



# Ramp Your Voice!

## Call for Submissions for a New Anthology for People with Disabilities!!

Exploring the disability experience in literature has been neglected. This underrepresentation has prevented the largest minority group in America and globally from redefining what disability is, and sharing their stories. This oversight is also the cause for the misrepresentation of the disability experience in literature. The stereotypical, flat character portrayals of the disabled is worse than not being represented at all.

### Extinguishing the Literary Gap: the #IAmAble! Anthology, Vol. 1

Vilissa Thompson, LMSW, the Founder & CEO of Ramp Your Voice!, and proud disabled womanist, seeks to change this predicament by developing the #IAmAble! Anthology, Vol. 1: Focus on My disABILITY & Personhood.

The anthology aims to eliminate the invisibility of the disability experience in literature by affording disability advocates and allies the opportunity to share compelling, empowering personal narratives, reflections, dialogue, and creative pieces regarding who they are, and how they desire to be defined.

### Submissions & Contributing Details:

Send your submissions by **12/31/2015** to:  
**AnthSubmit@rampyourvoice.com**  
or  
**Ramp Your Voice!, P.O. Box 1286,  
Winnsboro, SC 29180**

Please include a little about yourself so that your submission can be contextualized, as well as how you would like to be credited. Each submission published will feature the name of the contributor or be listed as anonymous.

Submissions will be edited for format, but not content.

#### For written responses:

Submissions can be short, about 2-5 pages, though more or less is acceptable.

#### For paintings:

Art canvases must not exceed 8 x 10 inches in size so that they can be photographed and/or scanned.

#### For sketches:

Must be on drawing/sketching paper so that they can be scanned.

Sadly, not all submissions will make it to the final iteration of the anthology. All contributors published will receive a free copy of the book. Everyone is also encouraged to help promote the book.

Vilissa plans to establish a crowdfunding campaign to rally supporters (like you!) to assist in covering the costs involved in editing, publishing, and promotion. The goal is for the anthology to be published in printed form as a hardcover book, and be made available for purchase online where books are sold (Amazon, etc.).

All profits will be used to expand this project into a second volume, and support the disability advocacy work of Ramp Your Voice!

### Themes for the #IAmAble! Anthology, Vol. 1

Here is a list of suggestions — though you are not limited to these:

- Personal accounts of living with a visible or invisible disability
- Respect my truth: See the person beyond the disability
- What I want to be called: The issue with person-first language
- Raising a child with a disability: Parents' corner
- What I've learned from serving those with disabilities: Helping professionals speak out
- To parent or not parent: Family planning with a disability
- Let's talk about sex & disability
- Ableism: Fighting against ignorance
- The effects of discrimination & pursuing one's goals/dreams
- Segregation within the disability community based on level of functioning
- Where are the minorities with disabilities?: Racism & invisibility is real
- Juggling multiple identities: being of color, LGBTQ, female, and/or disabled

#### Be Creative!

You may express yourself through creative mediums such as essays, written songs, poetry, short stories, and artwork (paintings & sketches).

*Please note that all submissions received will become the property of Ramp Your Voice! Ramp Your Voice! reserves the right to use your submissions in the promotion, marketing, and sales of the anthology, as well as in future blog articles and interviews advertising the anthology. Contributors whose submissions are printed/showcased in the anthology must give Ramp Your Voice! credit in any reprintings, showings, photographs, etc., on other websites, books, and outlets/media.*