Quick Guide and Checklist for Author's Note Writing

Components of the Author's Note	Aspects Addressed
Writing product	
	Summary/abstract
	Identification of omissions, abridgments, simplifications, or inventions; artistic expression, fact vs. fiction (poetic license), space for debate
	Background information; additional information: dates, timelines, places
	Continuity of events before/after story
	Acknowledgement or resolution of controversy (dispute, question, or mystery)
	Idea/problem explanation
	Impact exploration
Writing process	
	Experience of writing the work/composition and revision process
	Contributing research (scholarly work, interviews, personal experience)
	Challenges in writing process
	Impactful discoveries or events in writing process
Author	
	Author's relevant background
	Inspiration, intent, purpose
	Personal growth and learning
	Author's critical self-awareness
Sources	
	Acknowledgement of other's contributions (esp. through anecdotes)
	References
	Credit for other's works
Audience	
	Acknowledgement of reader expectations; justification/explanation of divergence from reader expectations
	Answers to reader's questions
	Building connection with reader
	Asking feedback from readers