

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

***** HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM ALL OF US AT THE LEAGUE OFFICE *****

The League office will be closed for the holidays from December 20, 2008 – January 4, 2009.

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

We would like to extend an invitation to you and guest (s) to join us for an afternoon holiday open house. We will be hosting a holiday get-together on Thursday, December 18 from 3 – 5 pm. The party will take place at the League's offices at 920 Yonge Street, Suite 608. Please join us for some fun, conversation and catching up with friends. Directions: The closest intersection is Yonge and Davenport and the nearest subway stop is either Yonge/Bloor or Rosedale. If you require more information please call our office at 416-504-1657.

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE CHAIRS

The League is currently looking for members to fill the positions of Freedom of Expression Chair and Education Committee Chair. If you are interested in volunteering your time to be a part of these committees please email Joanna at joanna@poets.ca for more info.

THIS SPRING, EXPLORE POETRY PLANET FOR NATIONAL POETRY MONTH

The League is now accepting proposals for readings and performances which explore this year's theme: *Poetry Planet*. Artists and NPM participants are encouraged to discuss and elaborate on themes of poetry as it relates to land, culture, nature and how we define the Canadian landscape, from the very first Canadian artists, Aboriginal Peoples, and storytelling, and to today's youth, who reflect the diversity of land, language and the present Canadian cultural climate. Building on the success of past years' NPM events, the League is also encouraging events which take place in non-traditional venues. Some successful venues from previous years include readings in parks, movie theatres, art galleries, and a local zoo. **Deadline: February 15, 2009.** For more info: <http://www.poets.ca/linktext/npm.htm>

LAST CALL FOR POETIC LICENCE FOR YOUTH - DEADLINE JANUARY 15, 2009.

There are two age categories, junior (grades 7-9) and senior (grades 10-12). First place poems in each category will receive a cash prize of \$350, second place winners will receive \$300 and third place winners will receive \$250. All winning poems will be published in the League of Canadian Poets' e-zine, *Re:verse* at www.youngpoets.ca. All winners will receive Poetic Licence certificates and student memberships in the League of Canadian Poets for one year. For guidelines: <http://www.youngpoets.ca/>

NEWS FROM THE FEMINIST CAUCUS

By Anne Burke, Chair. Subject: Call for Submissions: Capturing our History: Feminisms in Canada and Quebec, 1960-2010/Retracer notre histoire: le mouvement féministe au Canada et au Québec, 1960 à 2010.

The project: To publish a series of books - one per year beginning in 2010 - that depict the richness and diversity of feminist activity in Canada and Quebec between 1960 and 2010. They will be written by different authors and may include autobiographies, biographies, single- and multi-themed volumes, edited collections, plays, novels, etc. The complexities of gender, race, class, geography, culture, dis/ability, language, sexual identity and age are central to the project. For full report: www.poets.ca/linktext/newsletter

MANITOBA REPORT

By Lori Cayer. Winter in Manitoba is off to a strange start this year, more like the way I imagine winters farther east or west of here. The snow was sudden and wet and treacherous, then it suddenly mostly melted and what didn't melt refroze to a bumpy candy coating. So Winnipeg is kind of a moonscape with no snow to speak of since, and it's now the end of November when we're usually pretty tucked in with the white stuff. All these dry roads and mild temperatures have been making it easy for poets and poetry lovers to get out of the house and see what each other has been up to. For full report: www.poets.ca/linktext/newsletter

JANUARY 31 DEADLINE- CANADA POETRY TOURS

A reminder to all the poets and hosts that would like to apply for Canada Poetry Tours funding for readings taking place between April 1, 2009 and September 30, 2009. The deadline is January 31, 2009. For the complete guidelines, application forms and more info: <http://www.poets.ca/linktext/programs.htm>

2009 LCP POETRY FEST AND CONFERENCE

Next year's annual LCP Poetry Fest and Conference will be held in downtown Vancouver at the SFU Harbour Centre from June 12 – 14. More details in the next newsletter.

***** Literary News *****

THIS IS THE FINAL YEAR FOR THE PETRA KENNEY POETRY AWARDS

The Petra Kenney Poetry Awards for 2007 were held at Canada House on May 9th. The awards were presented by poet, Dannie Abse and Robert Rochon, The Deputy High Commissioner.

- The Winners for 2007:
First prize: Caroline Gills, Wales-- The Figure at the Phoenix Mine
Second prize: Mario Petrucci, England --- "S" is for snow
Third prize: Daphne Schiller, England --- Mistletoe
- Highly Commended:
Pat Borthwick, England--- Becoming a Woman
Pam Galloway, Canada--- Away from you (with you)
Micheline Maylor, Canada--- Even Now
- Young Poets: 14-18
First prize: Josh Evans, Canada --- Looking Back
Second prize: Kelsey Harbord, Canada --- My Sister's Favorite Bear
- Comic: Doreen Hinchcliffe, England --- All Their Yesterdays

This is the final year (2008 entries up to and including December 31st) of The Petra Kenney Poetry Competition. Morgan Kenney, founder of the competition, explains: 'I established the competition as a tribute to the happiness my wife brought into my life. After fourteen years, I feel this goal has been achieved. I take great pride in the success of this competition both in Canada and in Britain. The government of each country has recognised the contribution to poets and to poetry made by the competition. Eminent poets in Britain have said: 'The awards day of The Petra Kenney Poetry Competition is one of the most prestigious events on London's literary calendar. All of us in the administration thank all those who have supported the competition in so many ways. It is your generous and enthusiastic support that has made the competition so successful.

There is still this last year to enter. To date more prizes have been awarded to Canadian poets (37) than poets from any other country including England (32) where the ceremony takes place. The majority of the Canadian poets have been members of the league of Canadian Poets and or Writers' Guilds from every province. Please enter or let your colleagues know that this year is the last opportunity to enter the competition. The last Awards Ceremony will be held at Canada House in May 2009. For entry form and detailed guidelines: www.petrapoetrycompetition.co.uk. Poems can be emailed to Molly Yeomans Canadian Director at: molly.y@sympatico.ca and entry fee \$7.00 per poem mailed under separate cover or send poems and entry fee to: Molly Yeomans, 38 Langmuir Cres., Toronto, ON. M6S 2A7

THE PUBLIC LENDING RIGHT

The Public Lending Right program's registration period will be open from 15 February to 1 May 2009. Are you registered?

Yes. If you have moved recently, you must update your address with the PLR Commission. Send us your change of address by mail, fax, telephone or e-mail, indicated below.

