



CONTRACT POSITION: Children's Book Author and Illustrator (copy)

INFORMATION

Department:	Education Language, Literacy, & Professional Development
Location of Work:	Virtual
Application Deadline:	Applications will be accepted and processed on a rolling basis until December 31, 2026.

OVERVIEW OF TASK/WORK

Sealaska Heritage Institute (SHI) is seeking individuals to write and illustrate a children's book that aligns with the goals and objectives of Baby Raven Reads and Sealaska Heritage Institute. As part of the Baby Raven Reads program, Sealaska Heritage publishes children's books based on cultural themes of the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian. Thirty-one books have been published through the program since 2016, from baby board books to early readers, including several titles in the Indigenous languages of the region- Lingít, Xaad Kíl and Sm'algıax. Stories and illustrations reflect the importance of family, subsistence, our cultural values, and our land. The books also help non-Native families about Alaska Native cultures and languages, place-based storytelling, and traditional oral literature. The author will work closely with SHI Staff throughout the development process including the planning, writing, editing and publication processes.

SCOPE OF WORK

1. Each stage of development will need review by SHI Education and Media Staff.
2. Follow a submission deadline schedule with drafts and revisions; continue this process until SHI is satisfied with all revisions.
3. Work alongside SHI Staff in the planning process; ongoing dialog between the writer, illustrator and SHI Staff.
4. Work to include and enhance targeted literary elements appropriate for children 0-5 years old.
5. Additional cultural protocols will be written into the text as deemed appropriate.
6. Complete a manuscript of a developmentally appropriate and culturally relevant children's book; finalized text will be 200-600 words.

7. Complete Illustrations of a developmentally appropriate and culturally relevant children's book; finalized page number with Cover included will be 22 to 36 pages.

8. Illustrator will work with the SHI Media staff to deliver desirable format, sizing and file type.

REQUIRED SKILLS

- Ability to write and/or illustrate engaging stories for children.
- Experienced storyteller.
- Strong knowledge of early childhood development.
- Strong cultural awareness and knowledge.
- Highly organized, self-motivated, and attentive to details.

PROJECT/CONTRACTOR TIMELINE

Drafts and revisions due following a predetermined schedule; final draft due May 30, 2026.

NECESSARY KNOWLEDGE & EXPERIENCE

- Knowledge of Alaska Native Culture and education.
- Background in writing and/or illustrating.
- Access to and knowledge of submission formatting requirements.

To Apply: Submit an interest form at this link: [Contractor Interest Form](#)

For this contract position, please make sure to include the following information in your application: a written proposal that documents why you are qualified to do the work, outline of your experience as it relates to this work, a portfolio of artwork, let us know when you are available for this work, a portfolio of writing samples, three references from others who have worked with you on projects like this.

If you have any questions regarding this contract position, please contact Molly Briggs, Program Manager - molly.briggs@sealaskaheritage.com

