

Create a Social Media Link for WordPress

Social media is a great way to stay in touch with your readers. Not everything you do has a place on your blog or website. Some things just work better on social media. In order to make it easy for your readers to find you on the social media of your choice you could place clickable icons on your site. Using some easy HTML and free icons, this tutorial will show you how to do just that.

In this tutorial we are creating a Pinterest link for [FantasyWritersWorkshop.com's](http://FantasyWritersWorkshop.com) Pinterest board. Let's do this!

First you will need to create some HTML code that will control the link. The code will take the icon from its location and add a link to it. It will have a hyperlink reference, an image source reference, and an alternate text. Don't worry if you're not familiar with HTML. This tutorial will show you what you need to do. It will look like this:

```
<a href="" target="_blank"><img src="" alt="" </a>
```

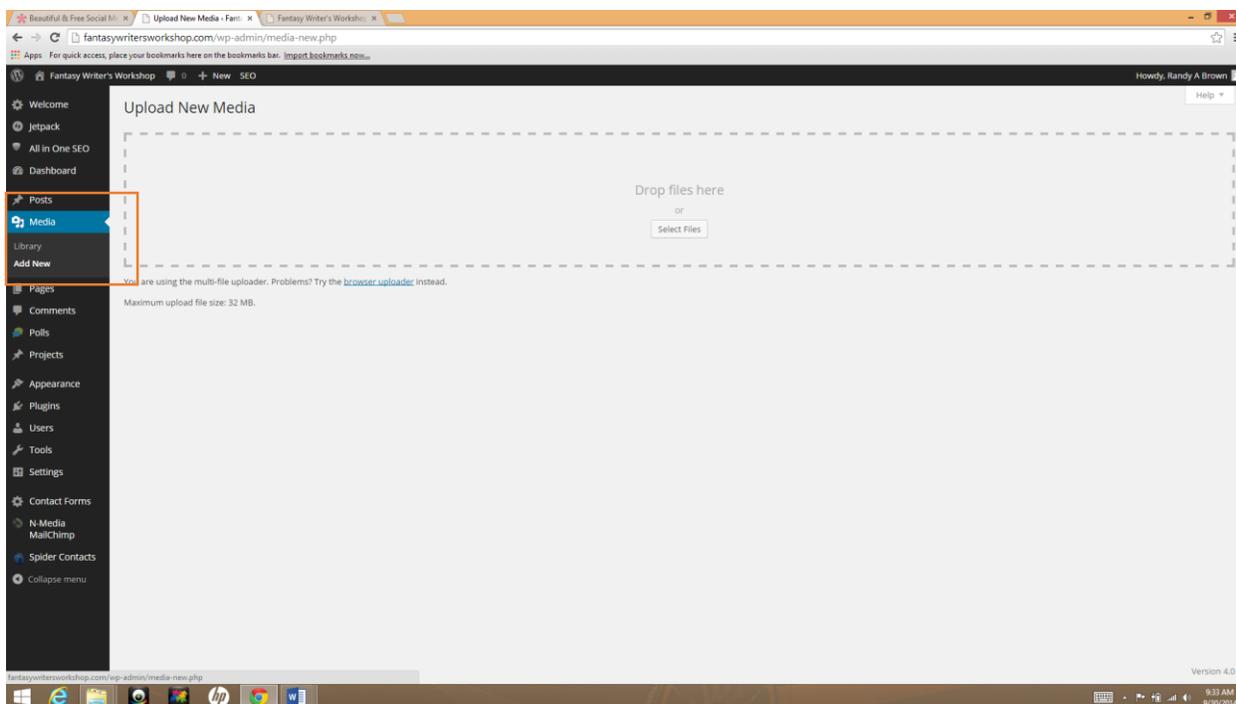
Side note: You can add other features, such as specifying the size of the image if you want it to be different than the source image you are using, but since we're working with 32x32 icons I don't want to change the size and I don't want a border, so I've deleted those features. That's the topic of another tutorial.

Paste or type this code into a text editor such as notepad.