No. If you are an author, co-author, editor, translator, illustrator, photographer or anthology contributor, you may be eligible for a PLR payment for the service of your books held in Canadian public libraries. For further information, visit our website at www.plr-dpp.ca or contact us by using one of the methods indicated below.

For more info: Public Lending Right Commission / Commission du droit du prêt public, 350 Albert, P.O. Box 1047 / C.P. 1047, Ottawa ON, K1P 5V8. Tel: 1 800 521-5721 or Fax: (613) 566-4418 or E-mail: plr@canadacouncil.ca or www.plr-dpp.ca

CANADA COUNCIL DENIES CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Canada Council, which administers the Governor General's Literary Awards, is standing by the decision of its jury to award this year's poetry prize to Jacob Scheier in the face of complaints by some critics that the decision is tainted by conflict of interest.

Scheier, a 28-year-old Toronto poet living in Brooklyn, N.Y., won for his debut, *More to Keep Us Warm*. In the acknowledgements, Scheier thanks two of the three jury members: poets Di Brandt, who helped translate a poem contained in the collection, and Pier Giorgio Di Cicco, who blurbed the book.

This has sparked an outcry among some in the poetry community. Eyebrows were raised almost immediately after the \$25,000 award was announced last week, with naysayers venting their objections on the literary website Bookninja.com. For full Toronto Star article: <http://www.thestar.com/article/542771>

RICCI WINS 2ND GG BOOK AWARD

Nino Ricci has claimed his second Governor General's Fiction Award for *The Origin of Species*, a semi-autobiographical novel set in Mulroney-era Montreal. The Toronto-based author first won the prestigious prize, now worth \$25,000, in 1990 for his debut, *Lives of the Saints*. "I was much more innocent and fresh when I got the first one. And in some ways less appreciative," said Ricci, after receiving the award this morning in Montreal. For full Toronto Star article: <http://www.thestar.com/article/538934>

LINES THAT LINGERED

Poet Jeramy Dodds recently released his first book, *Crabwise to the Hounds*. There's a certain blueprint in Canadian letters, especially poetry, for how one goes about building a career. You write, often in the early morning hours before work or in the last moments of the day. You send your poems or short stories off to small literary magazines. You receive a stack of polite rejection notes before the day when a piece is accepted for publication. You write more. You publish more. A manuscript takes shape. You send it off to publishers. Most reject it, but - and this is where it pays off - one says yes.

Jeramy Dodds has spent years in the pages of these small magazines. Anyone following the minor leagues of CanLit - scouting the up-and-coming writers - saw his name regularly. There were prizes, too - the Writers' Trust of Canada gave Dodds the Bronwen Wallace Award for Emerging Writers in 2006, and he won the 2007 CBC Literary Award for poetry - and while some may have wondered when "the book" would arrive, Dodds, 33, was never impatient.

"It sort of felt like it would happen at some point, I was never really anxious," he says, on a mid-October morning at a downtown Toronto coffee shop. "It sounds odd, but I just knew I wanted the poems - I wanted to be real comfortable, I wanted them to be ready." For full National Post article: <http://www.nationalpost.com/story.html?id=988296>

LEONARD COHEN ARTWORK TO GO ON SHOW IN VANCOUVER

A rare showing of Canadian icon Leonard Cohen's artwork will take place in Vancouver next month. The 37 drawings, which feature multiple self-portraits, have only been shown twice before - in Manchester, England, and as part of Toronto's Luminato Festival this year. To launch the Vancouver show, Cohen's son, Adam Cohen, will host an invitation-only event at the Canvas Lounge on Dec. 3, and there is a rumour (as yet unconfirmed) that Cohen himself will attend. For full Globe and Mail article: http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/Page/document/v5/content/subscribe?user_URL=http://www.theglobeandmail.com%2F%2Fservlet%2Fstory%2FLAC.20081114.BUZZ14N%2FTPSStory%2F%3Fquery%3Dpoetry&ord=128821279&brand=theglobeandmail&force_login=true

YOUR THOUGHTS ON COPYRIGHT IN CANADA

In *A Copyright Call to Arms*, Wojciech Gryc and Jesse Helmer write that the copyright debate "so far has not engaged the vast majority of ordinary Canadians who would be affected ... everyone who buys music, videos, books and movies in digital form. Rightsholders and their lobby groups, on the other hand, are fully engaged and pushing for changes that would benefit them.

"How our laws are changed matters, as well-intentioned reform can lead to unintended consequences. A law designed to protect a cellphone manufacturer or music company may also restrict how we use our phones and listen to the music we have purchased. While copyright was not a hot-button issue in the recent election, party platforms do indicate that new bills in this area will be proposed, and Canadians need to be ready to stand up for their rights as consumers." For full Globe and Mail article: <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20081112.wgcopyfightCOMMENTS/BNStory/Afghanistan/>

COMIC TALES AND THE QUEST FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVING WIN BIG AT THE WRITERS' TRUST AWARDS:

The works of great Canadian authors were honoured this evening at the Isabel Bader Theatre at the eighth annual Writers' Trust Awards. Winnipeg writer Miriam Toews received the \$25,000 Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize for *The Flying Troutmans*, a comic novel about a young woman and her niece and nephew on a motel-hopping road trip in search of the children's father. Montreal writer Taras Grescoe won the \$25,000 Writers' Trust Non-Fiction Prize for *Bottomfeeder: How to Eat Ethically in a World of Vanishing Seafood*, an account of the global crisis of fisheries and its implications, as well as a practical guide to sustainable consumption.

Four authors received awards for their excellence in literature: Sylvia Fraser, Michael Kusugak, Saleema Nawaz, and Michael Winter. Additionally, Rogers received an award for its long-standing support of the Writers' Trust.

