

# PURSUE

m a g a z i n e

Below is the writing guidelines for the **blog portion** of PURSUE Magazine. If you're interested in writing for our digital issues, please see its designated writing guidelines.

## **About the Magazine**

PURSUE is an online magazine that encourages and inspires girls to make the most of their youth by pursuing God, tapping into who He has created them to be, embracing their uniqueness, and learning to how to sustain health. It is a general interest and Christian-based magazine that covers topics in life, encouragement & motivation, inspiration, arts & creativity, and beauty & fashion.

PURSUE has been regularly posting content on our blog since our launch in March 2016. We will begin to publish and sell digital magazine issues bi-yearly beginning April 2017.

## **Mission Statement**

PURSUE is an online magazine that encourages and inspires girls to make the most of their youth by pursuing God, tapping into who He has created them to be, embracing their uniqueness, and learning to how to sustain health.

## About the Blog Posts

PURSUE Magazine is divided into these departments: Life, Entertainment, Encouragement & Motivation, Inspiration, Arts & Creativity, and Beauty & Fashion. We will occasionally feature a new teen, young adult, or role model in the department, #PursueSpotlight.

We are looking for blog posts and interviews that offer a perspective in these areas that are clean, positive, inspiring, and align with our mission statement. The writer may draw from their personal experience using first person tense when doing so.

The posts should be written in an easy-to-read format for the busy teen on the go, spoken in a conversational, intimate, relaxed, and teen-friendly tone. (Please see Rules & Guidelines.)

## Pitching a Blog Column

As of March 2017, if you do not see a column below that you would like to be a regular contributor for then you're welcome to pitch a new column idea.

In the body of your email include, please include your responses to the following:

- What department will your column fall under? (example: entertainment)
- How will your column support the mission statement of PURSUE?
- Give a list of 1 – 3 potential column titles.
- Please include potential blog post ideas for this column.
- Are you willing to commit to a monthly column and help to spread word about your column?
- Do you have any former writing experience/qualifications?

In the subject line of your email include: BLOG COLUMN QUERY. Send your query to: [submissions@pursuemagazine.net](mailto:submissions@pursuemagazine.net).

## Departments & Columns

## **Department - Life**

**\*\* The columns marked as TAKEN have been filled. It is, however, still available for guest posts.**

Columns:

**Everyday Issues:** This category covers issues teens experience on a daily basis, such as: bullying, anorexia, cutting, etc. These articles will help teens feel less alone in their hardships and help them deal with these issues in a positive manner. We encourage you to draw from your personal experience with these issues as well.

**TAKEN -- Relationships:** What should teens look for in a friend? A boyfriend? How can they become a better role model for their younger siblings? The topics covered in this category will motivate teens to strive in their friendships, draw closer to their family members, and maintain a healthy relationship with their boyfriend (or instruct them on how to embrace singleness and wait for their future husband).

**TAKEN -- College & Career:** The articles in this category will help teens discover their gifts and talents, encourage them to make the most of their youth by preparing for their future, all the while equipping them to make the best decisions concerning their future.

## **Department - Entertainment**

Columns:

**TAKEN -- Books:** We are searching for articles that will review YA fiction and non-fiction for teens, as well as interviews with authors.

**TAKEN -- Films:** We are searching for contributors to review clean films that will appeal to teens. We will accept interviews with actors, actresses, producers, etc. as well.

**TAKEN -- Music:** These articles will feature and review clean music that will appeal to teens. We will accept interviews with musicians as well.

**Role Models:** This category will highlight the positivity in Hollywood. What celebs are making a difference? Who could you feature that might serve as a role model for teens?

## **Department - Encouragement & Motivation**

Columns:

**TAKEN -- Embrace your uniqueness:** Teens are constantly faced with media that influences a negative mindset. This causes them to ask questions such as: Who am I? How can I fit in? Where do I belong? This category will feature articles that remind teens that they have a unique purpose in life. We will challenge teens to embrace who they are, all the while helping them to focus on their positive qualities and strengths, which will give them the freedom to pursue their unique path.