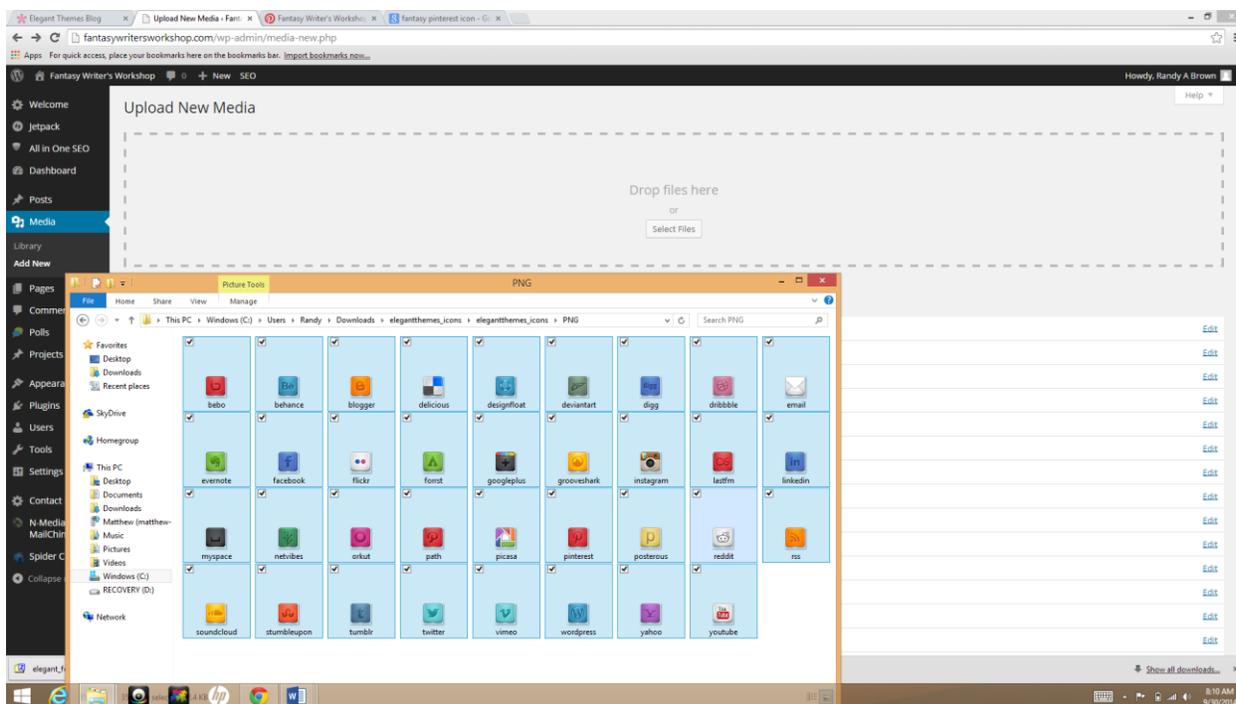
Next find and upload the social media icon you wish to use. I am using the free icons provided by [Elegant Themes](#).

Once you have the icons on your computer it's time to go into WordPress. In WordPress, go to Media and select Add New:

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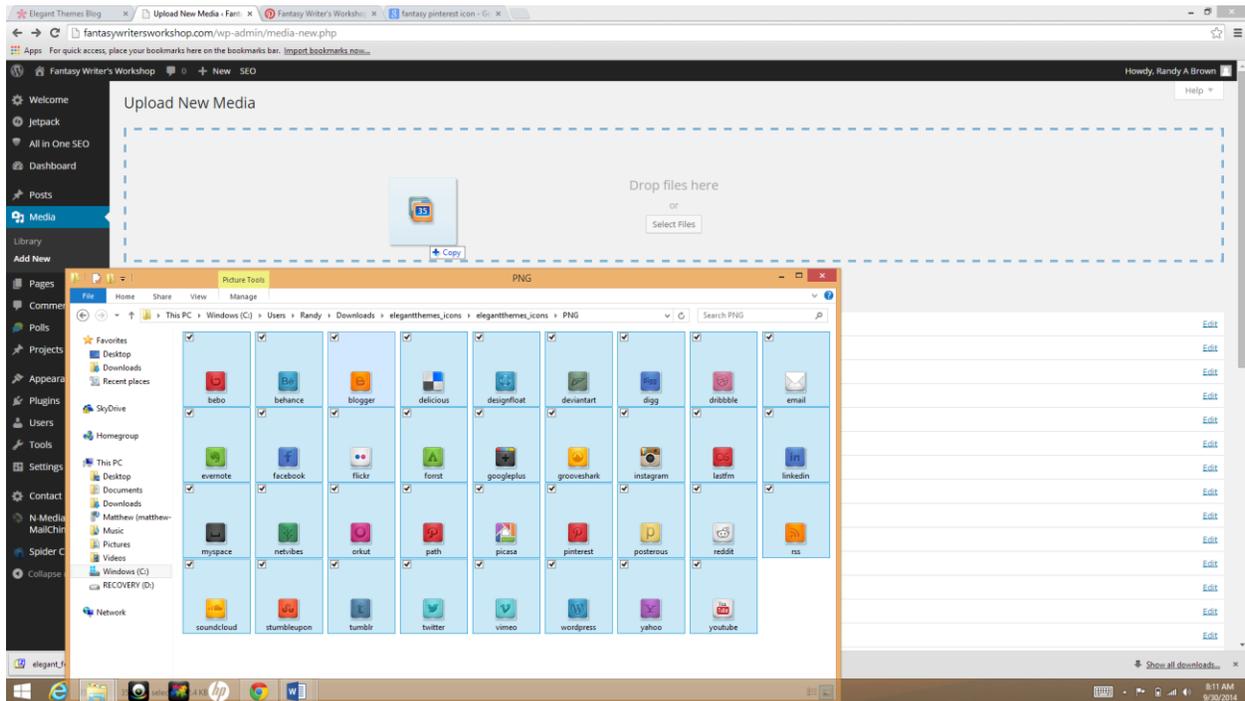


Next go the folder on your computer containing the icons and highlight the icons you want to upload.

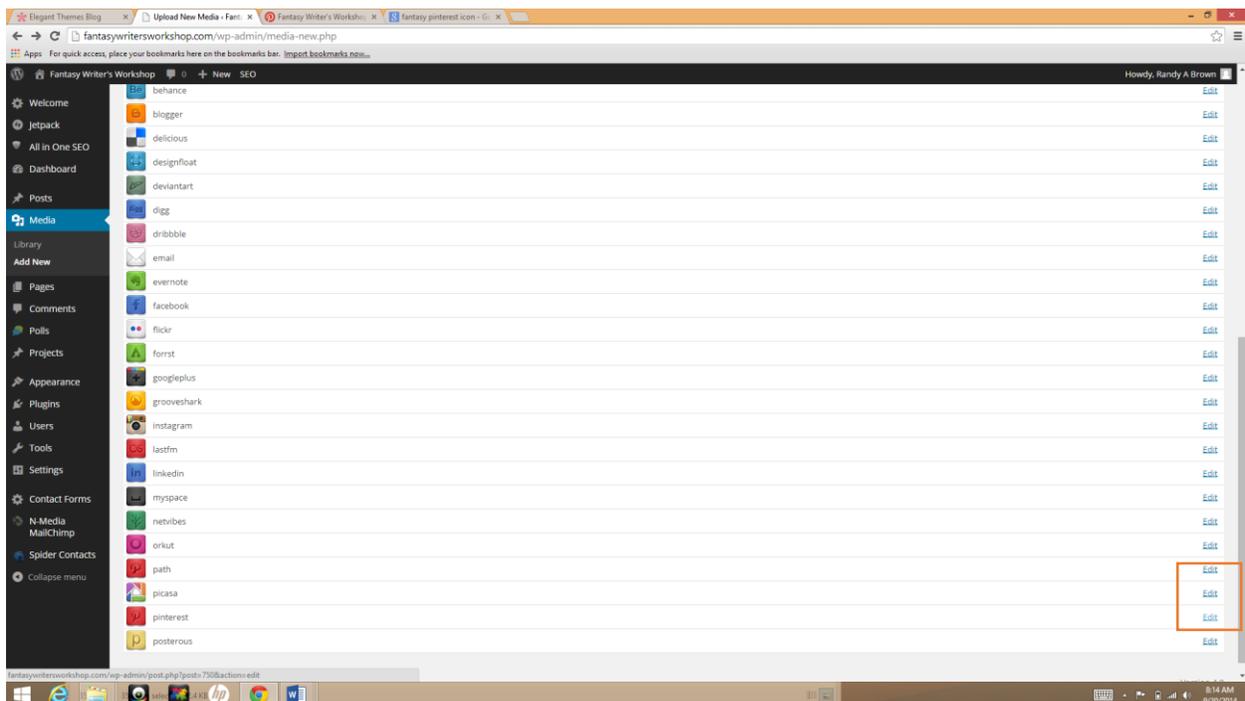


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Next, drag the icons and drop them in the WordPress box that says Drop files here. In this example I am uploading multiple icons at once.

