



Mechal Roe [She/Her] is a New York Times #1 bestselling illustrator (for *Superheroes Are Everywhere* by Vice President Kamala Harris) and a writer, designer, photographer, and entrepreneur. The HAPPY HAIR series was born out of a need to value her own natural hair and all its stages, while creating a foundation of self-love and positivity. Follow Mechal on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter at [@happyhairgirls](https://www.instagram.com/happyhairgirls)

Mechal is accepting applications for: Fun, author/illustrator. Poems or short stories

Mechal is accepting applications from: unagented/unpublished creators only

1. What's one non-publishing-related career that you wish you could have?

I wish I could sing the blues.

2. If you could have dinner with one person, dead or alive, who would it be and why?

The first family member who left slavery, for obvious reasons.

3. What are your five favorite picture books not written, illustrated, and/or edited by you?

The Julius series.

4. What writing and/or publishing-related accomplishment are you most proud of?

NYT with Kamala VP

5. What about mentoring excites you most?

I like to see someone with passion grow.

6. What are your strengths as a mentor?

I can usually see strengths clearly.

7. What is your feedback/critique style like?

One on one, I like for the mentee to discover what they enjoy.

8. What are the most important things you're seeking in a mentee?

Eager, creative, reflective, determined, focused.

9. Who are you not the best mentor for?

I'm not the best for intense story structure.

10. How will you help your mentee and their stories develop?

I really liked how I worked with my last mentee. We were consistent and she always had homework. We worked quickly that way and she seemed to enjoy it and have great questions.

11. What is your style of communication like?

When you have my attention, you have ALL of it. You are my main focus. I'm currently working on several books, so I have to get in the groove of checking my emails regularly again.

12. What are you looking for in the applications you receive?

The seeds or beginnings of a great artist. Helping them discover who they are and what they enjoy!

13. Any tips/advice for applicants to make their applications and/or manuscripts shine?

1. Be Yourself. Create what you like, and not what you think we will like. :)