

League of Canadian Poets: [www.poets.ca](http://www.poets.ca) Editor: Ingel Madrus [readings@poets.ca](mailto:readings@poets.ca)  
Throughout this e-mail, you'll find links to more in-depth articles, housed on the League's website. Be sure to follow them.

---

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

\*\*\*\* HAPPY NEW YEAR \*\*\*\*

**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](http://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/>

**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 participators 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>

**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, 2009. More details in the next newsletter.

**NEWS FROM THE FEMINIST CAUCUS**

By Anne Burke. Call for Submissions. As you may know, the 2009 Feminist Caucus Panel will be on "**Eco Poetry**" Abstracts of about 100 words are welcome and should be emailed to me at: [femcaucusburke@yahoo.ca](mailto:femcaucusburke@yahoo.ca) or snail mailed to **P.O. Box 61203, Brentwood P.O., Calgary AB T2L 2K6**. Coincidentally, CV2 invites submissions of poetry and prose for The Green Issue: Summer 2009, deadline February 1, 2009, by email to [cv2@mts.net](mailto:cv2@mts.net) or by regular post to 502-100 Arthur Street, Winnipeg MB, R3B 1H3. See details on their website [www.contemporaryverse2.ca](http://www.contemporaryverse2.ca) (and below). For full report: [www.poets.ca/linktext/newsletter](http://www.poets.ca/linktext/newsletter)

**REPORT FOR NEW BRUNSWICK AND PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND**

By Judy Gaudet. Poets from both provinces have been very busy writing, publishing, promoting and reading. New Brunswick Lieutenant-Governor poet **Herménégilde Chiasson** read at Harbourfront International Festival of Authors on Friday, October 24th. **Greg Cooke** is working on a biography of novelist Ernest Buckler. **Robert Hawkes** read at odd Sundays Sept 21<sup>st</sup>. **Travis Lane** read as part of the Campus Authors at the UNB bookstore and at odd Sundays at Molly's in October, then with Sharon Nelson at the Yellow Door in Montreal on Nov 13th. **Ross Leckie** spent 3 months beginning in January 2008 as Fulbright Visiting Research Chair in Creative Writing at Arizona State University, working on a collection of poetry entitled *The Rain's Superfluity*, concerning changing water patterns in the face of global warming. For full report: [www.poets.ca/linktext/newsletter](http://www.poets.ca/linktext/newsletter)

\*\*\*\*\* Literary News \*\*\*\*\*

**WORDS ALOUD FESTIVAL 2007 ARCHIVE - 5 DVD SET**

Fourteen poets and storytellers from across Canada electrify audiences in the small town of Durham, Ontario. This cornucopia of spoken word performances includes the renowned Shane Koyczan, dub poet Clifton Joseph, the Toronto Slam Team, and CBC's Dr. Poetry Robert Priest. Virtuoso poets Lorna Crozier and John Steffler (Canada's Parliamentary Poet Laureate 2007-8) are in top form. Delight in Nigerian poet Ama Ede's love poem to Toronto and Louise Bernice Halfe's new incarnations of Cree myth. Fall under the spell of Rukhsana Khan's Middle Eastern tales and Ivan Coyote's stories of the Yukon. Plus 11 exclusive interviews with performers, conducted by performance poet Ian Ferrier. The poetry slam DVD features David Silverberg, Toronto Poetry Slam artistic director, explaining "what is a poetry slam" as well as two rounds of performances given by the four person slam team. This 5 DVD set is for all lovers of poetry and storytelling. It will make an excellent addition to any library's collection for teens to adults and a valuable resource for high school English, creative writing and drama teachers, as well as university literature, theatre and poetry courses. Proceeds go to Youth Literacy. Available online from: [www.wordsaloud.ca](http://www.wordsaloud.ca)

### **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](http://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](mailto:plr@canadacouncil.ca) or [www.plr-dpp.ca](http://www.plr-dpp.ca)