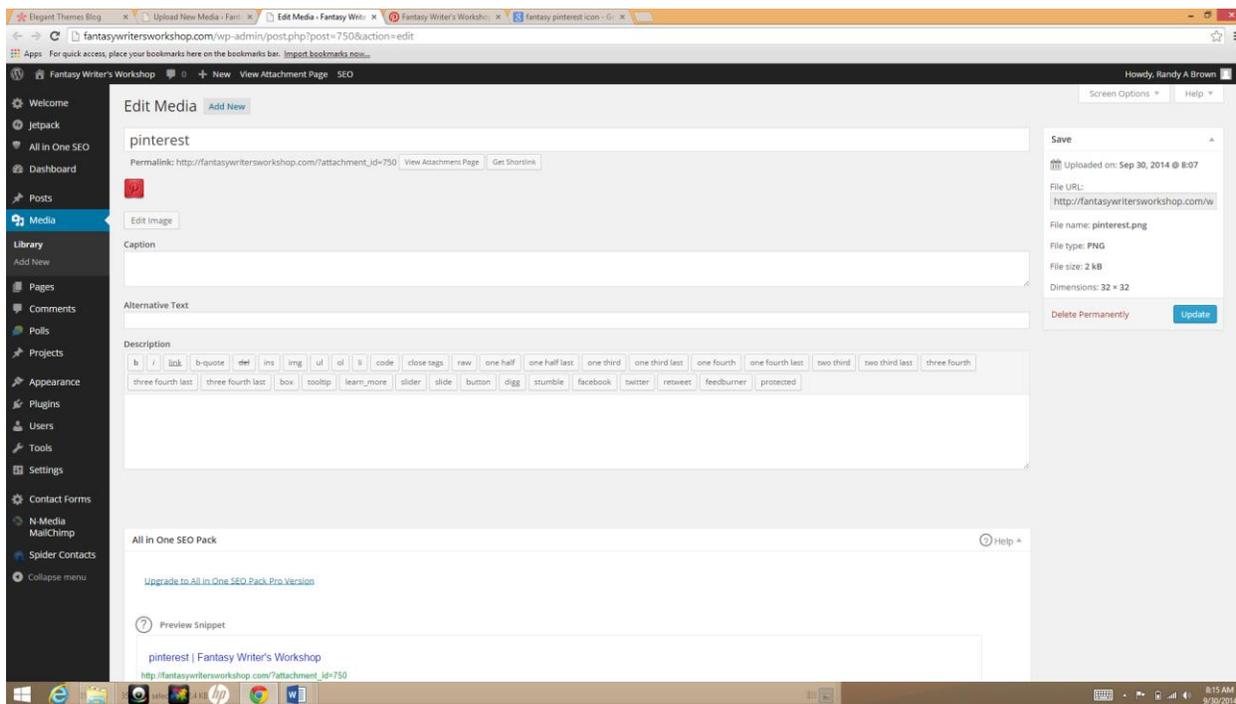


After the icons have uploaded, select Edit on the right side of the screen for the icon you wish to use.