Seven prizes were awarded with a combined value of \$155,000, making the event one of the richest awards nights in Canada. The prize amounts of several awards have increased by up to \$10,000 from last year, reaffirming the Writers' Trust's commitment to supporting Canadian writers. Below are the prizes presented at the Writers' Trust Awards, with comments from the judges:

- The Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize (\$25,000). Winner: Miriam Toews (Winnipeg) for *The Flying Troutmans*, published by Knopf Canada
- The Writers' Trust Non-Fiction Prize (\$25,000). Winner: Taras Grescoe (Montreal) for *Bottomfeeder: How to Eat Ethically in a World of Vanishing Seafood*, published by HarperCollins Canada
- The Writers' Trust of Canada / McClelland & Stewart Journey Prize (\$10,000). Winner: Saleema Nawaz (Montreal) for "My Three Girls," published in *Prairie Fire*
- The Writers' Trust Notable Author Award (\$25,000). Winner: Michael Winter (Toronto)
- The Vicky Metcalf Award For Children's Literature (\$20,000). Winner: Michael Kusugak (Rankin Inlet, Nunavut)
- The Matt Cohen Award: In Celebration Of A Writing Life (\$20,000). Winner: Sylvia Fraser (Toronto)
- The Writers' Trust Award For Distinguished Contribution. Winner: Rogers

The 2008 Writers' Trust Awards event is made possible through generous support from corporate, foundation, and individual sponsors. The Writers' Trust would like to thank The Globe and Mail for continuing to be the event's national print media sponsor. Other sponsors include Black Prince Winery, Media Profile, Push Design, Steam Whistle Brewing, and the Sutton Place Hotel. The Writers' Trust Awards receive no financial support from any government programs. For writers' biographies, complete jury citations, information about the Writers' Trust, and a chance to win a set of this year's nominated titles, please visit www.writerstrust.com

CANADA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS 2007-08 ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS SUPPORT TO THE ARTS AND NEW DIRECTIONS

The Canada Council for the Arts reported an increased level of support to Canadian professional artists and arts organizations as well as the charting of new strategic directions in its 2007-08 Annual Report released today.

"The ultimate goal of the Canada Council for the Arts is that Canada have a rich and vigorous creative life that stimulates the imagination and gives Canadians the means to share their spirit with one another and the world," Council Director Robert Sirman said in his annual message. "The past year – the Council's 50th – saw significant progress in moving this vision forward, and reinforced its potential to do even more in the years to come."

In 2007-08, the Canada Council awarded more than \$164 million in funding to individual artists and arts organizations in some 680 communities across Canada. This is the largest amount of funding awarded by the Council since its creation in 1957 and was the result of an increase to the Council's parliamentary appropriation of \$30 million for 2007-08 and for future years.

"This investment by the people of Canada through their government recognizes the important national role played by the Council," noted former Chair Karen Kain in her message. "It is a mark of confidence in the Council's expertise and capacity to deliver strategic support to artists and arts organizations in every region of the country, and of the impact and value that this support offers to all Canadians."

Over \$151 million was awarded in the form of grants, as well as \$3.5 million in prizes and fellowships and \$9.1 million in payments to writers, translators and illustrators under the Public Lending Right program, which compensates authors for the availability of their books in Canadian public libraries.

The report describes a number of initiatives undertaken by the Council including an extensive consultation which led to the development of a 2008-11 Strategic Plan and an Organizational Design Review to strengthen its capacity to support the arts and implement change by strengthening its structure, staffing and services. For full annual report: www.canadacouncil.ca/aboutus/organization/annualreports.

CANADIAN ARTS COALITION WELCOMES NEW MINISTER OF CANADIAN HERITAGE

The Canadian Arts Coalition congratulates Mr. James Moore, the new Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages on his appointment to Cabinet.

"We are eager to begin working with the new Minister to fulfill the Conservative Party's assurance that 'the arts are essential to our country and our communities,'" says Anne-Marie Jean, co-chair of the Coalition's Steering Committee.

During the election campaign, all parties affirmed the value they place in continuing to provide a high quality of life for Canadians, and recognized the importance of arts and culture for Canada. "We believe that outstanding, accessible arts and culture experiences are an essential component of that high quality of life for which Canada is known," reinforced Jean. "We look forward to working with the government to strengthen arts and culture programs, policies, and investments to support the Canadian arts and culture sector, one that contributes \$46 billion to our GDP."

The Canadian Arts Coalition is Canada's largest consortium of arts, culture and heritage supporters advocating for increased federal investment in arts and culture. We believe that a thriving arts and culture sector, supported by adequate investment by the federal government, will place Canada at the forefront of a global society that values innovation, excellence, social cohesion and economic prosperity.

AUTHORS, PUBLISHERS, AND GOOGLE REACH LANDMARK SETTLEMENT COPYRIGHT ACCORD WOULD MAKE MILLIONS MORE BOOKS AVAILABLE ONLINE

New York, NY (October 28, 2008) – The Authors Guild, the Association of American Publishers (AAP), and Google today announced a groundbreaking settlement agreement on behalf of a broad class of authors and publishers worldwide that would expand online access to millions of in-copyright books and other written materials in the U.S. from the collections of a number of major U.S. libraries participating in Google Book Search. The agreement, reached after two years of negotiations, would resolve a class-action lawsuit brought by book authors and the Authors Guild, as well as a separate lawsuit filed by five large publishers as representatives of the AAP's membership. The class action is subject to approval by the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York.

The agreement promises to benefit readers and researchers, and enhance the ability of authors and publishers to distribute their content in digital form, by significantly expanding online access to works through Google Book Search, an ambitious effort to make millions of books searchable via the Web. The agreement acknowledges the rights and interests of copyright owners, provides an efficient means for them to control how their intellectual property is accessed online and enables them to receive compensation for online access to their works.

If approved by the court, the agreement would provide:

- More Access to Out-of-Print Books -- Generating greater exposure for millions of in-copyright works, including hard-to-find out-of-print books, by enabling readers in the U.S. to search these works and preview them online;
- Additional Ways to Purchase Copyrighted Books -- Building off publishers' and authors' current efforts and further expanding the electronic market for copyrighted books in the U.S., by offering users the ability to purchase online access to many in-copyright books;
- Institutional Subscriptions to Millions of Books Online -- Offering a means for U.S. colleges, universities and other organizations to obtain subscriptions for online access to collections from some of the world's most renowned libraries;
- Free Access >From U.S. Libraries -- Providing free, full-text, online viewing of millions of out-of-print

books at designated computers in U.S. public and university libraries; and

- Compensation to Authors and Publishers and Control Over Access to Their Works -- Distributing payments earned from online access provided by Google and, prospectively, from similar programs that may be established by other providers, through a newly created independent, not-for-profit Book Rights Registry that will also locate rightsholders, collect and maintain accurate rightsholder information, and provide a way for rightsholders to request inclusion in or exclusion from the project.

Under the agreement, Google will make payments totaling \$125 million. The money will be used to establish the Book Rights Registry, to resolve existing claims by authors and publishers and to cover legal fees. The settlement agreement resolves Authors Guild v. Google, a class-action suit filed on September 20, 2005 by the Authors Guild and certain authors, and a suit filed on October 19, 2005 by five major publisher-members of the Association of American Publishers: The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. (NYSE: MHP); Pearson Education, Inc. and Penguin Group (USA) Inc., both part of Pearson (LSE: PSON; NYSE: PSO); John Wiley & Sons, Inc. (NYSE: JWa and JWb); and Simon & Schuster, Inc. part of CBS Corporation (NYSE: CBS.A and CBS). These lawsuits challenged Google's plan to digitize, search and show snippets of in-copyright books and to share digital copies with libraries without the explicit permission of the copyright owner.

