

*****News from the League*****

EXCITING NEW LEAGUE FUNDRAISING INITIATIVES

HANDSOME LCP POETRY FESTIVAL AND CONFERENCE CANVAS TOTE BAGS AVAILABLE

While supplies last.... only \$10 plus shipping... larger donations would be appreciated too! Contact Ingel at readings@poets.ca to order yours today!



MATCHING FUNDS HELP LEAGUE OF CANADIAN POETS BUILD THE LCP ARTS ENDOWMENT FUND

In addition to giving through our annual fundraising campaign, our donors now have an exciting opportunity to help League of Canadian Poets build its endowment fund. The League of Canadian Poets Arts Endowment Fund was established under the Arts Endowment Fund (AEF) Program and is administered by the Ontario Arts Foundation. Under Phase III of the AEF Program, money that we raise "for endowment" will be matched "dollar for dollar". As a small arts organization, we have the option of retaining the money that we raise, to be used for operations, while the Ontario Arts Foundation invests the matching funds in the League of Canadian Poets Arts Endowment Fund. Each year, League of Canadian Poets receives income from its endowment fund to support its operations. Please consider donating to the League's Arts Endowment Fund. Contact Joanna at Joanna@poets.ca.

CANADA POETRY TOURS PROGRAM CLOSED

This program is funded through the Canada Council for the Arts, and is extremely popular; applications always exceed the amount of available funding. Thank you to all those poets and organizations that applied. We wish we could fund every application. The confirmation letters will be mailed out this week. Please check your mailbox. We apologize to all those poets and hosts that did not receive funding. The next deadline for Canada Poetry Tours funding (readings to be held from April 1, 2009 to September 31, 2009) is January 31, 2009.

NEWS FROM THE FEMINIST CAUCUS

By Anne Burke. An inventory was done by the staff of the titles from the Living Archives chapbook series which are housed at the League office in Toronto. Some back copies are still available and there are also master sheets from others. This inventory will be posted on the Feminist Caucus web page, as well as a complete list of the annual publications, available for sale. Each chapbook costs \$10 and proceeds will go toward future publications. Coutts Library Services has been ordering the titles for libraries, a sampling of which provides participating authors with Payment for Public Lending Right. For full report: www.poets.ca/linktext/newsletter or see the new Feminist Caucus webpage at <http://www.poets.ca/linktext/programs/living%20archives.html>

WRITERS' AND TRANSLATORS' RESIDENCIES

Since I had the privilege to be appointed International Affairs chair by the League of Canadian Poets, and since I have the fortune to travel a lot, I thought I may share my impressions and some addresses and tips with you, hoping you'd be interested. I intend to continue posting more addresses of Writers' and Translators'

Residencies, and also some dates and venues of related International Conferences you may wish to attend. I welcome your questions and suggestions at flaviacosma@rogers.com or <http://www.flaviacosma.com>. Kind regards, Flavia Cosma. Please find the full report: www.poets.ca/linktext.newsletter

***** **New Council Members*******

DENNIS REID – PRESIDENT

D.C. Reid walked out onto the Alberta prairie west of Calgary when he was three years old (1955) and never came back. When he was five he reached his hand into a stream and pulled out a trout. His life has been about water since that day. He was published in MacLeans when he was ten and thought the writing life would be easy. What an innocent.

Since that time he has been published in more than 50 literary magazines in Canada, the United States, the U.K., India and Mexico, with his work having been translated into Spanish and Hindi. On the literary side of his writing life, he has published four books of poetry and one novel.

Along the way he took a B.Sc. in biochemistry and zoology and a B.A. in English and Philosophy - both honours degrees. Reid went on to do an M.P.A. to get a job to feed his new family.

In 1996, Patrick Lane told him at the now Banff Centre that his instincts were good and so was his work. He then jumped off the cliff and has lived in the fire of poetry since then. Now, he calls it: a necessary love. His fifth and sixth books of poetry will come soon: *What It Means To Be Human*, and *You Shall Have No Other*.

Reid has gone on to write for more than 50 magazines/newspapers/websites across North America on fishing – gear, fly and Spey - in salt- and fresh-water. His fourth fishing book will be released in 2008.

Reid has a canyon river he strays into more than he should, in his mid-fifties, for wild summer steelhead on the fly, climbing down cliffs with his fly rod between his teeth. And this has segued into another side of his writing life: he is delving into the hardcore science to write a book he has wanted for more than a decade: *The Brains of Poets*. You will see this and many other books on this site. [Click here](#).

JOE BLADES – VICE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR

Joe Blades lives in Fredericton, NB. On the editorial board of revue ellipse mag, he is Vice President-Membership Chair of the League of Canadian Poets, producer-host of the Ashes, Paper & Beans community radio program, and publisher of Broken Jaw Press. The author of five poetry collections, including *River Suite* and *Casemate Poems (Collected)*, two of his books have been translated and published in Serbian editions.

MAURICE MIERAU – PAST PRESIDENT

Maurice Mierau is a Winnipeg writer of poetry, fiction, and nonfiction. Maurice's first book, a collection of poems called *Ending with Music* (Brick Books) is about suicide, family history, and survival. His 2005 book, *Memoir of a Living Disease*, is about tuberculosis in Manitoba and the career of a prominent TB doctor, Earl Hershfield.

Maurice was born in the US and grew up in Africa, the Caribbean, and Saskatchewan. He plays the upright bass occasionally with an amateur Winnipeg jazz group. His other non-writing interests include playing beer league basketball with people who are better than he is at the sport. Maurice sold computers for almost a decade and then tried to explain them as a technical writer for a few years. He has a 19 year old son, Jeremy, who plays drums with a band called the Fops and studies computer science at university.

In 2005 Maurice and his wife Betsy adopted two boys in Ukraine, Bohdan and Peter. Maurice has written a memoir about the adoption, his family history in Soviet Ukraine and his globetrotting life, which he's trying to sell. An excerpt called "White Pork" appeared in *Prairie Fire* magazine in summer 2003. In June 2006 Maurice became president of the League of Canadian Poets.

NELLIE STROWBRIDGE – NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR AND NOVA SCOTIA

Nellie P. Strowbridge, a former columnist, is the author of: *Widdershins: Stories of a Fisherman's Daughter*, *Doors Held Ajar* (tri-author with Isabel Brown and Peggy Krachun), *Shadows of the Heart*, *Dancing on Ochre Sands* (short-listed for the WANL E.J. Pratt Award 2005), a young adult novel *Far from Home: Dr Grenfell's Little Orphan* (a best-seller, short-listed for The Newfoundland and Labrador Historic and History Award 2006), *The Gift of Christmas* and *The Newfoundland Tongue*.

ANGELA LEUCK – QUEBEC/NUNAVUT

Angela Leuck was born in Vancouver in 1960. She holds a B.A. from the University of Saskatchewan and an M.A. from McGill University. Specializing in Japanese-inspired short poetry forms—haiku, tanka, renga and haibun—she also combines her poems with collage and photography in an updated version of the ancient Japanese art of haiga. She is currently the Quebec Regional Coordinator for Haiku Canada. In 2005, with Kozue Uzawa she founded Tanka Canada and for a year edited its biannual publication *Gusts: Contemporary Tanka*.