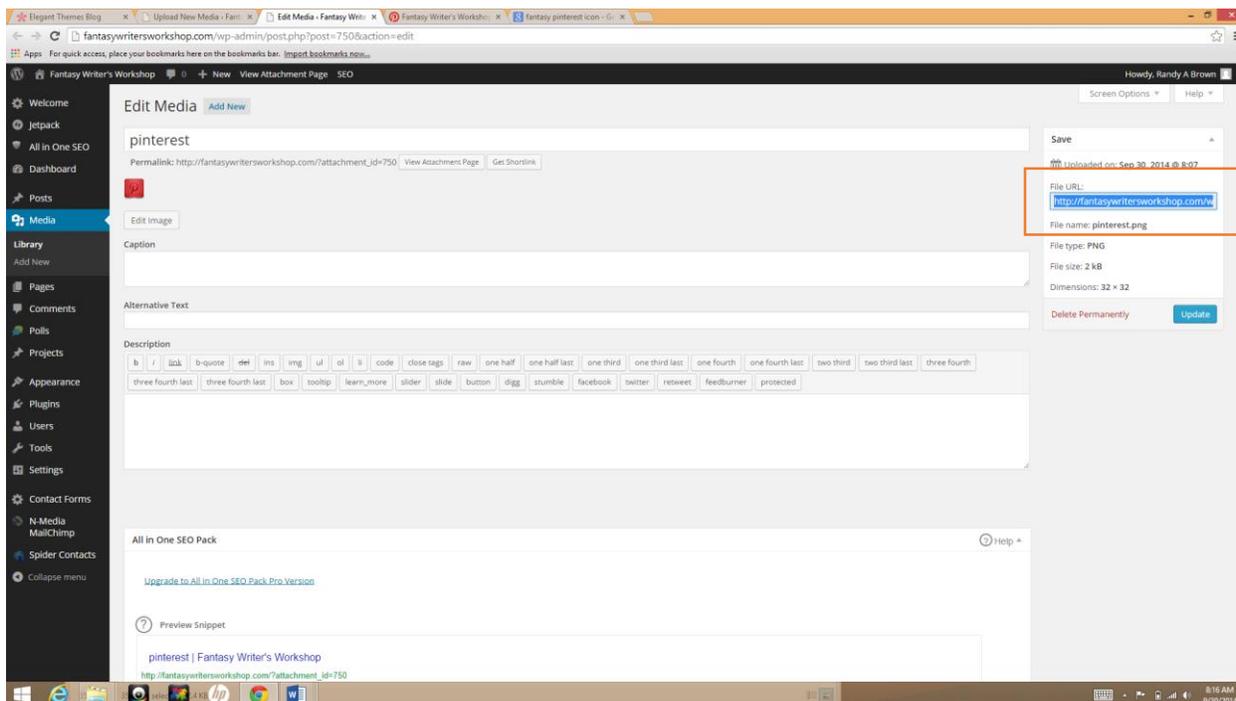


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It will take you to this screen where you'll see some information about the icon.



Highlight and copy the URL located on the right side of the screen near the top. This is the file location for the icon you wish to use.



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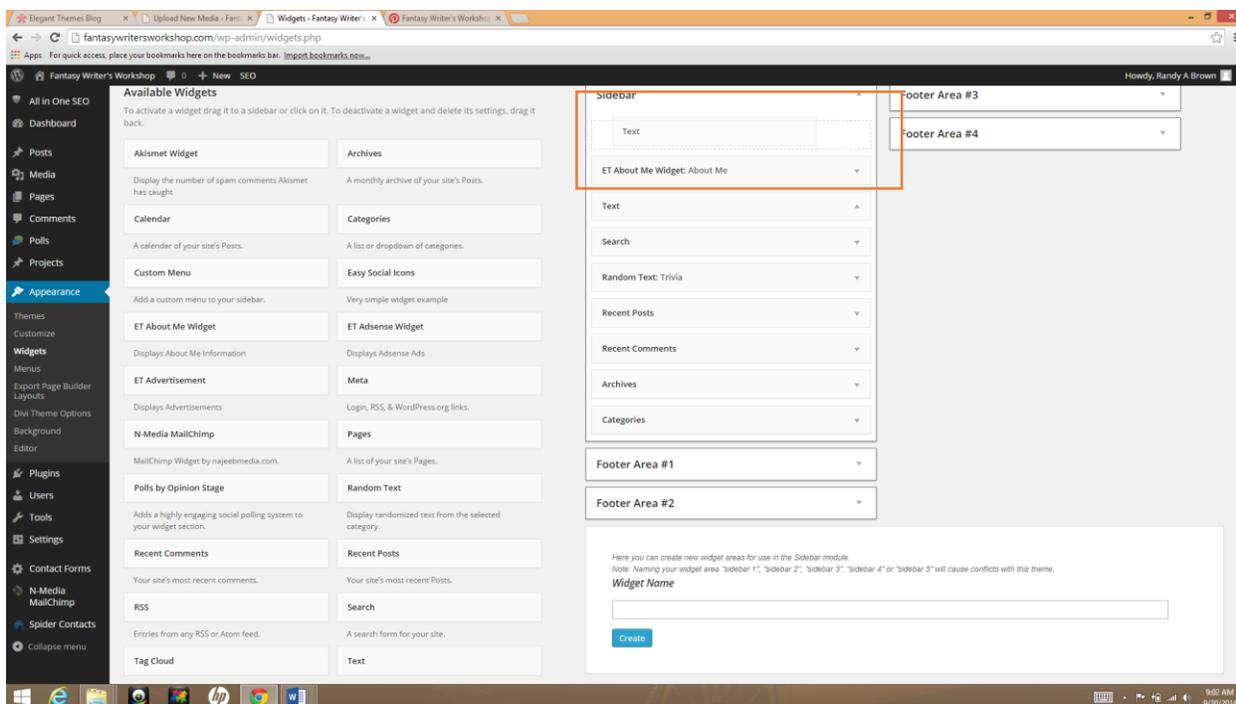
Now paste the link within the quotes after href. It now look something like this:

```
<a href="http://www.pinterest.com/brown1095/fantasy-writers-workshop/"
target="_blank">
```