Holders worldwide of U.S. copyrights can register their works with the Book Rights Registry and receive compensation from institutional subscriptions, book sales, ad revenues and other possible revenue models, as well as a cash payment if their works have already been digitized.

Libraries at the Universities of California, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Stanford have provided input into the settlement and expect to participate in the project, including by making their collections available. Along with a number of other U.S. libraries that currently work with Google, their significant efforts to preserve, maintain and provide access to books have played a critical role in achieving this agreement and, through their anticipated participation, they are furthering such efforts while making books even more accessible to students, researchers and readers in the U.S. It is expected that additional libraries in the U.S. will participate in this project in the future.

Google Book Search users in the United States will be able to enjoy and purchase the products and services offered under the project. Outside the United States, the users' experience with Google Book Search will be unchanged, unless the offering of such products and services is authorized by the rightsholder of a book.

"It's hard work writing a book, and even harder work getting paid for it," said Roy Blount Jr., President of the Authors Guild. "As a reader and researcher, I'll be delighted to stop by my local library to browse the stacks of some of the world's great libraries. As an author, well, we appreciate payment when people use our work. This deal makes good sense."

"This historic settlement is a win for everyone," said Richard Sarnoff, Chairman of the Association of American Publishers. "From our perspective, the agreement creates an innovative framework for the use of copyrighted material in a rapidly digitizing world, serves readers by enabling broader access to a huge trove of hard-to-find books, and benefits the publishing community by establishing an attractive commercial model that offers both control and choice to the rightsholder."

"Google's mission is to organize the world's information and make it universally accessible and useful. Today, together with the authors, publishers, and libraries, we have been able to make a great leap in this endeavor," said Sergey Brin, co-founder & president of technology at Google. "While this agreement is a real win-win for all of us, the real victors are all the readers. The tremendous wealth of knowledge that lies within the books of the world will now be at their fingertips."

For more information about this agreement, including information about whether you may be a class member, please visit <http://books.google.com/booksrightsholders>. Class members include authors (the Author Sub-Class) and publishers (the Publisher Sub-Class), and their heirs and successors, of books and other written works protected by U.S. copyright law.

DOUBLE-WINNER CHRISTOPHER PAUL CURTIS AWARDED \$25,000 AT CANADIAN CHILDREN'S LITERATURE AWARDS CELEBRATION

The Canadian Children's Book Centre (CCBC) is thrilled to announce the winners of the four major children's book awards it administers. The winners were announced last night at a gala event at The Carlu in Toronto. Christopher Paul Curtis took home two of the four awards for his internationally acclaimed novel, *Elijah* of

Buxton. Hugh Brewster and author-illustrator team Frieda Wishinsky and Marie-Louise Gay were also awarded prizes. Another big winner for the evening was Scholastic Canada whose books were honoured with three of the four awards. This year's winning titles will captivate the hearts and imaginations of children and adults everywhere. Readers will be introduced to 11-year-old Elijah, the first African Canadian child to be born into freedom in Buxton, Ontario, a settlement for runaway slaves; told the true story of the Battle of Vimy Ridge—the battle that helped young Canada discover its national pride; and meet Louise, the little sister who pesters her older brother so much so that he wishes she would just disappear... and she does! These books exemplify some of the best work by Canadian authors and illustrators. The Canadian Children's Book Centre is proud to share these titles with you. For a complete shortlist for each award, please visit www.bookcentre.ca.

- TD CANADIAN CHILDREN'S LITERATURE AWARD (\$20,000). Sponsored by TD Bank Financial Group. Winner: Elijah of Buxton, written by Christopher Paul Curtis of Windsor, Ontario (Scholastic Canada)
- GEOFFREY BILSON AWARD FOR HISTORICAL FICTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE (\$5,000). Sponsored by the Canadian Children's Book Centre's Bilson Endowment Fund. Winner: Elijah of Buxton, written by Christopher Paul Curtis of Windsor, Ontario (Scholastic Canada)
- NORMA FLECK AWARD FOR CANADIAN CHILDREN'S NON-FICTION (\$10,000). Sponsored by the Fleck Family Foundation Winner: At Vimy Ridge: Canada's Greatest World War I Victory by written by Hugh Brewster of Toronto, Ontario (Scholastic Canada)
- MARILYN BAILLIE PICTURE BOOK AWARD (\$10,000). Sponsored by A. Charles Baillie. Winner: Please, Louise! Written by Frieda Wishinsky of Toronto, Ontario, Illustrated by Marie-Louise Gay of Montreal, Quebec (Groundwood Books)

The Canadian Children's Book Centre is a national, not-for-profit organization and registered charity founded in 1976 to promote, support and encourage the reading, writing and illustrating of Canadian books for children and teens. With book collections and extensive resources in five cities across Canada, the CCBC is a treasure-trove for anyone interested in Canadian books for young readers. For more information, please visit www.bookcentre.ca.

WINNERS OF 2008 GOVERNOR GENERAL'S LITERARY AWARDS ANNOUNCED

Two four-time winners are among the list of winners of the 2008 Governor General's Literary Awards announced today by the Canada Council for the Arts. The awards are given in the categories of fiction, poetry, drama, non-fiction, children's literature (text and illustration) and translation, in English and in French. Winners:

- Fiction: Nino Ricci, Toronto, *The Origin of Species*. (Doubleday Canada); Marie-Claire Blais, Westmount, Quebec, *Naissance de Rebecca à l'ère des tourments* (Les Éditions du Boréal)
- Poetry: Jacob Scheier, Toronto, *More to Keep Us Warm* (ECW Press); Michel Pleau, Quebec City, *La lenteur du monde* (Les Éditions David)
- Drama: Catherine Banks, Halifax, *Bone Cage* (Playwrights Canada Press); Jennifer Tremblay, Sorel, Quebec, *La liste* (Les Éditions de la Bagnole)
- Children's Literature – Text: John Ibbitson, Washington (D.C.), formerly of Ottawa and Toronto, *The Landing* (Kids Can Press); Sylvie Desrosiers, Longueuil, Quebec, *Les trois lieues* (Les éditions de la courte échelle)
- Children's Literature – Illustration: Stéphane Jorisch, Montreal, *The Owl and the Pussycat*, text by Edward Lear (Kids Can Press); Janice Nadeau, Montreal, *Ma meilleure amie*, text by Gilles Tibo (Québec Amérique)
- Translation: Lazer Lederhendler, Montreal, *Nikolski* (Knopf Canada). English translation of *Nikolski* by Nicolas Dickner (Éditions Alto); Claire Chabrier, Notre-Dame-de-l'Île-Perrot, Quebec, and Louise Chabrier, Mascouche, Quebec, *Tracey en mille morceaux* (Les éditions Les Allusifs). French translation of *The Tracey Fragments* by Maureen Medved (House of Anansi Press).