An award winning poet, her work has been published in journals and anthologies around the world. She currently lives in Montreal.

ELIZABETH GREENE – ONTARIO

Elizabeth Greene, author of *The Iron Shoes* (Hidden Brook Press, 2007), has published poems in *Crossing Lines: Poets Who Came to Canada During the Viet Nam War*, in *Arms Like Ladders: The Eloquent She*, in *Scapes*, in the *Queen's Feminist Review* and in *Canadian Woman Studies*.

She edited and contributed to *We Who Can Fly: Poems, Essays and Memories in Honour of Adele Wiseman* (Cormorant, 1997) and has edited or co-edited four other books.

She has published fiction and creative non-fiction, most recently in *Double Lives: Writing and Mothering* (McGill-Queen's, 2008). She lives in Kingston.

K.G. SAMBRANO – TORONTO

k.g. Sambrano's first book *The Killing of Jack Little* rose to critical acclaim upon its release. Since then Sambrano's poetry and short stories have been published in numerous magazines and journals.

Sambrano's most recent work, a collection of poetry entitled *Abbotsford Station: The Voyage of Rediscovery* was launched this spring by Invago Publishing.

Sambrano's publicity and performances include: CFRB 1010 A.M., *Motions in Poetry*, *Breakfast T.V.*, Bravo Channel as well as a panel member on "Imprint". K.g. Sambrano supports the Tibetan freedom struggle and Adult Literacy.

k.g. Sambrano is also the Artistic Director and performer in *Freedom of Voice*, the annual literacy fund-raiser with proceeds to P.E.N.

LORI CAYER – MANITOBA

Born in Saskatchewan in 1961, Lori Cayer has made Manitoba her home since 1969. Her book of poems, *Stealing Mercury* (The Muses' Company), won the Eileen McTavish Sykes Award for Best First Book in Manitoba in 2004 and was nominated for the John Hirsch Award for Most Promising Manitoba Writer and the McNally Robinson Book of the Year Award the same year. Lori won the John Hirsch Award for Most Promising Manitoba Writer in 2005.

Lori has participated in *Poetry in Motion*, *Poets in the Schools*, the *Poetry Tent* at the Winnipeg Folk Festival, and has read at a side venue of the Winnipeg Writers Festival. She has hosted reading events, facilitated poetry workshops and done poetry readings in more than one city. Her poetry has won a few contests and has appeared in numerous journals and anthologies. Lori served for several years as a board member of the Manitoba Writers' Guild as a member at large, followed by terms as secretary, vice president, and finally as president. She is the poetry co-editor for the literary journal *CV2*. Her most recent accomplishment is that of co-founder of the Lansdowne Prize for Poetry, now part of the Manitoba Writing and Publishing Awards. She works by day as an Editorial Assistant for a National Research Council scientific journal.

KATHERINE LAWRENCE – SASKATCHEWAN

Katherine Lawrence has lived in Saskatoon since 1982 and is originally from Hamilton. She holds a BA (English) from Carleton University and a diploma in creative writing (fiction) from Humber College. Coteau Books of Regina has published two of her poetry collections: *Ring Finger, Left Hand* (2001) and *Lying to Our Mothers* (2006).

A chapbook (fiction) from JackPine Press was published in 2005.

Katherine works as a professional fundraiser in the health care sector.

DYMPHNY DRONYK – ALBERTA

Born in the Summer of Love in the City of Sin (Amsterdam, the Netherlands), Dymphny Dronyk is a writer, artist, mediator and mother. She is passionate about the magic of story and has woven words for money (journalism, corporate writing) and for love (poetry, fiction, drama, mystery novels) for over 25 years. Dymphny has always "written the land" believing that our sense of place informs both our dreams and our choices.

After years of rambling on an eclectic career path (camp cook, editor, waitress, photographer), her gypsy spirit took root in the Peace Country and her energy is now directed towards raising her three children and running her business - Dynamic Data Complete Emergency Response Planning and Mediation. Dymphny is a member of the Alberta Arbitration and Mediation Society, the League of Canadian Poets and currently the President of the Writers Guild of Alberta.

Creatively, Dymphny has published articles, fiction and poetry in magazines and newspapers in Europe and in North America since 1984. She was the founder and publisher of Between Gynes Magazine in Victoria in 1990-1992, and the co-editor of Art of the Peace Magazine in 2003-2004. Dymphny has published poetry in Canadian anthologies: Paperwork, Harbour Press, 1991, ed. Tom Wayman; Grain, Saskatchewan Writers Guild, 1988; Room of One's Own (Working for a Living), Growing Room Collective, ed. Sandy Shreve; Journey to the Interior, (An Anthology of Kootenay Women Writers), Kimberley Writers Group, 1986, eds. Luanne Armstrong, Irene Mock, Paulette Jiles; Nose Mountain Moods, Smoky Peace Press, 2002, ed. Elroy Deimert. Her first volume of poetry Contrary Infatuations, was published by Frontenac House as part of Quartet 2007. With Edmonton poet Angela Kublik, she is also co-owner of House of Blue Skies, Alberta's newest publisher and co-editor of their first anthology "Writing the Land – Alberta Through its Poets" already in its second printing.

YVONNE BLOMER – BRITISH COLUMBIA AND YUKON

Yvonne Blomer was born in Bindura, Zimbabwe. Her poetry has won awards and been published internationally in such journals as Seam, The Rialto, Grain and The Malahat Review. She gained an MA in Poetry, Distinction from The University of East Anglia in 2006. Yvonne lives in Victoria, B.C. She teaches poetry and memoir and writes poetry, memoir, reviews and essays on poetics.

ANDY MICHAELSON – ASSOCIATE MEMBERS REP

ANDY MICHAELSON wrote a little in high school and returned to writing poetry and prose as he closed in on retirement age. Andy joined the Edmonton Stroll of Poets to perform his work and is now a member of the League of Canadian Poets (Associate), Writers Guild of Alberta, Raving Poets Society and co-founder of Poet's Ink.

Poet's Ink is a writing and poetry program development organization that services the greater Edmonton area which poetry events and a weekly writing and critique circle.

Often described as a back-fence philosopher, Andy is an artist member of the Royal Conservatory of Music's Learning through the Arts program working with the elementary school curriculum and poetry in grades four, five and six.

His poem Whale Bone was published November 2005 in the Leaf Press chapbook titled Object, ISBN 0-9735920-7-9

His poem Birch and Bird will be published in November 2006 in the Leaf chapbook titled Anecdote.

A compilation of the works of five Poet's Ink authors, including Andy, Words are Ashes is scheduled for publication and release in early October 2006.

