



**INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE  
WRITERS IN RESIDENCE**

*Kindred Mom Spring 2019 Season*

**KINDREDMOM.COM**

## Welcome, Writers!

Thanks so much for your interest in becoming a Writer in Residence for Kindred Mom for our Spring 2019 season! At Kindred Mom, we value quality storytelling, encouragement for moms, and the opportunity to collaborate with writers as we serve moms. We developed our Writers in Residence program to provide a way to partner with talented writers who are passionate about our vision, and to serve our blog and podcast audiences with a variety of perspectives and voices. Simultaneously, we offer our Writers in Residence the benefits of collaboration with our editorial team and exposure to our platform. Our next residency will run from February to April 2019.

## Vision & Mission

Kindred Mom is a gracious online community dedicated to helping moms flourish in motherhood. We believe motherhood is a sacred and beautiful journey of discovery and are committed to holding space for moms who desire connection, guidance, encouragement, and truth as they raise their children.

On our collaborative blog and podcast, we feature essays and interviews that capture authentic mothering experiences from a variety of women. We seek to provide encouragement and resources to help moms feel less alone as they nurture themselves and their families.

### **This opportunity is ideal for a writer who:**

- Has a passion to support moms at their points of need with messages of grace, truth, and encouragement
- Is eager to contribute to the Kindred Mom community through the blog, podcast, and social media channels (including Instagram and our Facebook group)
- Has an established platform (large or small)
- Has a product/service/podcast/book/blog of professional quality to additionally offer to our audience that fits with our mission
- Is able to write about motherhood in a way that is God-honoring and grounded in the grace of Jesus Christ, but will still appeal to readers from diverse backgrounds
- Have a clear and unique angle/perspective about motherhood from which she writes
- Shares relatable stories laced with humility, vulnerability, wisdom, and solidarity over expertise
- Is a talented writer who is committed to excellence and enjoys collaborating with others on editing and development

**APPLICATIONS DUE: NOVEMBER 1, 2018**

**LINK TO ONLINE APPLICATION FORM: <https://www.kindredmom.com/residentwriters/>**

## Responsibilities and Benefits for Kindred Mom Writers in Residence

Because we deeply value the collaborative process as we prepare content for our readers and listeners, we establish a close working relationship with those who serve as Writers in Residence. We recognize the personal investment each writer makes to this endeavor and do everything we can to make the residency experience positive, encouraging, and mutually beneficial. As you step into this role, there are some specific things we ask of you, and specific things you can expect from us.

### As a Writer in Residence, you agree to:

- Participate in shaping the message of our Spring 2019 series topics by writing one essay for each of the three months (We require one of those essays to be submitted as part of this application. The other two are due at specific times as we prepare for the upcoming series. the monthly topic takes shape. See below for more details.)
- Participate in a collaborative capacity with the existing core Kindred Mom team on any tasks related to the series topics & promotion, including actively promoting Kindred Mom content to your social channels throughout your residency
- Appear as a featured guest or group discussion panelist on the Kindred Mom podcast, as requested by our team, during the residency (typically 2 appearances, but possibly more if needed)
- Be in regular communication with the team on our behind-the-scenes administrative channels; completing your essays in a timely fashion; and offering your wisdom, encouragement, and insight to the readers and listeners of Kindred Mom

### Kindred Mom agrees to:

- Feature your thoughtful writing in each of our spring series
- Promote your Kindred Mom essays and podcast appearances to our platform and audience (including social media, newsletter subscribers, private Facebook group, etc.)
- Strategically promote one of your own personal projects (blog, book, podcast, etc.) throughout your residency to our platform and audience
- Offer you the support and encouragement of a team dedicated to helping you and your audience grow
- Work collaboratively with you and our editorial team to bring out the best in your essays
- Include you as a valued member of our team for the duration of your residency

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## Application and Selection Process

Before applying, please familiarize yourself with our vision, mission, and content. It would behoove you to read through recent posts on our blog to ensure your writing is a good fit for our community.

