WRITERS AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
A Guide to Your Rights and Responsibilities

What is artificial intelligence?

Coined in the 1950s by a group of computer science researchers meeting at Dartmouth, the term "Artificial Intelligence" covers a broad category of techniques for getting computers to "use language, form abstractions and concepts, solve kinds of problems now reserved for humans, and improve themselves." Recent innovations have given rise to what's known as Generative AI: programs like ChatGPT and Sora built from vast amounts of training data and run on massive data centers to generate material like text, audio or video.

You have rights under the MBA!

The 2023 MBA established regulations for the use of AI on MBA-covered projects. When a writer is working under the MBA, no company may force a writer to use AI; a writer can use AI if they want to and if the company also signs off on the use. Companies may have different policies around AI use in connection with MBA-covered work including policies around loading material you are writing for them into external AI models; best practice is to check with your employer. Employers also must disclose if they are providing a writer with AI-generated material, including AI-generated notes.

[Learn more about the Guild's contract language and advocacy work regarding the use of AI.](#)

What to Know About Using AI

If you are using certain common, consumer-facing Generative AI models for text (ChatGPT, Claude and Gemini), audio (Udio, Suno), image (DALL-E) or video generation (Veo and Sora), keep these potential issues in mind:

- **These models are often built on top of pirated work that impacts authors, actors, artists, and all creatives.** There are currently many copyright lawsuits working their way through the court system to adjudicate the legal issues surrounding this. Because AI models have been trained on copyrighted material, they can also be prone to generating outputs that contain infringing material.

- **The terms of use may allow the model to be trained on any inputs—including your work.** In other words, if you are using a publicly available version of these AI tools, the prompts you type in, and any script or literary material you upload, may become part of the underlying model's training data.

- **Generative AI programs like large language models (LLMs) do not "know" anything, and are prone to mistakes or providing answers that have no basis in reality.** This is sometimes referred to as "hallucinations," though "generating errors" or "nonsense" are more accurate terms that do not anthropomorphize Generative AI. Many AI models also have a known tendency towards sycophancy; the companies building popular chatbots engineer them to mimic human attributes and keep users engaged. These systems have analyzed the specific order of words in sentences and the context of those

words; their outputs are statistically-plausible answers based on this training data. They do not understand the ideas conveyed by these sentences. Thus, it is important not to take outputs from LLMs at face value. According to OpenAI itself, GPT 5 has a 10% "hallucination" rate when given web access. [Without web access, that rate is 47%](). Users should always check any model's output for factuality, confirm its references, and do further research to validate its outputs.

The Authors Guild has also published [information for writers on Generative AI]() that WGAW members might find informative.

Artificial Intelligence is one the most hotly discussed topics today, and the WGAW is actively engaging with, debating and examining the issues it raises for writers, including advocating for AI policy and legislation that supports writers' interests, like requiring transparency from AI developers around copyrighted works used to train AI models. [Read more about WGAW's work on this issue]().