Visit our website at www.canadacouncil.ca

<p>***** Opportunities *****</p>

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.

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www.petrapoetrycompetition.co.uk. Poems can be emailed to Molly Yeomans Canadian Director at: molly.y@sympatico.ca and entry fee \$7.00 per poem mailed under separate cover or send poems and entry fee to: Molly Yeomans, 38 Langmuir Cres., Toronto, ON. M6S 2A7

RESIDENCY OPPORTUNITY WITH THE MARKIN-FLANAGAN DISTINGUISHED WRITERS PROGRAM

The Markin-Flanagan Distinguished Writers Program is accepting submissions from emerging Canadian writers for a 10-month residency at the University of Calgary from August 15, 2010 to June 15, 2011. Housed in the Faculty of Humanities, the residency provides a unique opportunity for Canadian writers to devote their time to writing and to advancing their writing careers. Past Canadian Writers-in-Residence include Sina Queyras, Jaspreet Singh, Melanie Little, Natalee Caple, Robert Finley, Suzette Mayr, and Peter Oliva. The current Writer-in-Residence is Charlotte Gill. Candidates should have between one and four published books, and preferably, but not necessarily, hold a university degree. The residency involves time for writing, manuscript consultations, public presentations, assistance with hosting visiting writers, and related duties. While the Canadian Writer-in-Residence may be invited to visit university classes, this is not a teaching position. The Markin-Flanagan program offers writers one of the highest paid residencies in North America. Residents are provided with an office and administrative support. Submissions should include a curriculum vitae; published books; a statement of interest in the residency; a single page description of projects to be undertaken during the residency; and three letters of reference (preferably not from agents or publishers). Please send your submission by mail or courier to Daniel Maher, Interim Dean, Faculty of Humanities, Room SS 1352, University of Calgary, 2500 University Drive NW, Calgary, Alberta, T2N 1N4 by Friday, January 30, 2009. Please reference PSA 2010 – 2011 in your application. For more information on the Markin-Flanagan program, visit www.markinflanagan.com or contact Janice Lee at 403.220.8177 or leej@ucalgary.ca

VALLUM: CONTEMPORARY POETRY

Vallum: contemporary poetry is looking for new reviewers to submit engaging pieces on new books of poetry from Canadian and American authors for publication online or in our print magazine. Payment upon publication in either format. Interested writers should submit a writing sample and a cover letter that outlines your interests in poetry to editors@vallummag.com. We do not review fiction. www.vallummag.com

THE VAIKE AND ERICH RANNU FUND FOR WRITERS OF SPECULATIVE LITERATURE

Details here: <http://chizine.com/kasturi/rannufund.htm>. Deadline is December 31, 2008. Thanks and please do spread the award to any other lists you think may be appropriate or folks who might be interested in submitting.

GRITLIT, HAMILTON'S LITERARY FESTIVAL, SEEKS INTERESTING POEMS

gritLIT, Hamilton's literary festival, seeks interesting poems — to put the winners on the map in Hamilton and elsewhere. Prizes: First Prize \$200; Second Prize \$100; Third Prize \$50. Winning entries will be published in a handsome chapbook to be distributed and sold as part of our gritLIT souvenir and bookselling programs. Also, 20 free copies of the chapbook will go to the three winners. Submit up to 350 lines of poetry, in any form, on any subject. The submission may be a single poem or multiple poems. Deadline: June 1st, 2009. Entry Fee: \$20 per

submission of up to 350 lines. See www.gritlit.ca for complete contest rules. Entries should be addressed to: gritLIT Poetry Contest, 102 - 69 Hughson St. North, Hamilton, ON L8R 1G5. If you need more information, please email us at contest@gritlit.ca

CHAPTERANDVERSE.CA IS A NEW WEBSITE DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF CANADIAN LITERATURE AND LITERARY EVENTS

Chapterandverse.ca is a new website dedicated to the promotion of Canadian literature and literary events. The site will feature the work of emerging and established authors, poets, songwriters and writer/artists. Do check it out at: www.chapterandverse.ca. If you would like to submit your creative work to Chapter & Verse, please follow the directions for submissions. There are prizes to be won on a quarterly basis for the best entry/ies. You will have to register and log-in to the site to make submissions. If you are a group or organization connected to the literary arts and would like to feature your upcoming events or message, please enter your details in the relevant section. We advise that you read the Frequently Asked Questions and Submission Guidelines prior to sending your entry. Check back regularly for news of contests, creative writing tips, upcoming literary events, grant sources, etc. in addition to checking out Canada's literary talent. So please do bookmark Chapter & Verse and visit often. We hope to make it an interactive site and look forward to receiving feedback and suggestions from readers. We are currently in soft launch and will have a range of interesting and informative features added on in the months to come. So do send in your comments and suggestions. We hope to have you on board as a C&V regular visitor.

2008 CRAIGLEIGH PRESS ADULT POETRY CONTEST

Craigleigh Press (Cambridge, ON) seeks entries for their 2008 contest. First prize: \$100; additional prizes available. Any style/theme (no profanity/graphic violence). Entry fee: \$5 each or 3 for \$10. Deadline: January 31, 2008. For more info: <http://www.geocities.com/panthergpss/Contest.html>

2009 GRIFFIN POETRY PRIZE ENTRY DEADLINE REMINDER

This is a reminder that the deadline for the C\$100,000 2009 Griffin Poetry Prize is approaching. Books must be submitted postmarked no later than December 31, 2008 for books published between January 1 and December 31, 2008. Please remember to complete all necessary customs/duties paperwork when shipping your entries to ensure delays are avoided. If you have any [questions regarding the rules](#), or would like to download an entry form, please visit our Web site, at: www.griffinpoetryprize.com.

UNABLE TO COMPLETE A CURRENT BOOK PROJECT?