***** News *****

THE EDMONTON POETRY FESTIVAL

The Edmonton Poetry Festival returns this September, a lot leaner than when we had funding from the Cultural Capital program last year, but still full of fun and local energy. We have a limited number of spots for 'featured' readers to perform. We don't have much to pay -- just a modest reading fee. (And we can probably billet you as well.) The dates are September 11-13. You can find out more about the festival schedule at <http://www.edmontonpoetryfestival.com>. If you are travelling in the area with a new book anyway, and would be interested in taking part, send a note to alice.major@shaw.ca

WRITERS' TRUST AWARDS INCREASE IN VALUE: ONE OF CANADA'S RICHEST LITERARY PRIZE-GIVING NIGHTS GETS RICHER

The Writers' Trust of Canada is raising the cash value of several awards to be presented at the eighth annual Writers' Trust Awards on November 17, 2008. The Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize and The Writers' Trust Non-Fiction Prize will now award each winner \$25,000. In addition, four finalists for each prize will receive \$3,500. (Previous winners received \$15,000 and finalists received \$2,000.) The awards are among the richest and most prestigious fiction and non-fiction awards in Canada. Past winners include Austin Clarke, Alice Munro, and Rudy Wiebe. Last year's awards were won by Lawrence Hill for *The Book of Negroes* and Anna Porter for *Kasztner's Train*. The Vicky Metcalf Award for Children's Literature, one of the field's most prestigious prizes, will increase in value to \$20,000 (up from \$15,000). Past winners include Deborah Ellis, Jean Little, and Tim Wynne-Jones. A new award, The Writers' Trust Notable Author Award, will be created by merging two existing prizes: The Marian Engel Award for a female writer in mid-career (1986 – 2007), whose past winners include Barbara Gowdy, Elizabeth Hay, and Carol Shields; and The Timothy Findley Award for a male writer in mid-career (2002 – 2007), whose past winners include Rohinton Mistry, David Adams Richards, and Guy Vanderhaeghe. The new prize will be worth \$25,000 and will not be gender specific. Finalists for the 2008 Writers' Trust Awards will be announced on October 1, 2008, at a reception in Ben McNally Books in Toronto. The winners will be announced at the Writers' Trust Awards event on November 17, 2008 in the Isabel Bader Theatre in Toronto. The Writers' Trust Awards is one of the largest literary prize-giving events in the country now awarding \$155,000 to Canadian writers. The International Festival of Authors will be holding a three-night event featuring writers nominated for the fall's big three Canadian fiction prizes: The Scotiabank Giller Prize, Governor General's Literary Award, and The Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize. A reading by the finalists of The Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize is scheduled for October 29, 2008. For further information about the reading visit www.readings.org. The finalists of The Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize will also be in attendance at this year's Writers' Trust Gala, a prestigious fundraising event to be held on October 28, 2008, at Toronto's Four Seasons Hotel. The Writers' Trust of Canada is a charitable organization that supports Canadian writers and writing through various programs, including literary awards, financial grants, a writers' retreat, workshops, and scholarships. For more information visit www.writerstrust.com.

GEORGE ELLIOTT CLARKE RECEIVES ORDER OF CANADA APPOINTMENT

Gaspereau Press is delighted to share the news that author George Elliott Clarke has been appointed an officer to the Order of Canada. Clarke has been recognized "for his contributions as a poet, professor and volunteer who has brought his original voice and his perspective on the Black experience to contemporary Canadian literature, and who has generously shared his time and talents with young and emerging writers." Says Clarke, "I am honoured and delighted to accept this appointment on behalf of my parents – and as a poet, to enjoy this approval of my compatriots." Governor General Michaëlle Jean announced the new appointments on Tuesday. Seventy-five appointments were made, with five companions, 26 officers, 43 members and one honorary officer. Other notable inclusions in the arts fields this year were musician and radio personality Randy Bachman, author Audrey Thomas, and publishers Tim and Elke Inkster of *The Porcupine's Quill*. Established in 1967, the Order of Canada recognizes outstanding achievement, particularly in service to Canada. The order's motto is *Desiderantes Meliorem Patriam* (They desire a better country). The new appointees will be presented with their insignia in a ceremony to be held later this year. For more info: www.gaspereau.com

LONDONER RECOGNIZED BY PARLIAMENT'S POET LAUREATE

This week local London poet Penn Kemp's poem "Crossing the Light" was selected by Library of Parliament's Poet Laureate, John Steffler, as the feature poem this week. Kemp's poem will be posted on the poetry section of the parliamentary website for the next two years. Penn published her first book in 1972 and has since had 24 other books published. Her "Poem for Peace in Two Voices" has been translated into more than 125 languages and is in circulation worldwide.

NDP MP Irene Mathyssen (London-Fanshawe) called the news "a well deserved honour and wonderful recognition for a woman who has contributed a great deal to the arts in our community, in our province, and right across Canada."

"Penn, with her husband Gavin Stairs, runs her own publishing business, Pendas Productions. She is actively involved in causes she is passionate about, and is a wonderfully creative, entertaining, and inspiring person. Penn is truly a role model for aspiring artists. I am delighted that she has been recognized with this honour, and I am honoured myself to be able to consider Penn a personal friend," said Mathyssen.

"It is heart warming to celebrate poetry through the parliamentary website," Kemp commented. "I do want to extend my thanks to Irene as well, because she is such a supporter of my efforts to encourage acts of poetry, and of all the arts in London."

In April Kemp performed with MP Charlie Angus at an NDP function at the London Music Club, and was recently

featured in an online video as part of the London Free Press series on the Thames River. Kemp has also been a leading force in organizing events to promote the arts in London, from readings at libraries to incorporating poetry in events around the community.

More info:

<http://www.parl.gc.ca/information/about/people/poet/index.asp?lang=e¶m=4&id=1&id3=3&id2=226>

SARA ROQUE NAMED ABORIGINAL ARTS OFFICER FOR ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL

The Ontario Arts Council is pleased to announce the appointment of Sara Roque as Aboriginal Arts Officer.

FACTS

- Sara Roque is a filmmaker, writer, arts administrator and activist who has worked on a number of community based arts projects and organizations. She has an Honours B.A. in Indigenous Studies from Trent University.
- Sara's past work experience includes development coordinator at The Centre for Indigenous Theatre in Toronto; programmer at Te Wairiki Pūrea Trust, a Maori arts and cultural organization based in Rotorua, New Zealand; and programmer of the O'Kaadenigan Wiingashk Collective based in the Kawarthas, a collective dedicated to raising the profile of Indigenous artists and training in the region.
- Sara has been Acting Aboriginal Arts Officer since September 2007.

QUOTE

"Sara has impressed us with her insight and her commitment to the work of Aboriginal artists," said John Brotman, Executive Director of the Ontario Arts Council. "We are looking forward to the leadership she will bring to her sector." For more info: [granting programs and awards](#) of the Ontario Arts Council.

"TRACKS" WINS WRITERS' UNION OF CANADA'S TWELFTH ANNUAL WRITING FOR CHILDREN COMPETITION

The Writers' Union of Canada is pleased to announce that M. Alicia Fraser has won the twelfth annual Writing for Children Competition, for the best story under 1,500 words, with her piece "Tracks." The author will receive a \$1,500 cash prize. In addition, the Union will submit the winning story and the other eleven finalists' stories to three Canadian publishers of children's literature for their consideration.

The Union initiated the Writing for Children competition to discover, encourage, and promote new writers of children's literature. This year, seventeen Union members donated their time and expertise to read over 929 outstanding submissions and distill them into a longlist of ninety-seven stories. These stories went on to a second round of eighteen readers who selected the finalists to pass on to the 2008 Jury: Damien Fièrè, Jacqueline Guest, and Tim Wynne-Jones.

