

## jGirls+ Editorial and Photography Fellowship Application

---

### General Information

You will be asked for contact information, as well as the contact information for one of your parents/guardians.

### Demographic Information

We ask a series of demographic questions because we are interested in understanding and supporting the identities of every participant. The questions are optional, and your answers will not have an impact on your application.

### AI Policy

Before you submit your application, you will be asked to confirm that you did not use generative AI to write any part of your application. (Tools such as spell check are acceptable.) We have instituted a ban on generative AI because we value creative expression and seek to amplify the voices of teens, not machines. Many generative AI tools, such as ChatGPT and others, were trained on text created by writers who did not explicitly consent to their creative work being used in this capacity. Additionally, these writers were not compensated for the use of their intellectual property. Practices such as these do not reflect our feminist values of consent and fair pay.

**We also ask that you draft your responses in a Google Doc before copying them over into the application form.** As you write, Google records the version history of the document, which makes it possible for others to see your drafting process. We will only ask you to share this Google Doc with us if we have questions about the authorship of your responses.

We are learning about this new technological frontier along with everyone else who works with writers, and this is the solution we have for now.

### Fellowship Track and Availability

You will be asked to confirm that you are available for the track(s) you selected. Please review the time commitments on the website prior to starting the application.

You will also be asked whether you are available for our two retreats, one over Labor Day Weekend, the other April 2-4, 2027. Financial need should not be a factor in responding to this question; travel subsidies are available.

## Availability

Below, you will have the opportunity to tell us about your other extracurricular activities and passions. We are not looking for applicants with the longest resume. Rather, we ask because we are building a diverse cohort of teens with a variety of interests. This includes teens who have worked on newspapers or literary magazines, as well as those who have not but are excited to potentially try something new.

1. Participation in this program is a serious time commitment. We want to be sure that your extra-curricular schedule will allow you to fully participate in our program. To this end, please list the activities you will be involved with August 2025 - May 2026.  
*If this is a semester-specific activity, please name when you are involved. If you know the time commitment (number of hours and/or schedule), please include this.*
2. Please tell us about any past extracurriculars, activities, or programs you would like to highlight for your application.

## About You

1. Have you applied to be an editor or photographer at jGirls+ Magazine before?
2. Have you submitted content to jGirls+ Magazine before?

Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability. We want to know about your skills, background, experiences, and why you are interested in producing an online Jewish, feminist literary magazine. If you are looking for a length guideline, most written answers will be 1-3 paragraphs.

We invite you to view these essay questions as an opportunity to share your voice, perspective, and personality with us, and we look forward to getting to know you through your answers!

3. How have your multiple, intersectional identities (including, but not limited to, your gender identity and Jewish background) informed your values? What is important to you, and why?
4. Why do you want to join the jGirls+ editorial board or staff photography department? What appeals to you about jGirls+? What do you hope to gain, and what do you hope to give?

*(Please note that being an editor is not a writing position! Editors read, discuss, analyze, edit, and select teen-created content for publication in jGirls+ Magazine. By uplifting the voices of other Jewish teens, they create community and shape how the world sees and listens to Jewish girls, young women, and nonbinary teens. Editors and photographers alike are encouraged to submit their own writing and artwork to the magazine, but this is not the focus of the program.)*

## Editor Application

1. **Editing:** Please choose one of the following pieces and reflect on whether the author successfully engaged you as a reader:

- [The Favorite Child by Tallulah Reiser - Fiction - jGirls+ Magazine](#) (Fiction)
- [A Letter to Student Journalists by Alex Levy - Nonfiction - jGirls+ Magazine](#) (Nonfiction, Opinion)
- [Directed By? by Abigail Chesman - Nonfiction - jGirls+ Magazine](#) (Nonfiction, Personal Essay)
- [Colors of the Flag by Aerin Levine - Poetry - jGirls+ Magazine](#) (Poetry, Timely Content)

We are interested in your analysis of *why* you think a piece works (or doesn't work) **beyond** whether you relate to it personally or simply do or do not like it. Consider how the author's creative choices elicited a particular reaction, reflect on how the piece might resonate with others, and describe what you would share with other editors in discussing this piece.

If you felt that the piece wasn't entirely successful, please suggest some edits to strengthen it. Be completely candid, as you would be in the edit room. (Your feedback will not be shared with the writer/artist of the piece.)

Please be sure to reference the title and author of the piece you have selected in your response.

2. **Getting to know our site:** We have included this question to give you an opportunity to explore the rich material on our website because if you are accepted, it will be your responsibility to curate the content. Please spend about 15 minutes exploring the content on our site. Choose one piece that resonates with you and tell us in no more than six sentences why this piece stood out for you.
3. **Please prepare to upload TWO pieces of creative material.** This will give us a sense of your creative style, what you are interested in, and how you express yourself. If you are also applying to be a photographer, you will have a separate opportunity to submit your photography portfolio below.

Your materials can include nonfiction (particularly personal essays or opinion pieces), fiction, poetry, cultural reviews, visual art (painting, photography, etc.), video, and/or music. All non-written work (photos, art, music) must also include an artist's statement. **Please be sure at least one of your creative supplements is written work.** Whether or not you wish your work to be considered for our website, you must submit something you can envision on our site.

## Photographer Application

1. Staff photographers are responsible for pairing photos with written work to appear on our site. We are interested in seeing how you would approach this creative task. Please read [this unpublished poem](#) and upload a photo you've taken that resonates with the poem's core themes.
2. **Getting to know our site:** We have included this question to give you an opportunity to explore the website because, if you are accepted, it will be your responsibility to decide the magazine's aesthetic through your photo pairing. Please spend about 15 minutes exploring the content on our site. Choose one piece of poetry, fiction, or nonfiction with a photo pairing you find particularly striking and effective. Tell us in no more than six sentences why this photo pairing stood out for you.

## Portfolio

We would like to get a sense of your creative style and learn more about how you approach photography. Please upload 3-6 photographs that best represent your work. **Photos must be a minimum of 1920x1080 in either JPG or PNG formats.** Please include an artist's statement for at least two of the photos.

## Editor and Photographer Application

1. If you would like your material(s) to be considered for publication, provide a 2-3 sentence bio in the third person outlining your year of graduation from high school, where you live, your interests, and something unique about you. (If you have already shared a bio with us, write "already submitted," or update if you prefer.) You can see bio examples accompanying the published content on our site.