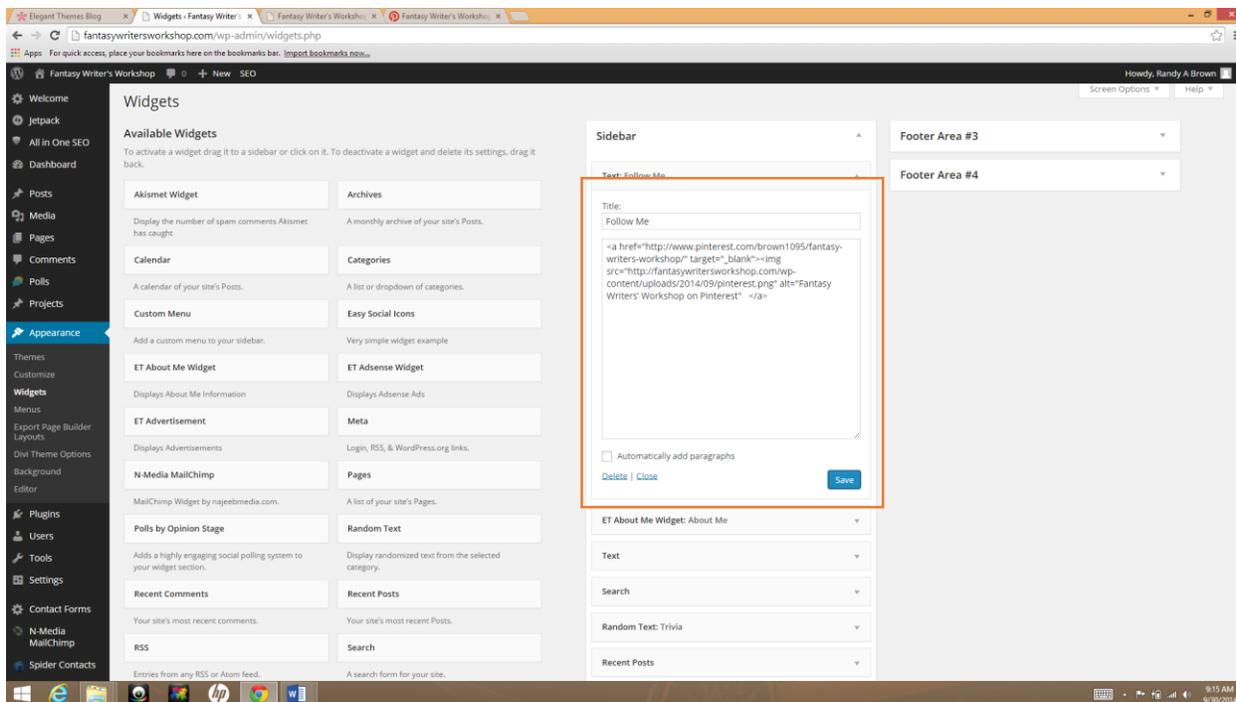
Next go to your widgets in WordPress and grab a text box (or use a current text box) and drop it where you want the icon to appear.

