KOK Edit News

Where Will the Next Generation of Copyeditors Come From?

You'll always need freelance copyeditors. But sometimes freelancers change professions, retire, or take full-time jobs, so you can't assume your favorites will always be around. Where will you find your future favorites, and where will they get their training?

Most U.S. copyeditors have degrees—in English literature, journalism, philosophy, the sciences, and so on—but they aren't really useful to you until they've had experience. Copyediting is still a craft best learned through a sort of apprenticeship.

KOK Edit wants to help ensure that the next generation of copyeditors has both depth and breadth of knowledge, so it acts as informal mentor to several new copyeditors throughout the year. What kinds of questions do these "students" ask?

- How do I break into the business?
- What reference books should I have on hand?
- Where do I find publishers who need copyeditors?
- Do I do fact-checking when I'm editing?
- Where can I get additional training?

Over the years, *KOK Edit* has gathered a list of resources for professional development and networking. Here are just a few:

- The Board of Editors in the Life Sciences offers certification for science editors: http://www.bels.org
- The University of the Sciences in Philadelphia offers a master of science degree in biomedical writing: http://www.usip.edu/graduate/Biomedical_Writing.htm
- The American Medical Writers Association offers certification courses in medical writing and editing: http://www.amwa.org/education/education.html
- The Editorial Freelancers Association offers many courses in various kinds of editing, computer skills, and business skills: http://www.the-efa.org

- Copyediting-L, an e-mail list for copyeditors, fosters discussions of the fine points of grammar and syntax: http://listserv.indiana.edu/cgi-bin/wa?SUBED1=copyediting-l&A=1
- Freelance, an e-mail list for self-employed freelancers in the publishing industry, fosters discussions about running one's own business: http://peach.ease.lsoft.com/archives/freelance.html
- This page describes many other e-mail lists for publishing professionals: http://www.westdesk.com/freelance/altlinks.html

This List's for You

Some of the more enjoyable projects *KOK Edit* handled for you in 2002:

- ***Access San Diego***, 3rd ed. (trade paperback; HarperCollins Publishers)
- ***Access Montreal & Quebec City***, 3rd ed. (trade paperback; HarperCollins Publishers)
- ***Access Philadelphia***, 5th ed. (trade paperback; HarperCollins Publishers)
- ***Access Seattle***, 5th ed. (trade paperback; HarperCollins Publishers)
- ***Assessing Cognitive, Emotional, and Behavioral Functioning Across the Continuum of Care*** (professional; Joint Commission Resources)
- ***Environment***, 3rd ed. (college textbook; John Wiley & Sons, via Hermitage Publishing Services)
- ***Gay Voices of the Harlem Renaissance*** (hardcover; Indiana University Press)
- ***The Madam*** (fiction, hardcover; Pocket Books)
- ***Personality Disorders Over Time**** (professional; American Psychiatric Publishing, Inc.)
- ***Put the Moose on the Table: Lessons in Leadership from a CEO's Journey through Business and Life*** (hardcover; Indiana University Press)

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*In progress.

Many thanks for your business. KOK Edit wouldn't exist without you!