**TAKEN -- Tap into your potential:** How are teens supposed to know what passion they should pursue? How can they discover what they're good at? In this category, we will feature articles that encourage teens to spend less time on social media and more time uncovering and developing their gifts and talents.

**TAKEN -- Pursue the impossible:** Should teens try to pursue their dreams? Or should they earn a degree that will land them a guaranteed financially-stable job? In this category, we will cover topics on productivity, facing rejection, how teens can prepare for their future career, and motivating them to never give up on following their passions and strengths.

## **Department - Inspiration**

Columns:

**TAKEN -- Faith:** How can teens remain a Christian in high school? The articles in this category will challenge teens to grow closer to Christ, show them how much He loves them, and instruct them on how they can live the life He has prepared for them.

**TAKEN -- Living with a positive mindset:** The news today doesn't leave teens with many reasons to feel hopeful about their future. Add to that problems at school, family issues, heartbreak, bullying, etc. In this category, we will help teens maintain a healthy mindset. We will teach them how a positive outlook affects our mood, and cover positive and inspiring stories in our culture today.

**TAKEN -- Making a difference:** How can teens make a difference on their school, community, and in their home? The articles in this category will encourage teens to make an impact for good by getting involved with charity organizations, help their parents around the house, be a good role model to their younger siblings, take up for bullying victims, etc.

**TAKEN -- Staying healthy:** In this category, we will encourage teens to pursue health by giving them tips and tricks that will motivate them to take care of their bodies and show them that doing so can actually be fun. Articles we will feature in this category may include healthy recipes, how they can make meals that are tasty yet cost-effective, fun exercise ideas to do with friends, benefits of certain health foods, dangers of certain foods, treating your body with care as a teen can influence your future health and life span, etc.

## **Department - Arts & Creativity**

Columns:

**TAKEN -- DIY & Crafts:** This category will feature unique DIY. What are teens interested in, and how will your DIY help them? We are looking for articles that feature DIY tutorials on makeup/hair/clothes, bedroom décor, school supplies, blogs, art, etc.

**Photography:** The articles in this category will help aspiring teen photographers by giving them tips and advice, showing them the ropes on how to start a photography business, giving an “inside look” at a photographer’s career, various job opportunities available for photographers, how they can study the craft and prepare for their future career as a photographer, etc.

**Music:** The articles in this category will help aspiring teen musicians by giving them tips and advice, showing them the ropes on how to become a musician, giving an “inside look” at a musician’s career, various job opportunities available for musicians, how they can study the craft and prepare for their future career as a musician, etc.

**TAKEN -- Writing:** The articles in this category will help aspiring teen authors by giving them tips and advice, showing them the ropes on how to become a author, giving an “inside look” at an author’s career, various job opportunities available for writers, how they can study the craft and prepare for their future career as a writer, etc.

## **Department - Beauty & Fashion**

Columns:

**Make up:** Our goal at PURSUE is to focus on each teen's unique characteristics and strengths. This principal applies to our make up section as well. Rather than featuring articles that influence a low self-esteem, this category will publish tips on how to apply make-up that highlights their features, all the while reminding them that true beauty comes from within.

**TAKEN -- Fashion:** Our goal at PURSUE is to focus on each teen's unique characteristics and strengths. This principal applies to our fashion section as well. Rather than featuring articles that influence a low self-esteem, this category will publish tips on how to keep up with the fashion trends, all the while staying true to yourself in your unique style. We will feature articles on how teens can express themselves through their clothing, how they can find inexpensive yet trendy clothes, outfit tutorials, etc.

**TAKEN -- Maintaining a healthy self-image:** Almost every teen struggles with a negative self-image at one point or another—and the media we're exposed to 24/7 certainly doesn't help. Rather than teaching teens how they can "get the body they've always longed for", instead we will show teens how every body type is beautiful. We will feature articles that encourage teens to focus on the good attributes of their appearance, how they can maintain a healthy self-image by focusing on their positive attributes, the habits they should avoid that could lead to a negative self-image, etc.