### **THE CHARLES TAYLOR PRIZE FOR LITERARY NON-FICTION ANNOUNCES ITS 2009 SHORTLIST**

At a press conference at Toronto's Le Meridien King Edward Hotel, Noreen Taylor, prize founder and chair of the Charles Taylor Foundation, announced that the jury – composed of author and previous finalist Warren Cariou (Winnipeg), author and journalist Jeffrey Simpson (Ottawa), and noted arts expert Shirley Thomson (Ottawa) – read 135 Canadian-authored books, submitted by 43 publishers from across Canada. Mrs. Taylor went on to introduce Mr. Simpson who made the following announcement before an audience of publishers, media, and booksellers:

#### **The Finalists For The 2009 Charles Taylor Prize For Literary Non-Fiction Are:**

Elizabeth Abbott for *Sugar: A Bittersweet History*, published by Penguin Group (Canada).

The jury notes: "This panoramic narrative vividly evokes the pleasure and the extraordinary suffering wrought by the desire for sugar from the Middle Ages to the present. The author, whose great-great-grandfather was a bit-player in the colonial sugar industry, shows how Europe's addiction to sweetness contributed to the formation of global empires, the enslavement of entire peoples, the creation of diasporas, and the destruction of the environment. The result is a consummate work of synthesis that powerfully reveals how past inequities continue to resonate in the present."

Tim Cook for *Shock Troops: Canadians Fighting the Great War, 1917 – 1918, Volume Two*, published by Viking Canada. The jury notes: "With tremendous detail and almost unstoppable narrative momentum, this book gives a harrowing account of a pivotal moment in world history that would transform Canada's idea of itself. By shifting focus between grand strategy and on-the-ground struggle, Tim Cook creates a kaleidoscopic story that reveals the difficult relationships that formed among politicians, commanders and ordinary soldiers in their attempts to prepare for, and execute, a series of near-impossible missions. Through these stories of horror and heroism, what shines through most brilliantly is the complex humanity of the characters."

Ana Siljak for *Angel of Vengeance: The "Girl Assassin," the Governor of St. Petersburg, and Russia's Revolutionary World*, published by St. Martin's Press. The jury notes: "Ranging from the courts of St. Petersburg to peasant huts, this meticulously-researched book tells the dramatic and little-known story of one woman's act of political desperation and her very public trial. It is also a much broader portrait of ideological struggles in nineteenth-century Russia, revealing the devastating conflict between a society that could not find a way to change and those who demanded that it must. The author provides added contemporary resonance to the story by masterfully penetrating the minds of terrorists."

The prestigious Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-Fiction recognizes excellence in Canadian non-fiction writing. Since its inception the prize has fostered a growing interest in non-fiction, engaged Canadians in the genre of literary non-fiction and boosted sales of the winning authors' books. Founded in commemoration of the late Charles Taylor, one of Canada's foremost essayists and a prominent member of the Canadian literary community, the prize is awarded annually to the author whose book best combines a superb command of the English language, an elegance of style, and a subtlety of thought and perception. All of the 2009 prize finalists will be in Toronto on Sunday, February 8, 2009, at Le Meridien King Edward Hotel to speak about their writing at a special instalment of the Globe and Mail/Ben McNally Books brunch series event. They will subsequently be honoured at a Gala Luncheon and Awards Ceremony the following day. The winner of the 2009 Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-Fiction will be announced on Monday, February 9, 2009, as part of a two-hour live broadcast of CBC Radio One's Ontario Today with host Rita Celli, beginning at 12:00 noon. To listen via the internet go to [www.cbc.ca/ontariotoday](http://www.cbc.ca/ontariotoday) and click on "Listen Live." The prize consists of \$25,000 for the winning author and \$2,000 for each of the runners-up, as well as promotional and publicity support to help all of the shortlisted books stand out in the national media, bookstores, and libraries. The Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-Fiction is presented by the Charles Taylor Foundation with the generous support of its partners: AVFX, Ben McNally Books, Bravo! and BookTelevision, Canada Newswire (CNW), CBC Radio One, Le Meridien King Edward Hotel, Quill & Quire, The Globe and Mail, and Windfields Farm. For more information please visit: [www.thecharlestaylorprize.ca](http://www.thecharlestaylorprize.ca)

