

PUBLISHING CONTRACT:

UPDATED AUGUST 14, 2026

The Editor/Author of this collection, Melissa F. Kaelin (also known as Melissa Priebe), reserves the right to publish in print a selection of one photograph from the entries submitted by you, the Photographer, in the Shape of the Sky Book Project, inside the book that will be titled “A Celestial Dance: Northern Lights Over Michigan” or similar.

By signing this contract, you agree that you hold the rights to publish this piece, and you agree that the photographs you submitted are your original work and photography.

By signing this contract, you agree to grant First Publication Rights to the Editor/Author, allowing her to publish your photograph in this book, after which all rights to the photograph return to you.

By signing this contract, you certify that you are of legal age (18 or older) or that a parent/guardian can sign the agreement on your behalf.

By submitting the form and/or signing/typing your name in the signature field below and/or emailing this form, you agree to this contract in accordance with the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act.

1) AGREEMENT – This agreement between the undersigned photographer (hereafter “Photographer”) and the undersigned editor/client, (hereafter “Editor”) governs the assignment described in the accompanying compensation, publication, and along with these Terms & Conditions, constitutes the entire agreement between the parties concerning that assignment.

2) COPYRIGHT – The Editor reserves First Publication Rights. The Editor reserves one-time rights (and limited electronic rights) for the publication of the photograph created by the Photographer in the printed edition, as well as distribution of the book in the form of limited digital formats, and other options that may be available for the book’s distribution. Upon publication of the photograph, all rights and full ownership of the photograph revert back to the Photographer.

3) AUTHORSHIP CREDIT – A credit in the name of the Photographer will be published inside the book with additional details submitted by the Photographer. The Editor seeks to share attribution as clearly as possible. Additional photography credit shall accompany his/her photos whenever practical.

4) PUBLICITY – The Editor may submit the book cover and other promotional materials to external organizations for upcoming programs, events, and other types of promotion, especially related to book release parties and book launch events, where we can feature your work. The images, particularly the cover images, may appear as part of the larger collection on social media, websites, or other platforms to promote book sales, event attendance and other types of engagement.

5) COMPENSATION – This contract describes a voluntary submission of photography that is made available at no cost to the Photographer and made available at no monetary cost to the Editor.

As a thank you to contributing photographers, the Editor shall make payment in the form of one digital copy or PDF of the book which will be made available for download online.

6) REVENUE – Revenue and royalties from the sales of the book will be paid to the Editor, and the Editor will assume any costs related to the original publication of the book, except in the instance of sponsors or supporters who help cover the costs of the project. The Editor may seek additional ways to promote and show gratitude to the Photographer.

7) TIMING – The book including all inside page photographs and the book cover photograph will be published in 2027, and the image will remain in use for the lifetime of the book in printed and limited electronic formats. The project will be completed no later than December 31, 2027, or the rights of the photograph revert back to the Photographer.

Thank you for your wonderful contribution to this project!

Accepted by:

PRINTED LEGAL NAME: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

EMAIL/PHONE: _____

DATE: _____

OTHER NAME USED, IF APPLICABLE: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE, IF UNDER 18: _____