### The application has 3 primary components:

- **Short-answer questions:** To apply, you will answer some simple questions and provide links to your writing and social media around the web. Please feel free to write as much or as little as you like for these responses; we want to get a sense of your writing style, the perspective from which you write, and your heart for motherhood.
- **Essay submission:** Select one of the three spring series topics (see below for more details) and write an essay for consideration. This essay must be original and not previously published elsewhere, including on your own blog. This essay submission will be heavily considered as we select candidates, so please edit thoroughly and put your best foot forward! See below for additional writing guidelines.
- **Essay pitches:** You will be asked to pitch 2 additional essay ideas, one for each of the other series topics. Pitches should be 1-2 paragraph summaries for each of the pieces you would intend to write during your residency. These will be used to determine what you have to offer pertaining to those topics. These pitches are flexible, and you are welcome to adjust your final essay contribution for the two remaining topics if you are selected for the WIR program. We're looking for compelling, specific, and unique ideas!

## Timeline and Additional Deadlines

Candidates who make our short list will be asked to complete a video interview with members of our editorial team. These interviews will take place between November 15-20.

Selections will be made by the end of November, and *all* applicants will receive a response from us by December 1st.

For candidates invited to become our Spring Writers in Residence, we ask that the remaining essays (the ones detailed in your essay pitches) be submitted to the editorial team by January 1st, and February 1st, respectively. Recording for the spring podcast episodes that include Writers in Residence will take place primarily during the month of January, with some additional recording possibly done in early February, if needed.

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## Topics Overview

For the spring season, we are planning a robust and wide-reaching “Healthy Mom” series that covers, by month, the mind, body, and soul. For your application, you will think through 3 potential essays, one per topic. One essay will be developed fully for your application and 2 ideas will be presented as brief pitches.

February content will explore how moms can pursue a **Healthy Mind**. Sub-topics under this umbrella may include (but are not limited to):

- Mental health, ranging from everyday considerations to diagnosed conditions, thoughts on seeking support or supporting others
- Navigating negative emotions as a mother (anxiety, fear, anger, etc)
- Learning and intellectual pursuits while mothering
- feeling a sense of purpose as a mom
- Cultivating emotional intelligence in ourselves and our children
- Memories and what we allow to dominate our thoughts

March content will explore what it means for a mom to have a **Healthy Body**. Sub-topics under this umbrella may include (but are not limited to):

- Body image, body positivity, insecurity, and body-related shame
- Health and fitness
- The impact of family rhythms and choices on physical health
- Embracing our postpartum bodies
- What it means to be truly nourished and well
- General health and healing (Sleep, hydration, disease, or trauma)
- Sexual health and how motherhood impacts marriage

April content will explore how a mom can cultivate a **Healthy Soul**. Sub-topics under this umbrella may include (but are not limited to):

- Caring for your soul as a busy mom
- Christian faith & spirituality
- Discipling and growing kids in faith
- Creativity and inspiration: what brings joy?
- Healthy community, relationships, and the support of a village

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## Guidelines for Application Essay

We value thoughtful and skillful storytelling with a unique writing voice, practical insights, and wisdom for moms offered from a place of solidarity and grace. We strive to offer encouragement and guidance to moms who are navigating the challenges and joys of motherhood. The application essay should be an original piece not published elsewhere, including on your own blog.

The strongest submissions are typically vulnerable, full of rich details, focused, and drive home a single central idea for the mama who might resonate with your story. We are a Christ-honoring community, and also acknowledge that women in our midst are from diverse faith and geographical backgrounds. We will decline any submitted content that does not honor the dignity and beauty of all women, and we prefer that any faith-centered essays exhibit a clearly humble tone. We welcome Biblical truth and devotional thoughts, provided that the writing honors the diversity of our readership and various expressions of Christian faith.

The application essay and other essays written during your Writer in Residence term are subject to our editorial process. We reserve the right to edit for spelling, punctuation, grammar, and clarity at any time prior to publication. If more significant edits are required, we will communicate directly with you to accomplish updates to the essay in a collaborative manner.

Essays should be between 600-1200 words, but we are more concerned with strong writing than a firm word count.

If you are ultimately not selected as a Writer in Residence but your essay would still be a good fit for our community, we may still offer publication of the essay during the series for which it was intended. Otherwise, the essay you've written will be released and you can submit it to be featured elsewhere.

Thank you for applying! We look forward to reading your application.

Any additional questions can be directed to [hello@kindredmom.com](mailto:hello@kindredmom.com).

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