WINNER:

"Tracks" by M. Alicia Fraser

The Jury noted that this is "a well-crafted story... with the goal of publication in mind." They also remarked that in telling a "brilliant tale of one girl's courage, [the] style is very maturely handled, [keeping] the reader's attention from the very beginning to the end." and that "in the newly minted teen, Elizabeth, and her awful visiting mother, M. Alicia Fraser has, with great economy, created two quite remarkable characters."

M. Alicia Fraser lives near Ottawa. She still enjoys the Eastern Ontario cottage where her childhood summer reading evolved from second-hand comics and musty children's classics to the new book selections under consideration by her librarian aunt. Fraser's short story "The Volunteer" was a prizewinner in a Canadian Authors Association National Capital Writing Contest and was published by the Ottawa Citizen. She is a past recipient of a John Spencer Hill Award for her short story "Andy Boy."

FINALISTS:

If You Listen, Shanti Ang

A Taxi for the Town, Clo Carey

Being Ben, Kathleen Cherry

The Three Little Sister Pigs, Sheryl Fitzell

Inner Cave, Amy Hogue

The Mouse that Loved String, Stephen Markan

The Test, Jeffrey Marshall

Snowgirl and the Chinook, Ginger Mullen

From the Ground Up, Julia Smith

Lizzie-Sue and the Dragon, Sya VanGeest
Granny Goodness Goes to Cowboy Camp, Teresa J. Wouters

The Writers' Union of Canada is our country's national organization representing professional authors of books. Founded in 1973, the Union is dedicated to fostering writing in Canada, and promoting the rights, freedoms, and economic well being of all writers. For more information, please visit www.writersunion.ca.

CANADA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS RELEASES AUDITOR GENERAL'S SPECIAL EXAMINATION REPORT

In its first special examination of the Canada Council for the Arts, the Office of the Auditor General of Canada reports the Council is doing a good job of managing its affairs, announced the Board of the Council today. The special examination found that the Council's systems and practices in "grant management, governance, strategic planning, performance measurement and reporting and human resources provide it with reasonable assurance that its assets are safeguarded and controlled, that its resources are managed economically and efficiently, and that its operations are carried out effectively." The Auditor General concluded that the Council's "systems and practices had no significant deficiencies. In fact, the Canada Council's systems and practices have contributed to its success in several areas." A copy of the news release and the full report is available at www.canadacouncil.ca

TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF NEW CHIEF LIBRARIAN

The Toronto Public Library Board announced today the appointment of Jane Pyper as its new Chief Librarian, effective September 2, 2008.

Currently Director of Policy and Planning for Toronto Public Library, Ms. Pyper brings over 25 years of diverse experience in all facets of library service and administration including public service, information technology and collections management. Most recently, as a member of the senior management team that shaped the Toronto Public Library system post-amalgamation, Ms. Pyper has played a key role in building the Library's enviable global reputation, and has helped make Toronto Public Library the busiest urban public library system in the world.

Jane has an obvious passion for and commitment to public libraries, said Toronto Public Library Board Chair, Kathy Gallagher Ross. *She has made a significant contribution to the building of our world-class library system, well known for its breadth and reach and relevance to the city of Toronto, and we are confident that this combination of passion, commitment and experience will serve the Library well as she stewards it through its next phase of innovation and success.* For more info: lhazzan@torontopubliclibrary.ca

******* Opportunities *******

Please note: The opportunities, contests or markets listed in this electronic newsletter are only an informational resource. We encourage all poets to thoroughly investigate all contests or markets before submitting their work.

OAC UPCOMING GRANT PROGRAM DEADLINES:

- **Writers' Reserve**
 - January 01, 2006 - January 01, 2006
 - Sector(s) Aboriginal Arts, Literature
 - Program for: Individuals
 - Purpose: To assist professional writers in the creation of new work. This program is administered by third-party recommenders from the literary community. <http://www.arts.on.ca/Page119.aspx>

- **Word of Mouth**
 - Program for: Individuals and Organizations
 - Purpose: To assist literary and storytelling artists to create new work for public performance or to record or tour their own repertoire. <http://www.arts.on.ca/Page84.aspx>

- **Writers' Works in Progress**
 - January 01, 2006 - January 01, 2006
 - Sector(s) Aboriginal Arts, Literature
 - Program for: Individuals
 - Purpose: To assist professional writers to complete book-length works of literary merit. <http://www.arts.on.ca/Page118.aspx>

- **Touring and Collaborations**
- January 01, 2006 - January 01, 2006
- Sector(s) Aboriginal Arts, Arts Education, Community Arts, Dance, Franco-Ontarian Arts, Literature, Multidisciplinary Activity, Music, Theatre, Touring, Visual and Media Arts & Crafts
- Program for: Individuals and Organizations. <http://www.arts.on.ca/Page108.aspx>

CANADA COUNCIL GRANTS FOR PROFESSIONAL WRITERS: CREATIVE WRITING DEADLINES

English-Language Grants: 1 October

French-Language Grants: 1 April

Program Description

The Grants for Professional Writers program covers subsistence, project and travel expenses. The Creative Writing Grants component gives Canadian authors (emerging, mid-career and established) time to write new literary works, including novels, short stories, poetry, children's literature, graphic novels and literary non-fiction. Note that you should submit literature creation projects based on the spoken word to the Spoken Word and Storytelling Program of the Writing and Publishing Section. Playwrights who require funding to write a play should contact the Theatre Section. Screenwriters who require funding to write a screenplay should contact the Media Arts Section. <http://www.canadacouncil.ca/grants/writing/ri127227329682968750.htm>

ASSOCIATE ARTS EDUCATION OFFICER

Starting Salary Range: \$45,275 - \$69,170

Location: Toronto

Informed by the guidance of the Arts Education Officer and the organization's strategic priorities you will:

- act as a critical link between arts education communities and the Ontario Arts Council;
- ensure that OAC's arts education programs and initiatives involves learners of all ages, mixed abilities and diverse ethno-cultural backgrounds;
- provide input to the development of arts education policies, programs, strategies and services relevant to the arts communities in Ontario and Ontario Arts Council's priorities;
- promote, outreach and consult on matters of interest related to arts education;
- deliver and evaluate granting programs as delegated by the Arts Education Officer;
- assess grant requests in collaboration with jurors and advisors;
- provide administrative management of the unit workflow; and
- work collaboratively within a team setting for the betterment of the sector and office.

You are an accomplished Arts Education Professional with broad knowledge of all art forms and practices, whose unique skills and proven record in understanding the issues affecting arts education in Ontario is backed by:

- knowledge and understanding of the education systems in Ontario, including Aboriginal education systems, as they pertain to artists working in the schools;
- direct experience with learners of different ethno-cultural and socio-economic backgrounds;
- familiarity with arts education resources, including community based programs;
- experience with successful and effective creative arts education projects;
- knowledge of trends in arts education;
- bachelor's degree (arts administration or relevant field) or equivalent in work experience;
- 3+ years progressively senior arts education experience;
- excellent interpersonal, communication and consultative skills;
- sound project planning, organizational skills, judgment and ability to problem-solve and multi-task in a fast-paced environment;
- computer proficiency in Excel and Word; and
- bilingualism in French (if possible).