## **Pursue Spotlight**

We are searching for people who can help us search for teens/young adults/role models ages 15 – 21 who are using their gifts and talents to achieve their dreams, and/or are making a difference on the culture around them.

## **Regular Blog Contributor/Columnist Duties**

- Submit one post per month (due the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month)

- Share posts published by PURSUE via social media
- Contributors may be given specific post topic ideas or assignments
- Contributors will be given permission to access the PURSUE Staff private Facebook page
- Interact with readers within the comments of your articles
- Frequently comment on other posts published on PURSUE
- If your post contains info from outside sources please cite the accurate source(s)
- If you use scripture(s) within your text please cite using the correct translation
- Consider submitting articles to our digital issues

## Rules & Guidelines

PURSUE is a magazine for girls ages 13 – 21 and is founded on Biblical principals. Because of that, we will only consider publishing articles that do not go against Christian standards.

If you would prefer not to have the commitment of a regular columnist then you may submit a guest post for a column instead.

- You must be 16 or older to submit.
- The articles of PURSUE should remain conversational and written in a teen-friendly tone. The articles should be written in an easy-to-read format for the busy teen on the go, spoken in a conversational, intimate, relaxed, and teen-friendly tone.
- The post must not have been published elsewhere.
- PURSUE is a magazine founded on Biblical principals. For that reason, please clear your manuscript of foul language, nudity, or anything that may go against Christian principles.
- To prevent your article from coming across as preachy, please use the words “we”, “I,” and “us” rather than “you”.
- The writer may draw on their personal experience, using first person tense when doing so.
- You may include audio or video within the body of your text.
- Please only submit a post in the column you would be interested in contributing in each month.
- Posts should be between 300 – 800 words. (If your piece is longer, you may break it down into two separate posts as a part of a series.) #PursueSpotlight submissions, however, may not exceed 1000 words.
- Please try to follow the SEO guidelines. [Click here to learn more.](#)

- By submitting, you are giving us permission to edit your article for grammar, punctuation, and style if necessary.
- If your article contains info from outside sources please cite the accurate source(s).
- If you use scripture(s) within your text please cite using the correct translation.

## Prepare For Submission

Please see the Article Rules & Guidelines above before you submit.

### Format your manuscript:

- 12 pt font
- Times New Roman
- Single spaced
- Left alignment
- 1" margins
- Block format. (One line between each paragraph; no paragraph indentions.)
- In the top left corner of your document, please include your author name, title of the column you are submitting, email address, website/blog (if applicable), and age (if 25 or younger).
- Bold and center your post title at the top of your post.
- Beneath the headline, please include the image for your post and a link to the image source below (optional). (We do not publish copyrighted material. For images that have a Creative Commons license and are free to use, search for pictures on Unsplash.com, Pixabay.com, and Pexels.com.) You are *not* required to provide an image.
- Save your document as a .doc or .docx file *only*.

### How to submit:

- Please submit your post as an attachment (.doc or .docx file only).
- In the body of your email, please include:
  - The column you are submitting to and its designated department. (For instance: "Makeup in the Beauty department.")
  - State if you are submitting your post a guest writer or a regular columnist.
  - State any previous writing qualifications or experience.



- State whether or not you would be interested in writing column articles for our digital issues.
- Send the completed post to [submissions@pursuemagazine.net](mailto:submissions@pursuemagazine.net). Include the words "EDITORIAL SUBMISSIONS" in the subject line.

## **What to Expect After Submission**

If your writing meets our requirements, a member of staff will be in touch with you soon. Please allow up to three weeks for a response. If you have not heard back from us within this period, please assume we will not be able to use your idea or submission at this time. Feel free to re-submit another post after two months.

We are currently unable to offer compensation for our writers, however this is subject to change.

All columnists and featured writers will receive byline space in which they are free to link back to their website/blog and social media accounts.