FINANCIAL SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE

THE WRITERS' TRUST OF CANADA DISTRIBUTES EMERGENCY GRANTS TO ESTABLISHED WRITERS WHO EXPERIENCE AN UNFORESEEN FINANCIAL CRISIS

The Woodcock Fund is a grant program that supports Canadian writers working to complete book projects that have the potential to make a significant and lasting contribution to Canadian letters. The Woodcock Fund can mean the difference between a finished book and one whose pages remain blank forever. Established in 1989 by the late author, George Woodcock and his wife Ingeborg, this fund is the only one of its kind in Canada. A prolific writer himself, George Woodcock was well aware of the difficulties faced by those who have chosen to devote their lives to literature. Not only is writing a solitary profession with no health benefits or pension plans, not only is little or no income generated during the long prepublication period when a book is being born, there is no guarantee that even when a book is published that it will generate enough income to provide a decent standard of living. Any number of factors contribute to a book's financial success (quality being only one of them) and almost all of these factors are impossible to control. When a writer faces an unexpected financial crisis, therefore, or becomes ill, their ability to complete a manuscript is at serious risk. Unless help arrives. To date, the Woodcock Fund has distributed \$555,222 in financial support to 136 Canadian writers, a number of them prominent and established in their respective fields.

To be eligible a writer must:

- be working on a book that, without the grant, would be imperiled or abandoned.
- have actively pursued a career as a professional writer and published a minimum of two works, or an equivalent body of work;
- face an unforeseen financial crisis (usually a matter of exigency including but not limited to an illness, legal issue, or debt problem, rather than the on-going, chronic problem of making a living).

The Woodcock Fund is available to writers working in fiction, poetry, playwriting or creative non-fiction.

Applications are assessed by a committee composed of writers from across the country and applicants are guaranteed confidentiality. Successful applicants will quickly receive financial support. For application guidelines, inquires or further information please contact: James Davies, Senior Program Manager

Phone: 416.504.8222 x 245, Email: jdavies@writerstrust.com, Web:

www.writerstrust.com/programs_woodcockfund.html

SEEKING WRITING ABOUT MOTHERS FROM THE 50S

Submissions of prose and poetry are being accepted for an anthology *Untying the Apron: Daughters Rediscover and Remember Mothers of the 50s* (NS). Submit prose (2000 words max) or poetry (1000 words max) with a focus on mothers of the 1950s. "Given the social and cultural climate in which these mothers lived, worked, and raised children, how do we read now the various ways they adapted (or didn't), accepted, rebelled against, repressed or expressed who they were or wanted to be?" Deadline: February 20, 2009. For submission guidelines or more information contact Lorri at lorrineilsenglenn@gmail.com. For more info: <http://www.placesforwriters.com/2008/10/seeking-writing-about-mothers.html>

CHAPBOOK CONTEST WITH \$100 PRIZE

Rubicon Press (AB) is accepting entries for its 3rd Annual Midwinter Chapbook Competition. Prize: \$100 plus 20 copies. Length: 30 pages max. Entry fee: \$20. Deadline: January 2, 2009. For more info: <http://www.rubiconpress.org/>

WOMEN IN 2009 POETRY CONTEST

This is a call to all poets who write about WOMEN. Write about someone who inspires you. You can use a character depiction or can use a triumphant situation or surprise us. "ALL" writers welcomed, original and unpublished entries. Winners will be notified in April, 2009 by Oneal Walters, and their names published here. All poems remain the property of the poet. 1st Place \$110 US, plus interviewed, 2nd Place \$60 US, 3rd Place \$30 US. Submission fee \$7.00 US per poem. DEADLINE: MARCH 12, 2009. Be the 1st, WOMEN in 2009 Poetry Contest winner! Email entries and questions to: women2009@theagebegins.com. Snail mail entries and submission fees to: Oneal Walters' WOMEN in 2009 Poetry Contest, P.O. Box #21034, Jane Finch Mall P.O. 3975 Jane St. Downsview, ON M3N 3A3. (Make money order or certified check payable to: Oneal Walters). Full details at: www.myspace.com/onealwalters

ENTRIES FOR THE BC BOOK PRIZES 2009

The West Coast Book Prize Society invites all publishers and British Columbian authors with titles that fit the awards criteria to enter the BC Book Prizes. All entries must be received by December 1, 2008. Visit our Submissions form online to enter. Award Categories and Criteria: Ethel Wilson Fiction Award >> Awarded to the author of the best work of fiction. The author must be a B.C./Yukon resident. Hubert Evans Non-Fiction Award >> Awarded to the author of the best original non-fiction literary work (philosophy, belles lettres, biography, history etc.). Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize >> Awarded to the author of the best work of poetry. The author must be a B.C./Yukon resident. Roderick Haig-Brown Regional Prize >> Awarded to the author(s) of the book which contributes most to the enjoyment and understanding of British Columbia. Sheila A. Egoff Children's Literature Prize >> Awarded to the author of novels, including chapter books, aimed at juveniles and young adults, as well as non-fiction books for children (including biography) which have not been highly illustrated. Christie Harris Illustrated Children's Literature Prize >> Awarded to the author and illustrator of picture books, picture story books, and illustrated non-fiction books. BC Booksellers' Choice Award in Honour of Bill Duthie >> Presented to the originating publisher and author(s) of the best book in terms of public appeal, initiative, design, production and content. Lieutenant Governor's Award for Literary Excellence >> Established in 2003 by the Honourable Iona Campagnolo to recognize British Columbia writers who have contributed to the development of literary excellence in the Province. Visit the website for more detailed information about the Award Categories and the Criteria.

THE CANADIAN AUTHORS ASSOCIATION 2009 AWARDS PROGRAM

Once again, the Canadian Authors Association has launched an exciting program of awards for Canadian writers. Full details, including entry forms, are available on the CAA Website, at <http://www.canauthors.org/awards/awards.html>. The awards include the CAA MOSAID Technologies Inc. Award for Fiction, the CAA Lela Common Award for Canadian History, the CAA Poetry Award, the CAA Carol Bolt Award for Drama, and the CAA BookTelevision Award for Emerging Writers, for writers under 30. Anyone wanting assistance or further information should contact the CAA National Office at 320 South Shores Road, PO Box 419, Campbellford ON K0L 1L0. Phone toll-free at 866-216-6222, fax at 705-653-0593, or contact by e-mail at admin@CanAuthors.org.