Flexible work hours, some evening/weekend work and travel required. Qualified candidates are invited to send a cover letter and resume, by August 8, 2008 to: Ontario Arts Council, FILE # 02-08, Human Resources Office, 151 Bloor St. West, 5th Floor, Toronto, ON M5S 1T6. For more info: www.arts.on.ca or email: OACjobs@arts.on.ca. We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

September 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010 Residency

Regina Public Library invites applications from Canadian creative writers for the position of Writer-in-Residence. The successful candidate will work with the public through individual consultations, community/school visits, and group workshops or seminars. The Writer-in-Residence will devote 80% of his/her time to personal writing projects. The author must live in Regina or surrounding area during the term of the residency. Experience working with the public, a history of literary publications, and a background in the literary field should be clearly demonstrated in the covering letter or résumé. Please include a résumé, 10 page writing sample, and three letters of reference from members of the writing community. References should include a daytime and evening phone number in their letters. Previous experience as a writer-in-residence or teacher would be an asset. All genres of writing will be considered. Salary: \$26,000/annum (based on availability of grant funds.)

Eligibility Criteria:

Based on the Canada Council for the Arts guidelines.

Application deadline:

Applications must be received by 4:00 p.m. Friday, October 31, 2008.

Apply to: Writer-in-Residence Search Committee, c/o Public Relations, Regina Public Library, P.O. Box 2311 (2311 -12th Avenue), Regina, SK S4P 3Z5.

PRAIRIE FIRE

2008 Prairie Fire Press - McNally Robinson Writing Contests Bliss Carman Poetry Award - Judge: Marilyn Dumont, Short Fiction - Judge: Michael Winter, Creative Non-Fiction - Judge: Lawrence Hill. \$6,000 in prizes. First prize in each category \$1,250, 2nd prize \$500, 3rd prize \$250. Deadline: November 30, 2008. For information contact: Prairie Fire Press, 423-100 Arthur Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 1H3. Phone: (204) 943-9066, E-mail: prfire@mts.net, or check out our web site for guidelines at www.prairiefire.ca.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Call for Nominations for the Position of Canadian Parliamentary Poet Laureate

Term: April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2011 ~ Deadline for Nominations: September 30.

Eligibility: In order to give equal representation to Canada's two official languages, Poets Laureate are selected alternately from each official language community. For the 2009-2011 term, a French-speaking Poet will be selected. Candidates must be residents of Canada. Candidates must:

- have made significant contributions to the literary community;
- have produced written or oral work reflecting Canada;
- have a substantial record demonstrating literary excellence;
- be available to travel throughout Canada to promote the value of poetry;
- be available to participate in parliamentary events, as required.

Process for nomination: Nominations for the position are now open and can be submitted by a member of a literary or writing organization, a Parliamentarian or directly by interested candidates. For detailed information about the nomination process, please refer to www.parl.gc.ca/poet or contact the Parliament of Canada Information Service at 1-866-599-4999.

CALL FOR POETS

The Montreal Public Poetry Festival is now accepting applications from poets to participate in this year's event. This year's event is entitled, "Pure Lines," and is scheduled for September 26 to 28.

This festival follows a "Fringe" format. The deadline for applications is Friday, August 29th. To receive an application form send an email to and include the words, "application form" in the subject line. The festival is being organized by Public Poetry/Poesie Publique. Contact: publicpoetry@gmail.com

GRAIN EDITOR WANTED

Grain magazine, the award-winning literary journal published by the Saskatchewan Writers Guild, is seeking an editor.

Working creatively as part of a small team, the editor manages all editorial and production aspects of the magazine. The Saskatchewan Writers' Guild acts as publisher of the magazine and the editor reports to the board through the executive director of the Guild.

The successful applicant will have experience in the selection, editing and copy-editing of literary manuscripts, knowledge of production and printing processes, strong organizational and administrative skills including grant-writing and demonstrated abilities in budgeting and personnel management. The candidate will

demonstrate an ability to work both independently and in a team setting. Knowledge of the Canadian literary community is expected and familiarity with CanLit journal publishing is an asset.

Located in Saskatoon, this is a three-year, half-time employment contract offering \$19,000 per annum and a benefits package after three months. Applications for the position must be received by August 13, 2008. Please forward your resume including a description of your editorial approach to Grain Competition, The Saskatchewan Writers' Guild, Box 3986, Regina SK S7K 3K1 or to ed.swg@sasktel.net. For a more detailed job description, please visit the Grain website at www.grainmagazine.ca.

BEST OF THE WEST

Do you have a book on the 2008 list of a Canadian publisher? As a Prairie author, your book is eligible for Best of the West, the premier Fall guide to books from Western Canadian authors, illustrators and publishers. Each year 200,000 copies of Best of the West are distributed to book lovers through bookstores and libraries across Canada, and as an insert in Western Living, Prairie Books Now, Alberta Views, Windspeaker, Canadian bookseller, and new this year, Prairies North. It is also available from a slowly growing number of tourism outlets on the Prairies, and as a download from the BPAA website, with active links. This is a timely, efficient and economical way for your publisher to place your book in front of a targeted audience of Prairie book lovers. For more information, please contact Duncan at (780) 424-5060, info@bookpublishers.ab.ca, www.bookpublishers.ab.ca. The deadline for entries is Friday, August 8.

THE JOHN HOBDAY AWARDS IN ARTS MANAGEMENT

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 30 September 2008

The John Hobday Awards in Arts Management are made possible by a \$1 million donation from The Samuel and Saidye Bronfman Family Foundation. Annually, two \$10,000 awards will be presented and will allow recipients to enhance their own professional development by taking part in a recognized program, seminar or workshop; or to pass their knowledge on to the next generation as a mentor for another arts administrator outside their own organization. The awards are intended for established and mid-career arts managers. The application forms and guidelines can be found on the Canada Council for the Arts website at http://www.canadacouncil.ca/prizes/john_hobday.

FIDDLEHEAD

The Fiddlehead, Atlantic Canada's International Literary Journal, sponsors an annual contest for poetry and for short fiction. Prizes for 2008: \$1,000 Ralph Gustafson Prize for Best Poem - \$500 each for Two Runners-Up; \$1,000 for Best Story; \$500 each for Two Runners-Up. Rules: No simultaneous submissions and no previously published (or accepted for publication) submissions. Do not include a SASE. Manuscripts will not be returned. No faxed or emailed submissions are allowed. The winning entries will be published in the Spring 2009 issue of The Fiddlehead (No. 239) and on our web site. The winning authors will be paid for publication in addition to their prizes.

vetting is blind. Do not put your name and address on your manuscript. Instead include a cover page with the title(s) of your submission, which genre (short fiction or poetry), and your name and address, phone number, and email address. One Fiction Entry is one story of up to 25 double-spaced pages. One Poetry Entry is up to 3 poems with no more than 100 lines per poem

Entry Fee \$30 (CAD) for Canadian entries and \$36 (USD) for U.S. and overseas entries. Make your cheque or money order payable to The Fiddlehead and enclose it with your entry. The entry fee includes a one year subscription to The Fiddlehead. You may enter multiple times, but only your first entry in each category will be eligible for a subscription. **Deadline: Postmarked by December 1, 2008** Send Entries to: The Fiddlehead Contest, Campus House, 11 Garland Court, UNB PO Box 4400, Fredericton NB, E3B 5A3 Canada. For more info: fiddlehd@unb.ca

THE MALAHAT REVIEW 2009 LONG POEM CONTEST

Guidelines: http://malahatreview.ca/long_poem_prize/info.html.

