



224 North Broadway  
 Billings, Montana 59101  
 (406) 354-1133  
 thishouseofbooks.com

## FACT SHEET FOR

# PUBLISHED AUTHORS

BILLINGS BOOKSTORE COOPERATIVE

Our co-op has a very simple mission: Build an independent bookstore in downtown Billings and turn it into a literary and cultural hub for the city. Using the cooperative model means that we give book lovers a chance to own a piece of the store and participate in its success. We have a great team heading up the effort:

- Carrie La Seur, *Board President*
- Precious McKenzie, *Vice President*
- Nina Hernandez, *Treasurer*
- Jacyn Laferriere, *Secretary*
- Julie Linderman, *Board Member*
- Gustavo Belotta, *General Manager*

One of the things that makes This House of Books unique is the number of member-owners who are authors. Our bookstore run by people involved in all aspects of the book business, and we're hoping that you'll join us. Once you purchase stock, you are a member-owner of the cooperative!

Located in the heart of downtown Billings, This House of Books is convenient to the Billings Public Library, the colleges, the Alberta Bair Theater, and other literary and artistic destinations.

### *Benefits*

Why this is a good investment for you as an author? Our decisions about what books to carry are not made according to a formula based on best-seller lists. Instead, we want to present authors at all levels, including regional authors who may be under-represented in the national market. We work to help our author-members be successful. Your investment is important because you make possible the continuing success of a basic cultural institution in our region, an independent bookstore. Your stock purchase is an investment in the culture that allows you to thrive as an author. As long as your books are available to us at a standard trade discount through our wholesalers, or direct from you, we will highlight them both in the store and on the store's website. You will have an author page on our website with your photograph and biography, and links to your books. Also, you will be eligible to sponsor other events at the bookstore.

### *Support Levels*

- **Caldecott level** (\$100): You receive one common share and become a full voting member of the co-op. You will get 5% off of all purchases at the bookstore and tea shop.
- **Newbery level** (\$600): With one common share and one preferred share you receive all the benefits of a Caldecott member, plus you are eligible for dividends. Moreover, when you release a new book that meets our requirements, we will interview you on the store's podcast, *With a Cup of Tea*, and post the interview on our YouTube channel.
- **Pulitzer level** (\$1,000 to \$9,900): All the benefits of a Newbery member, plus your discount increases to 10%. With multiple preferred shares, your dividends will increase as well!
- **Nobel level** (\$10,000 or more): All the benefits of a Pulitzer member, plus 15% off of all purchases and increased dividends.

Whether you choose to buy a \$100 Common share or make a larger investment, every co-op member is valuable to us. We appreciate your interest in being a part of this unique cooperative project!

**Common shares** are \$100. Every member must purchase exactly one (1) common share, which entitles you to vote for members of the Board of Directors and any other issues that are put to a vote at the Annual Meeting or Special Meetings.

**Preferred shares**, which are non-voting shares, are \$500 each, and entitle the shareholder to any dividends that the Board may issue once the co-op becomes profitable. Only 1,000 preferred shares are issued, to prevent excessive dilution of value.