THE VANCOUVER PUBLIC LIBRARY IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT WE WILL BE SEEKING FUNDING TO HOST OUR FIFTH WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE IN 2009

The *Writer-in-Residence* program - created in 2005 - promotes Canadian writing and literature to Vancouver citizens. During her four-month residency, VPL's *Writer-in-Residence* for 2008, Caroline Adderson, will spend 75 per cent of her time writing, while 25 per cent of her time will be devoted to mentoring emerging writers, conducting workshops, and participating in other activities to share her experience with the broader community.

The *Writer-in-Residence* Program involves communities not typically exposed to Canadian literature. In the case of Adderson's residency, this will include working with writers whose first language is not English and with children and their caregivers. The VPL *Writer-in-Residence* Program has been made possible in 2008 through the generous financial support of the Canada Council for the Arts and the Friends of the Vancouver Public Library. <http://www.vpl.ca/find/cat/C801/>

TWO RESIDENCIES IN APRIL 2009 AT BLACK SEA SHORE AND IN TRANSYLVANIA.

The details can be found at: www.transylvanianweek.texmar.ro and www.poetseashore.wordpress.com

POESIA LIBRE - IS LOOKING FOR SPANISH SPEAKING POETS

POESIA LIBRE - is looking for Spanish speaking poets interested in a 16 minute radio interview in Spanish (anytime in 2009). Show airs live on Radiocentreville every other Wednesday night 21h40 to 22h00, 102.3 FM in Montréal. Show can also be listened to in stream or downloaded in mp3 thanks to our podcasting http://www.nochesdepoesia.com/audio/poesia_libre

NOCHES DE POESIA INVITES POETS AND PUBLISHERS TO SUBMIT A COPY OF EACH OF THEIR POETRY CHAPBOOKS AND POETRY COLLECTIONS

Noches de poesia invites poets and publishers to submit a copy of each of their poetry chapbooks and poetry collections for review and possible participation in *Noches de poesia's* live reading Serie 4 and 5 (2009-2010). Each application should be accompanied by a short biography in either French, English or Spanish as well as tentative availabilities to travel during these years (national, international). Please make sure to specify memberships which entail Reading Fee eligibility such as LCP, Canada Writers Union, UNEQ and sorts... All languages welcomed (including non official ones), if your work has been translated, please also mention the name of your translator and their contact information if you have them. Submissions welcomed year-round: *Noches de poesia* - 1670, boul. Papineau, bureau 1, Montréal (Québec) H2K 4H9 CANADA www.nochesdepoesia.com

******* Events, Workshops & Readings *******

THE VANCOUVER POETRY SLAM

The Vancouver Poetry Slam continues @ Café Deux Soleils: 2096 Commercial Drive, every Monday of every month including holidays. The next van slam "alt" slam is Monday December 8th featuring Ottawa's Steve Sauve and the first ever Vancouver poetry slam "nerd slam". Steve Sauvé is an active member of Ottawa's literary scene and has performed in various cities, including Vancouver, Toronto, and Detroit. He has performed on several CD compilations (including all of Ottawa's live at capital slam CDs), and also has a full-length CD of his own entitled Steve Sauvé Does It With His Glasses On. Steve is tall and gangly, but collapses easily for convenient storage under the bed. Steve's interests include independent films, experimental novels, and writing about himself in the third person. Break out your poems about comic books, larping, Dungeons and Dragons, string theory, city planning, migratory patterns, marine biology, Star trek and Star Wars and much more. Poems about nerds, love poems for other nerds... Whatever your nerdy obsession is, come tell us about it. If you perform in costume you get extra points. If you perform group pieces you get extra points. \$50 winner take all first prize. Cool nerd prizes for 2nd and 3rd plus an audience favourite award. Doors and sign up at 8pm. Open mic at 8:45. Slam starts at 9 o'clock. Still only \$5. Your best entertainment value in tough economic times! For more info: weslowhiskey@direct.ca; <http://www.myspace.com/vancouverpoetryslam>; <http://vancouverpoetryhouse.com/>

THE RC WESLOWSKI CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

It's time to dust off Santa's lap and take the elf suits back to the cleaners. The RC Weslowski Christmas special returns Tuesday December 16th @ Café Deux Soleils: 2096 Commercial Drive, Vancouver, BC at 8pm. Music, stories, poems, and skits. Minimum \$5 donation as we're raising funds for the Aids Vancouver Holiday Grocery Program <http://www.aidsvancouver.org/holidaygrocery>. The first half of the night will be kids friendly then after intermission we might get a little naughty featuring performances by the Minimalist Jug Band, Rita Kranabetter, Spillious the Ridiculous One, Clint "Father Goose" Wilson, Steve Sauve, Mighty Mike McGee, Tanya Evanson, Kimothy Shaughnessy, Rowan Lipkovits of The Creaking Planks and The Svelte Ms. Spelt Performing Dr. Seuss' How The Grinch Stole Christmas. As we celebrate and elevate the silliness of the season. Whether it's Hannukah, Kwanza, Christmas or the Solstice. We'll even have an athiest open mic. Everyone is invited to come bang the conundrum loudly.

ROWERS PUB READING SERIES

The Rowers Pub Reading Series, which runs the first Wednesday of the month, celebrates the recent release of *The Best Canadian Poetry in English* and has, as its December features, four poets from the anthology: Ken

Babstock (*Airstream Land Yacht* - House of Anansi, 2006); Heather Cadsby (*Could be* - Brick Books, forthcoming in 2009); Jeramy Dodds (*Crabwise to the Hounds* - Coach House Press, 2008); and Bill Howell (*Ghost Test Flights* - Rubicon Press, 2008). We acknowledge financial assistance from The Canada Council for the Arts through The Writers' Union of Canada; The League of Canadian Poets; Tightrope Books, and donations from Scott Griffin and Alexander McCall Smith. For more information please visit rowerspubreadingseries.com. Harbord House, 150 Harbord Street, 2nd floor (647) 430-7365 on Wednesday December 3, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. Free - a hat is passed.

