICAGOPEX, the Chicago Philatelic Society, the Westin Chicago Northwest, or to any of their officers, agents, members or employees, for any loss, damage or costs arising from any cause or reason whatsoever.

For information about attending the show go to <[HTTPS://WWW.CHICAGOPEX.ORG/CHICAGOPEXCURRENT.HTML](https://www.chicagopex.org/chicagopexcurrent.html)>.



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Literature Exhibition Application

Chicagopex Literature Exhibition, PO Box 56, Rockford, IA 50468-0056 <CHICAGOPEXLITERATURE@GMAIL.COM>

Exhibit Information

Title: _____

Creator(s): _____

This is the name that will appear in the show program, on the website, in the palmaries and on any awards. This can be the author, editor or the name of the publishing society or commercial publisher. Limited to one society or commercial name or three personal name.

Publisher(s): _____

This is NOT the printer. The publisher is the person or entity responsible for financing, distributing and promoting the work. This is normally the author (if self-published), a sponsoring society, or a commercial publisher.

Publication date: _____

Description: _____

This information will appear in the show program. Do not repeat the title, author or editor given above. Maximum of 25 words.

Category: Open Article

Choose one category as described in the prospectus.

Digital Password: _____

If any portion of your Digital Media entry is password protected, a temporary user name and password must be provided for use by the Jury.

Ordering and membership information

(Complete if publication is available for purchase or subscription. This will appear in the show program.)

Order from: _____

Full name of person or company or society.

Address: _____

Full mailing address

Email: _____

URL: _____

Periodicals: Yearly dues/subscription for printed copy to addresses in the USA: US \$ _____

Yearly dues/subscription for digital download copies: US \$ _____

Combined Print and Digital US \$ _____

Handbooks/catalogs: Retail price per copy for print copy US \$ _____

Postage/handling (leave blank if postage/handling is included): US \$ _____

Retail price per copy for digital download copy: US \$ _____

Payment Information

Payment should be in the form of a check in US funds drawn on a US bank.

All checks must be payable to the Chicago Philatelic Society.

Literature Exhibition Entry Free US \$ _____
\$30 for competitive entry (fee waived for non-competitive entry)
\$25 outside US, no medal.)

Please print or type. Page 1 of 2.
A separate entry form and fee is required for each publication entered.

Disposition of exhibit

After the close of the exhibition your entry will be donated to a Philatelic Library as determined by the Chicagopex. Indicate here if you have a preference for a particular philatelic library:

Entered by:

Name:

First and last name of person submitting this application. Awards will be sent only to this person at the address below.

Address:

Complete mailing address where all correspondence and awards will be sent.

Phone:

Email:

Awards

Medals, ribbons, and other awards will be mailed after the show to the person above. If the person entering the exhibit is in attendance they may pickup their awards. If anyone else is to be authorized to pickup the exhibit's award they must be listed here and sign indicating that they received the award.

Authorized person

Signature:

Signature and agreement to Exhibition Terms

I, the undersigned, have read the prospectus and terms for this exhibition. I certify that I am eligible to exhibit under the terms outlined herein. I further understand that no liability for loss or damage will attach to Chicagopex or any of its officers, directors, committee members, or representatives; or to the Westin Chicago Northwest hotel, or to any of their officers, agents, or employees. I agree that the decision of the judges is final and release and hold harmless the judges, the American Philatelic Society and its officers, directors, employees, and representatives; and Chicagopex and its officers, directors, committee members, or representatives from any damages, including but not limited to damages to my reputation or that of my exhibit, suffered or incurred as a result of the judging.

Signature:

Print Name:

Date:

Final checklist

- Make a copy of this form for your record.
- Mail this completed **form** to be received by the Exhibit Chairman before September 19, 2026.
- Mail a **check** for fees to Exhibit Chairman.
- Email or mail three copies of **synopsis** to Exhibit Chairman.
- Email a scan or mail a color **photocopy** of exhibit's cover or opening page to Exhibit Chairman.
- Mail two copies of exhibit (one if non-competitive) in the format provided to subscribers or purchasers.

Mailing address

Mail all forms, all payments and required entries to:
Kenneth Trettin, Chairman, Chicagopex Literature Exhibition

PO Box 56, Rockford, IA 50468-0056

email: ChicagopexLiterature@gmail.com

Checks MUST be made payable to the Chicago Philatelic Society

Please print or type. Page 2 of 2.
A separate entry form and fee is required for each publication entered.

For committee use

Entry form received: _____

Cover photocopy received: _____

Entry fee received: _____

Awards & critique mailed: _____

Synopsis received: _____

ENTRY NUMBER: _____

Entry literature received: _____