

Call for Pitches: commissioned essays and poems

My resilience looks like this...

(Stories of reproductive justice, resistance and persistence from across the globe)

Are you a creative storyteller who believes in reproductive justice and bodily autonomy for all?

Have you lived through moments of deep challenge and perseverance in the fight for sexual and reproductive rights—whether through activism, art, organizing, advocacy, or personal experience?

Do you believe in storytelling as a force for sparking hope and sustaining movements for change?

If so, the Ipas Network invites you to pitch an original essay or poem for inclusion in our upcoming 2025 digital collection: *My resilience looks like this...*

This global storytelling initiative will spotlight voices from Africa, Asia and the Americas that vividly speak to resilience in action. Your story might center on one powerful moment or trace the arc of a longer fight. It could explore reclaiming joy, confronting stigma, surviving loss, building community, or healing from harm. What matters most is that you transport readers into your experience, your community and your moment.

We're especially interested in stories that explore themes like:

- Reclaiming joy amid adversity
- Confronting stigma
- Surviving loss
- Building community
- Healing from harm

If your pitch is selected, you'll receive a \$1,000 commission to develop a full-length essay (2,500–5,000 words) or poem (350–5,000 words). Final works will be featured in a globally promoted digital collection. We're also exploring additional ways to bring these stories to life—such as public readings, a microsite, or future print publication.

About Ipas

The Ipas Network is a locally led, globally connected nonprofit working across Africa, Asia and the Americas to ensure that all people can determine their own futures. With a five-decade legacy rooted in the belief that abortion is essential health care and reproductive justice is a human right, we know that while setbacks come and go, resilience endures.

Learn more at www.ipas.org or follow us @IpasOrg on LinkedIn, Bluesky or Instagram.

Let's celebrate the voices and visions that carry us forward. We can't wait to read your story.



How to pitch:

Email **two attachments** to **myresilience@ipas.org** by **June 16, 2025**:

1. A 300-word pitch, including a working title, outlining the piece you'd like to write and how it reflects resilience and reproductive justice.
2. A cover sheet with:
 - Your name
 - A 50–60-word bio (including any relevant lived experience or affiliations)
 - Country of residence
 - Contact info (email, phone)
 - Website/social handles (if applicable)
 - Preferred language
 - Any accessibility needs (e.g., audio submissions accepted as accommodation)

Eligibility and terms

- Open to creatives from Asia, Africa, and the Americas—especially from countries where Ipas works
- One pitch per person
- Pitches must be for original, unpublished work
- Submissions in English (you may include multilingual elements)
- No AI-generated or plagiarized content
- Commissioned writers retain authorship; Ipas will hold limited rights for publication and promotion within this project