INSPIRING COLLABORATIONS - A SYMPOSIUM IN HONOUR OF BARBARA GODARD

Toronto, December 5-6, 2008, Pia Bouman School (6 Noble Street -- Queen and Dufferin, West of the Gladstone Hotel). This symposium celebrates Barbara Godard's long career as a theorist, teacher, mentor and activist. Poets, artists and academics will convene for a day and a half of readings, screenings and roundtables to discuss Barbara Godard's extensive influence on generations of writers, artists and scholars in Canada. The event culminates in the launch of the long awaited Canadian Literature at the Crossroads of Language and Culture. Essays by Barbara Godard. Keynote Speakers: Nicole Brossard and Daphne Marlatt. A full schedule of the event, plus a map and a virtual guestbook, is available at <http://www.yorku.ca/godard/>

BRICK BOOKS - READINGS FOR DECEMBER

- Ottawa - Saturday, December 6 - Courting Excellence: An Intimate Evening with Four Award-Winning Authors - Elizabeth Hay, Mark Frutkin, Frances Itani, Monty Reid. Hosted by Ken Rockburn. Arts Court Theatre, 2 Daly Avenue, Ottawa. Co-production of the Tree Reading Series and the City of Ottawa. Reception at 7 p.m., readings at 8 p.m.
- SUSAN ELMSLIE - Tuesday, December 9 - Reading from I, Nadja and Other Poems in Montreal - at 8:00 p.m. in Montreal for the Poetry Plus series: Arts Café, 201 Fairmount W (corner Esplanade), 514-939-5670.

GATHER YOUR NUTZ! A PRE-CHRISTMAS POETRY & MUSIC EXTRAVAGANZA

Weyman Chan, Ivan E. Coyote, Kris Demeanor, Suzette Mayr, Teekay from Dragon Fli Empire and Sheri-D Wilson. Tuesday, December 02, 2008 – 8:00 pm - \$5 at the Auburn Saloon, #163 115 9th Ave SE, Calgary, AB. Host: Cory Mack. Buy Canadian! Buy Calgarian! A special holiday reading that'll make you see-through snow: into the magic of Christmas, ho ho ho. 'Tis the season and the Calgary Spoken Word Society is gathering its nutZ on one stage! This is your chance to take in the festivities by enjoying some of the most amazing Spoken Word and musical talent this country has to offer. 2008 Governor General's Award finalist, Calgary poet Weyman Chan joins storytelling favorite, Ivan E. Coyote, singer-songwriter Kris Demeanor, award-winning novelist Suzette Mayr, and the Mama of Dada herself, Sheri-D Wilson. Tarik Robinson (aka Teekay) from upbeat musical duo-on-the-rise: Dragon Fli Empire, will infuse the Auburn with melodies-and-more for the evening! A one-night holiday jamboree of rare poetic forces at Calgary's cultural hotspot – the Auburn Saloon. Come join us in celebration of poetry, light, jingling bells, and blunt touches of creative madness. The uproarious comedy magic of Calgarian Cory Mac hosts this event, providing you with a great opportunity to buy your loved ones unique Christmas presents from the Canadian artists that inspire you year-round. For info: Caro at 403.686.4292 .

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

SHARON MARCUS

Four novels, nine books of poetry, three books of non-fiction, collected short stories: except for the book length poem which leans into the meditative, devotional and contemplative, the poetry is lyrical, ecstatic, searching for revelation, always with a passionate obligation to guard the gates of language, to protect rhythm and preserve substance; each of the four novels investigates a different form, all very lyrical, all incorporating extensive use of verse one way or another, the last novel in alternating sections of verse and prose; the nonfictional works, both political and personal, describe events too bizarre for fiction.

Graduate School University of Toronto and University of London (England); honorary Ph.D for editing classical Tamil texts; poetry readings and workshops at universities, pubs, bookstores and hotels in Toronto, Philadelphia and Amman, Jordan; radio interviews and readings; audio recordings of poetry and short stories; poetry conferences. A long and wide background in public broadcasting, production, scripts and interviewing, especially the arts and public affairs; classical music composer working from my studio in a country church; book reviewer for newspapers and magazines; freelance writer and broadcaster; formerly adventurer and profligate, now more or less recluse and mystical seeker of wisdom.

ALEXANDRA OLIVER

Alexandra Oliver was born in Vancouver, BC in 1970. Her poems have appeared in numerous journals and publication worldwide, including *Orbis Rhyme International*, *Nexus*, *Future Cycle Poetry*, *The Atlanta Review* and *The Vancouver Sun*, as well as About.Com's Poems After The Attack anthology, a collection discussing and reflecting upon the aftermath of 9/11. Her first book, *Where the English Housewife Shines* (Tin Press, London, UK) was released in May, 2007.

She has performed her work at venues as diverse as Lollapalooza, The Festival of Original Theatre, The Word on The Street and The National Poetry Slam as well as for CBC Radio One and National Public Radio in the U.S. She was also a featured performer and interviewee in Paul Devlin's 1998 documentary *Slam Nation*.

In addition to writing, Oliver is past director of the Edgewise Electrolit Centre, a seminal Vancouver-based arts organization which aimed to aid and promote Canadian poets through the use of new media. She has also taught poetry to elementary and secondary school students, as well as in colleges and in prisons. At present, Oliver lives with her husband and son just outside of Toronto, where she continues to write poems and art criticism.

CAROLYN SMART

Carolyn Smart is the author of four volumes of poetry, including *Stoning the Moon* and *The Way to Come Home*. Her new collection of narrative poems, *Hooked*, is forthcoming from Brick Books in Spring 2009. An excerpt from her memoir *At the End of the Day* (Penumbra Press, 2001) won first prize in the CBC Literary Contest (Personal Essay Category) in 1993. She is the founder of the Bronwen Wallace Award for Emerging Writers, and since 1989 has taught Creative Writing at Queen's University. Since 1983 she has lived in the country north of Kingston with her husband and sons.

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

DESI DI NARDO

I'd like to extend a warm invitation to the launch of my new book titled, *The Plural of Some Things*, on December 7th at Bar Italia. I will be reading between 2 - 4 p.m. Please join me for an afternoon of poetry, mingling, food, and fun! Thank you to all who have been eagerly awaiting *The Plural of Some Things*, for your support, and genuine enthusiasm and interest.

SONJA DUNN

Sonja Dunn toured Northern Ontario schools in late October – perfect time for Halloween chants. She performed and read from her adult and children's books at Confederation Secondary School, Val Caron, ON, George Vanier Public School, Lively, ON, MacLeod Public School and Algonquin Road Public School in Sudbury, ON. This rewarding event was sponsored by the League and the Ontario Arts Council.

CHARLES MOUNTFORD

League of Canadian Poets member, Charles Mountford, was shortlisted for The Bridport, United Kingdom, Poetry Prize in 2008. Charles Mountford's books are published by Pendas Productions in London, Ontario." www.bridportprize.org.uk/poetrywinners2008.htm

LESLEY PASQUIN

Lesley Pasquin was awarded first prize in the Room Magazine Poetry Contest 2008. Her poem, *Gabriel*, will be published in the Spring 2009 edition. Lesley's work also appears in *carte-blanche* and *Montreal Serai*.

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.