The screenshot shows the WordPress Widgets page. On the left, the 'Available Widgets' section contains various widget options. A red box highlights a 'Text' widget. A red arrow points from this widget to the 'Text' widget in the 'Sidebar' area on the right. The 'Text' widget in the sidebar is currently empty, and a 'Create' button is visible below it. The 'Footer Area' section on the right contains four empty widget slots labeled 'Footer Area #1' through 'Footer Area #4'.

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Open the text box, paste in the code, and save it. Feel free to give the text box a title if you want. The title helps readers understand what that section of the site is telling them.



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Next, go to your website and test your icon.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Fantasy Writers' Workshop website. The browser address bar displays "fantasywritersworkshop.com". The website has a navigation menu with links for Home, About, Contact, Favorites, NaNoWriMo, Sitemap, Getting it Right, Inspiration, Recommended, Reviews, Welcome, and Writing. Below the navigation, there are two main article sections. The first article is titled "Getting it Right – Medieval Shields: the Buckler" by Randy A Brown, dated Sep 30, 2014. It includes two images of bucklers and a short paragraph of text. The second article is titled "Populating Your World with People" by Randy A Brown, dated Sep 29, 2014. It contains several paragraphs of text. On the right side of the page, there is a sidebar with a "Follow Me" section containing a red social media icon, an "About Me" section with a profile picture and text, and a "Subscribe to our mailing list" section with an email input field. A book cover titled "206 TIPS FOR WRITING FICTION" is also visible in the sidebar.

It works!

The screenshot shows a Pinterest board titled "Fantasy Writer's Workshop" with the subtitle "fantasy and sci-fi". The board contains several pins, including:

- A pin titled "ArtStation - Steampunk Robot, Miguel Bernards" showing a detailed steampunk robot.
- A pin titled "The Dragon lover" by Dimlar Nibolar, featuring a dragon and a boat.
- A pin titled "#hairstyles Photography, Corinne Krogh" showing a woman's hair.
- A pin titled "female renaissance hairstyles" showing a woman's hair.
- A pin titled "Secret To Writing A Bestseller" with text: "You write. You stop obsessing or writing. You stop talking about writing. Stop wishing you were writing. And you write."
- A pin titled "updo braids" showing a woman's hair.
- A pin titled "Messy up do wedding hair: Messy" showing a woman's hair.

 The board also includes a search bar, a "Send Board" button, and a "21 Pins" count. The browser address bar shows "www.pinterest.com/brown1095/fantasy-writers-workshop/".

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Continue this same process for each social media network you wish to add. Paste the next set of code a few lines under the previous code. This is so the code is easy for you to see if you want to go back to it later.

The screenshot shows the WordPress Widgets administration page. The 'Text: Follow Me' widget is highlighted with an orange box. The content area contains the following code:

```

Title:
Follow Me

<a href="http://www.pinterest.com/brown1095/fantasy-writers-workshop/" target="_blank"></a>

<a href="https://www.twitter.com/fantasy-writers-workshop/" target="_blank"></a>
  
```

Below the code area, there are checkboxes for 'Automatically add paragraphs' and buttons for 'Delete' and 'Close'. A 'Save' button is located at the bottom right of the widget configuration area.

The icons will line up side-by-side on your website.

The screenshot shows the front-end of the 'Fantasy Writers' Workshop' website. The 'Follow Me' widget is visible in the right sidebar, displaying social media icons for Pinterest and Twitter. The main content area features an article titled 'Getting it Right – Medieval Shields: the Buckler' by Randy A Brown, dated Sep 30, 2014. The article includes an image of a buckler and a description of its use in medieval times. Below the article is another article titled 'Populating Your World with People' by Randy A Brown, dated Sep 29, 2014. The sidebar also includes an 'About Me' section with a profile picture and a bio, and a 'Subscribe to our mailing list' section with an email input field.

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Now continue to add as many icons and links as you wish. Of course this isn't the only method to add icons to your site. This method is easy and allows you to use any icon you wish. You can even include pictures or draw the icons yourself. Enjoy!



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