The Malahat Review invites entries from Canadian, American, and overseas authors for the 2008 Long Poem Prize. Two awards of \$500 each are given, plus payment at the rate of \$40 per printed page upon publication. The Long Poem prize is offered every second year, alternating with the Novella Prize. Send a previously unpublished poem, or cycle of poems with a minimum of 10 published pages to a maximum of 20 published pages. A published page is up to 32 lines (or less), including stanza breaks. No restrictions as to subject matter or aesthetic approach apply. Entry fee is required (CAD\$35 for Canadian entries; US\$40 for American entries; US\$45 for entries from Mexico and outside North America). Entrants receive a one-year subscription for themselves or a friend.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS THE GOLDEN BERET AWARD

The Calgary International Spoken Word Festival is thrilled to present the third annual Golden Beret Award as part of the 2009 festival. The Golden Beret Award will be given to a Canadian spoken word artist who has made a substantial contribution to the development of the discipline, through their own writing/performance works, and their involvement in the community at large. The 2008 Golden Beret Award was presented to Calgarian Sarah Murphy, for her lifelong dedication to Spoken Word and contributions to grassroots activism.

NOMINATE NOW – And this is how!

Spoken word artists and/or friends interested in submitting for this soon-to-be-prestigious award are invited to send a one page letter via snail (address below), or on-line at www.calgaryspokenwordfestival.com. The deadline is October 30, 2008. Snail: 1428A – 44th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta T3C 2A6. The selection committee (comprised of four members of the business and artistic communities) will evaluate candidates based on the following qualities: originality of creative process, mastery of the genre, innovation, quality of writing, use of new technologies, contribution to community and openness to diverse voices. The winner of the third Golden Beret Award will be invited to present their work at the 2009 Calgary International Spoken Word Festival in April, where the award will be announced. The Calgary Spoken Word Society, which presents the Calgary International Spoken Word Festival, is a non-profit organization whose mandate is to showcase local, national & international spoken word artists; to present culturally diverse works; to offer innovative and progressive approaches to literacy; and to give voice to under-represented communities. For more information: Please call Sheri-D Wilson or Colette Mactaggart: 403.686.4292.

BC NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FOR CANADIAN NON-FICTION

The BC National Book Award for Canadian Non-fiction (worth \$40,000) is open to all non-fiction books published in Canada between November 1, 2007 and October 31, 2008. For complete submission guidelines, visit www.bcachievement.com Deadline: August 31.

THE CANADIAN MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Transition, published twice a year by The Canadian Mental Health Association (Saskatchewan Division), accepts original, unpublished, articles, fiction, non-fiction, poetry and visual art. Send submissions, with SASE, to: Transition, 2702, 12th Avenue, Regina, SK, S4T 1J2 Payment: \$25.00 per printed page.

RANDOM ACTS OF POETRY HITS THE STREETS AGAIN

Random Acts of Poetry hits the streets again, for the 5th year, October 1-5, 2008 and we're looking for eager, outgoing poets who would like to be part of this wonderful celebration of literacy. We will purchase 50 of your books, and you will distribute them to strangers. As well, this is a celebration of literacy, in past years participants have gone into ESL and adult literacy classes. Please contact Wendy Morton at wendymorton@shaw.ca and check out the website below. <http://national-random-acts-of-poetry.blogspot.com:80/>

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRIVATE WRITING/ARTIST RETREATS IN SASKATCHEWAN

- Middle Lake, SK - I am a full-time writer away October 1 - November 30, 2008, and am offering my dog-friendly home in the quiet, scenic village of Middle Lake (less than a ten minute woodland walk from Lucien Lake) to a professional writer\artist for this period, or a minimum month-long portion thereof. Middle Lake is 1.5 hours NE of Saskatoon, and 20 minutes N of Humboldt (which borders St. Peter's College, in Muenster). I have a two-bedroom home with study, high-speed internet, piano, garage, and private garden. If you are willing to care for my dog (Jackson, a redbone coonhound) during this time, I would offer my house free in exchange. You are also welcome to bring your own dog. If you are unwilling to care for my dog, a reasonable rental fee would be negotiated. Please contact shelleyanneleedahl@shaw.ca for more information and photos.
- Eastend, SK - I am a full-time writer away September 1 - December 15, 2008, and am offering my home in the village of Eastend -- home of the Wallace Stegner House and the T-Rex Centre -- to a professional writer\artist for this period, or a minimum month-long portion thereof. Eastend is located in an old river valley at the edge of the Cypress Hills. The two-bedroom home features high-speed internet, a private enclosed garden, and is a two-minute walk from the Frenchman River. I have an independent and friendly cat, Vlad, and, in exchange for his care, offer my house at no charge. For more information and photos, please contact fidnemi@sasktel.net.

RBC BRONWEN WALLACE AWARD FOR EMERGING WRITERS

A prize of \$5,000 will be awarded to the best work of poetry. Two honourable mentions will each receive \$1,000 prizes. Applicants should submit 5 - 10 pages of previously unpublished poetry. To be eligible candidates must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant, under the age of 35, unpublished in book form and without a book contract, but whose literary work must have appeared in at least one independently edited magazine or anthology. The candidate's name, address, telephone number, and details confirming their eligibility must appear only on the cover sheet accompanying the manuscript. All pages must be consecutively numbered. Entries will not be returned. The deadline for submissions is October 31, 2008. Submissions should be sent to: RBC Bronwen Wallace Award for Emerging Writers c/o The Writers' Trust of Canada, 90 Richmond Street East, Suite 200, Toronto, Ontario, M5C 1P1. For further information please visit www.writerstrust.com or contact: James Davies, Program Manager (Prizes and Awards) 416.504.8222 x 245 or jdavies@writerstrust.com

***** Events, Readings, Workshops, Retreats *****

INNISFIL TAKES ON MORE "CHARACTER" IN NOVEMBER

Attention fiction writers: Wish you could create more memorable characters? Are the people who populate your stories sometimes so flat and boring that even you don't want to write about them? Never fear; three award-winning writers offer a solution on November 1 and 2, 2008 — a weekend writing workshop/retreat called "Characters Reloaded: Know Your Character From the Inside Out." The early bird deadline to sign up is just around the corner. Save by registering before July 15 for this fun and intensive fiction writing retreat at Mardon Lodge (part of Kempenfelt Conference Centre) on Lake Simcoe in Innisfil.

