

Statement of Publishing Ethics

The editor and editorial board of *Western American Literature* are committed to the following:

- We will make our best efforts to ensure that our peer-review processes and editorial decisions are fair and unbiased, and that manuscripts are judged solely on their merits by individuals with appropriate levels of expertise in the subject area.
- We have the right to reject a manuscript at any point in the process if, after an unbiased evaluation, it is the opinion of the editor(s) it does not align with the journal's mission or editorial policies or would be in conflict with the journal's legal requirements.
- We will treat submitted manuscripts as confidential documents and will not discuss them or share information about them with anyone outside the editorial staff, editorial board, potential reviewers, or the publisher.
- We expect transparency on the part of editors and reviewers regarding potential conflicts of interest and will assign manuscripts to individuals who are not expected to have such conflicts.
- We expect authors to help us uphold our ethical standards by
 - submitting only original works;
 - respecting the intellectual property rights of others;
 - adhering to the journal's policies regarding simultaneous submissions;
 - acknowledging sources;
 - appropriately crediting all authors, other research participants, and funding sources;
 - disclosing any potential conflicts of interest; and
 - notifying the editors and/or publisher of any significant errors discovered after submission or publication.
- We will promptly investigate any credible allegation of unethical or illegal practices related to an article we have published. When warranted, we will issue corrections, retractions, and/or apologies, working with the author(s) as appropriate to find the best resolution.
- Concerns may be reported to the editor or publisher. Contact information may be found on the website of the Western Literature Association: www.westernlit.org