The two-day retreat (www.writescape.ca) includes meals and snacks, double-occupancy room (with the choice of single-occupancy room for a minimal additional fee), plus SEVEN hands-on workshops with three Ontario-based accomplished writers and renowned writing instructors: Ruth E. Walker, Gwynn Scheltema and Dorothea Helms. Members of the following non-profit organizations receive an additional discount on registration: The Writers' Circle of Durham Region, Haliburton Highlands Writers' and Editors' Network, Professional Writers Association of Canada, and Canadian Authors Association.

Attendees will be immersed in a natural setting with 1,500 feet of private shoreline along the bay as they learn to breathe new life into their characters and their stories. Participants will have full use of the facility's computer centre, sauna, hot tub, exercise room, pool table and tennis courts, and will have both wireless and direct-connect high-speed Internet. The weekend includes group work in joint sessions, plus time for individual writing in this idyllic setting – while someone else cooks and makes the bed.

Scheltema, Walker and Helms are sought after as writers, editors, writing instructors, and judges for fiction and poetry competitions. They are dynamic workshop facilitators who have taught a full range of programs from half-day workshops to weeklong retreats and college-level credit courses. These three powerhouse presenters have appeared on television and radio, and have received writing accolades such as the Timothy Findley Award, Barbara Novak Award, Canadian Living short story award, and Dan Sullivan Memorial Poetry Competition. For more information or to register, call Ruth Walker 905-728-7823 or Dorothea Helms 905-852-9294, or visit www.writescape.ca.

READINGS AT THE ROXY #1, GABRIOLA ISLAND, BC

Readings At The Roxy #1

Friday, August 15, 2008, 7:00pm

Launching this exciting new series are Vancouver Poets and Literary Publishers Meredith Quartermain & Peter Quartermain with host Hilary Peach. Meredith Quartermain is the author of six books of poetry including the 2006 BC Book Award winner Vancouver Walking. Peter Quartermain taught contemporary poetry and poetics at the University of British Columbia & The Naropa institute for over 30 years. Together they are the founders of Nomados Literary Publishers. Join these fascinating creatures for readings and a discussion of language, poetry, language poetry, literary publishing, and whatever else comes up. (suggested donation \$5) Gabriola Island, BC. For more info: <http://www.poetrygabriola.com/>

WORKSHOP IN BEAUTIFUL PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY, ON

Visit beautiful Prince Edward County on Wednesday, August 13, and sharpen up your poeticizing skills in a one-day workshop in Bloomfield. Led by John Oughton, author of four poetry books and another one on the way, and editor of Poetry Markets for Canadians, the day-long workshop includes detail-gathering and creative imagery generating exercises, workshoping of two of your poems, sessions on reading/performing and marketing your work, ten top poetry mistakes and more. Fee of \$50 includes scones and coffee/tea for breakfast, and sandwich lunch. Registration is limited. Info: joughton@centennialcollege.ca, or 613 393-2407 or register in person at Saylor House Cafe, 274 Main St., Bloomfield.

KEEPING THE CREATIVE SPIRIT AWAKE, SANTIAGO, CHILE!

A Poetry Workshop with Barry Dempster in Santiago, Chile, January 11 to January 25, 2009. Whatever stage you might be in your writing, the stakes are similar: to use language as if you had just invented it; to find the emotional and spiritual resonance beneath the image; to let as much of the world into your work as possible. A poem is a magic spell that starts with very ordinary tools. First and foremost comes an awakening to the details around you, and a response that calls forth all the music you can muster, all the truth there is to tell.

This workshop is open to all levels of accomplishment from beginner to advanced. The only prerequisite is that you open yourself to the poem as a transformative act. A series of engaging and challenging exercises will help you stretch your work to the next level, exercises designed to ignite the imagination, to hone your observational skills, and to allow your unconscious to come as fully awake as possible. There will also be opportunities for one-on-one mentoring sessions, and for exploring the different poetic voices that make contemporary poetry such a vital force. Join us in Chile for two weeks of deep writing and reading, everything from Poets' Walks, to turning a blank page into a source of energy, to a whole new way of tackling revision.

BARRY DEMPSTER is the author of 14 books, including the novel *The Ascension of Jesse Rapture*, two volumes of short stories, a children's book, and 10 collections of poetry, the most recent of which, *The Burning Alphabet*, won the Canadian Authors Association's Chalmers Award for Poetry. His work has also been nominated twice for the Governor General's Award, and has won a Petra Kenney Award and a Confederation Poetry Prize. He is senior editor at Brick Books and has edited award-winning poetry by Don McKay and Don Domanski. He has been a mentor on faculty with the Banff Centre for the Arts three times since 2003, both with the Poetry Studio and the Wired Writing Workshop. Two new poetry collections are forthcoming: *Love Outlandish* (Brick Books, spring 2009) and *Ivan's Birches* (Pedlar Press). Contact Susan Siddeley at motocad@rogers.com for more information.

WOODY POINT, NEWFOUNDLAND

Reading with Randall Maggs & Gordon Pinsent, Don McKay, music by Allison Crowe on Friday August 15 at 8 p.m. features the return to Woody Point of Gordon Pinsent, fresh off his Genie-award winning performance in the critically-acclaimed film *Away From Her*. Reading on the same bill that night will be two of Canada's finest poets, Don McKay, winner of the Governor General's Award and the Griffin Poetry Prize, and Corner Brook's own Randall Maggs, reading from the acclaimed collection *Night Work: The Sawchuk Poems*. Music from singer-songwriter Allison Crowe. Heritage Theatre - Tickets \$20. For more information, visit <http://www.writersatwoodypoint.com/>

THE VANCOUVER POETRY SLAM AND VANCOUVER POETRY HOUSE

<http://vancouverpoetryhouse.com/> - <http://www.myspace.com/vancouverpoetryslam>

Are proud to present on Saturday August 9th at Café Deux Soleils: 2096 Commercial Drive, From The U.K. Inflatable Buddha (<http://www.inflatablebuddha.co.uk/>, <http://www.myspace.com/inflatablebuddha>). Inflatable Buddha are performance poet Steve Larkin, Multi-Instrumentalist, "Purple" Dave Hart, Blues Harmonica hurdy-gurdy player Mauro Sanin and vocalist and bassist, Su Jordan. They are touring Canada as part of the Canadian Fringe Festival circuit in 2008 including Edmonton, Winnipeg and Saskatoon. They have one day in between festivals and they want to spend it in Vancouver, August 9th at Café Deux Soleils.

Also performing: The Minimalist Jug Band and poet/songwriter/2007-3 day novel writing contest winner: Brendan McLeod plus emcee RC Weslowski. Come spend a Saturday night in East Van getting down to some fun and funky rhythms and sounds. Doors at 8pm. Show starts at 9 o'clock. Only \$10. For more info or if you'd like to volunteer and get in free contact rcarcee@yahoo.ca or call 604 215 9230.

THE VANCOUVER POETRY SLAM

<http://www.myspace.com/vancouverpoetryslam> - <http://vancouverpoetryhouse.com/>

The Vancouver Poetry Slam continues at the Café Deux Soleils: 2096 Commercial Drive (5th and commercial) <http://www.cafedeuxsoleils.com/> every Monday of the month. The next "Alt Slam" is Monday, August 11, featuring Canadian Spoken Word Legend "The Mama of Dada" Sheri-D Wilson (www.sheridwilson.com). Sheri-D Wilson has seven collections of poetry; her most recent, *Autopsy of a Turvy World* (Frontenac House) will be launched at this year's festival. Her collection *Re:Zoom* (2005, Frontenac House), won the 2006 Stephan G. Stephansson Award for Poetry, and was shortlisted for the CanLit award. She has two Spoken Word CDs (arranged by Russell Broom), and four award-winning VideoPoems: *Airplane Paula* (2001), *Spinsters Hanging in Trees* (2002), *Surf Rave Girly Girrl* (2004), and *The Panty Portal* (2008), all produced for BravoFACT.

Since founding the Calgary International Spoken Word Festival in 2003, Sheri-D has worked at quantum velocities to present one of the most respected Spoken Word Festivals in Canada. Driven by the passion to connect people, voices and ideas she founded/organized SWAN (Spoken Word Arts Network, 2007, 2005) and is the Program Director of the 2008 Spoken Word Program at Banff Centre.

This month's event is the return of the Decathlon Slam, 10 rounds, two teams/two captains, as many poets as possible (even non poets tooooo), sock puppets, mimes, scrabble, time pieces, ventriloquists, cover poems, and cupcakes!!! Doors and poets sign up at 8pm. Slam starts at 9 o'clock with your emcee RC Weslowski. Still only \$5. For more info: 604 215 9230 or rcarcee@yahoo.ca.

2008 NATIONAL SLAM! IN CALGARY!

November 5th – 9th, 2008 at the Auburn Saloon, #163 115 9th Ave SE and Central Library – John Dutton Theatre - 616 Macleod Trail SE. The 2008 NATIONAL SLAM! Competition is coming to Calgary in November and The Calgary International Spoken Word Festival is gearing up to host Canada's top slam poets. SLAM teams (12 teams of 4) from across Canada will fly into Cowtown for five action-packed, burgeoning days of workshops, discussion, and high-octane head-to-head bouts of 3-minute poems – until a winning team is crowned on the 8th! Spoken Word heavyweights Greg Frankson, Dwayne Morgan, Andrea Thompson, and Sheri-D Wilson will headline throughout the week. Calgary's own Golden Beret winner and May SLAM celebrity judge, Sarah Murphy, will open the celebration with the launch of her spoken word CD, when bill danced the war. POPULARITY: The SLAM phenomenon has taken hold in Calgary and the audiences continue to grow exponentially. Hundreds of emerging poets have taken an interest in this fabulous new form. Each month, ten poets storm the stage to share their words and beats to packed-out, cheering crowds! Judges from the audience score their performances in three intense rounds of poetic excellence, until a winner is crowned! With different local performers every time, SLAM nights are impossible to predict and not to be missed! How Will The National SLAM! Competition Work? Five days of SLAM bouts, workshops, networking, open mics, CD launches, discussions, public forums and word innovation. Twelve teams including Victoria, Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto, Halifax, & Montreal. Bouts on November 6th and 7th, with the final, winner-crowning round on the 8th. If a SLAM poet SLAMS for longer than 3 minutes, points are deducted. Scores are based on: 1) the poem, 2) the performance, and 3) audience reaction. For a detailed line-up, please visit: www.calgaryspokenwordfestival.com The 2008 National SLAM Competition: November 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th at the Auburn Saloon, #163 115 9th Ave SE and Central Library – John Dutton Theatre -616 Macleod Trail SE. For more info: Sheri-D Wilson – 403.686.4292 or www.calgaryspokenwordfestival.com.

IT'S THE POET'S PICNIC! GABRIOLA ISLAND, BC

August 10, 2008, 2:00pm At 888 Canso Drive with poets Miranda Pearson & Hilary Peach & Songsters Kevin House & Myles Black. Everyone is Welcome to this FREE Bring-Your-Own-Picnic Event! OUTDOOR OPEN STAGE! Bring A Poem! Bring A Picnic! Thanks for your patience, one and all. You can view the poster as an attachment, or at our website below: www.poetrygabriola.com

LONDON POETRY FESTIVAL 2008

4th London Poetry Festival 2008
August 8, 9, 10 & 11 (Friday-Monday) Evenings
Waterloo St John's Church
Waterloo Road
London SE1
<http://www.poetsletter.com>
<http://www.londonpoetryfestival.com>
<http://www.munayemmayenin.co.uk>

******* New Members *******

DOMENICO CAPILONGO – FULL MEMBER

Domenico Capilongo's writing has appeared in publications abroad and in Canadian literary journals including, The New Quarterly, Filling Station, Descant, and Acta Victoriana. In 2006 he was short listed for Lichen Literary Journal's "Tracking A Serial Poet" contest and he received an honourable mention in the Toronto Star's 2004 Poetry Contest. Capilongo lived in Vancouver and Swift Current before finally settling in Toronto. His first book of poetry, "I thought elvis was italian", was published by Wolsak and Wynn in Spring 2008.

MARIA PIA MARCHELLETTA (LADY ELISABETH VISCOUNT) – ASSOCIATE MEMBER

Elisabeth studied both Italian and French literature and grammar at the University of Toronto. Here she obtained

an Honors Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Education from the Faculty of Education. She has taught French and Italian at both the elementary and secondary levels.

Elisabeth's passions include reading and writing English, Italian and French poetry, short stories and essays. She has published a chapbook, "Nocturnal Laments" with Beret Days Press under her pen name Lady Elisabeth Viscount. She belongs to various poetry groups and associations which include the League of Canadian Poets, The Ontario Poetry Society, Canadian Authors Association-Executive Member, Vaughan Poet's Circle, The Association of Italian-Canadian Writers, Canadian Federation of Poets, The Writers' Circle of Durham Region, The Poetry Society, UK and Toastmasters International where she has shared her poetry.

Most recent publications include The Poet Band Company, the Ontario Poetry Society, Canadian Federation of Poets, Tertulia Magazine and Brindin Press, UK.

***** **Members News** *****

PENN KEMP

Penn Kemp is performing in the London ON Fringe alt. opera, "Miscommunication Highway", McManus Theatre: see <http://londonfringe.ca/stage-showphp?id=30>.

Penn's poem, "Crossing the Light" is poem of the week of July 7 on <Http://www.parl.gc.ca/information/about/people/poet/index.asp?lang=e¶m=4>. "Crossing the Light" was chosen by the Parliamentary Poet Laureate for the Library of Parliament. It will be posted for two years. Other muse news is up on www.mytown.ca/pennletters/!

JULIE MAHFOOD

Julie Mahfood has two poems in the current issue of carte blanche and has just had a poem accepted for inclusion in a future issue of the Literary Review of Canada.

St@nz@ is distributed monthly to members of the League of Canadian Poets. To subscribe, unsubscribe, or post a notice, send an e-mail to readings@poets.ca If members don't have e-mail access, we'll be happy to send print summaries by snail mail. Please send a note to the League office requesting us to do so. Address: 920 Yonge St. Ste.608, Toronto, Ontario, M4W 3C7. Send news to readings@poets.ca.

The League of Canadian Poets receives operating funding from the Canada Council for the Arts, the Ontario Arts Council and the Toronto Arts Council.