### **NORTHERN POETRY REVIEW**

Northern Poetry Review is an online home for poems, reviews of poetry books, articles and interviews, with emphasis on the Canadian poetry scene. We chose the NPR acronym despite that lovely institution, National Public Radio. The editors of the site, Alex Boyd and Dani Couture, will publish sample poems by selected poets, and hope to encourage accessible, honest and diplomatic reviews of books published across the country written by reviewers across the country.

As we hope to encourage reviews by writers across the country, publishers are requested to refrain from mailing books to us that will need to be redirected to the reviewer. Instead, we ask that books be sent directly to the reviewer when a review is arranged.

Alex Boyd is the reviews editor, and Dani Couture is the poetry editor. Both editors arrange interviews and articles. We're sorry, but at this time we don't accept unsolicited poetry submissions. If you are interested in reviewing for the site, please contact Alex. If you have a book you'd like to see reviewed, feel free to email Alex, but please understand NPR is maintained in addition to full-time jobs and other commitments, and while encouraging a limited number of reviewers to generously donate their time.

Alex Boyd writes poems, fiction, reviews and essays, and has had reviews and articles published in magazines and newspapers such as Books in Canada, The Globe and Mail, Quill and Quire and on various websites such as The Danforth Review and poetryx.com. In Toronto he is the organizer and host of the popular IV lounge reading series. His first full-length book of poems, Making Bones Walk, is published by Luna Publications.

Dani Couture is a writer currently living in Toronto. She has written reviews, articles and essays for Word: the magazine for readers and writers, The Danforth Review, GoodReports and the Globe and Mail. Her first full-length book of poems, "good meat", was published by Pedlar Press in 2006. I'm looking for folks to review books please email: [northernreview@gmail.com](mailto:northernreview@gmail.com)

### **SHORT LIST UNVEILED FOR BRITAIN'S COSTA BOOK PRIZE**

Five writers are in the running for Britain's & 50,000 (roughly \$88,000) Costa Book of the Year, formerly known as the Whitbread Prize. The winner, to be named Jan. 27, will be selected from titles that were named this week as the winners in the categories of novel, first novel, biography/autobiography, poetry and children's literature.

### **TURKEY RESTORES REVERED DEAD POET'S CITIZENSHIP**

Turkey said yesterday it would restore the citizenship of Turkish poet Nazim Hikmet, who was prosecuted for his leftist views and died in exile in Moscow in 1963 after being declared a traitor. Hikmet, whose poetry revolutionized Turkish verse in the 1930s, is considered Turkey's greatest 20th-century poet. Hikmet, whose poetry was once banned in Turkey and has been translated into 50 languages, spent years in jail in Turkey and his citizenship was stripped in 1959 for being a communist.

#### **\*\*\*\*\* 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.*

## **SUBMISSIONS TO RHYTHM**

R H Y T H M Poetry Magazine appears online biannually, once in Fall / Winter, once in Spring / Summer. Each issue features about a dozen poets, between one and five poems per poet. Submissions of two to six single-spaced poems may be sent either as a Word document, or in the body of the email to [rhythm@dal.ca](mailto:rhythm@dal.ca). All submissions should include your name and the page number on each page. Please send a cover letter listing the poems you're submitting, along with a three to four line bio telling where you've been published, where you're from and anything else you think is pertinent. R H Y T H M accepts only unpublished metrical verse. If you wish, you may also submit via snail mail to Mary Kathryn Arnold, 1550 Dresden Row, Apt. 1004, Halifax, NS, Canada B3J 4A2. Please include an email address so I may reply to you. Alternately, enclose a SASE. Simultaneous submissions are permitted only if you inform me by email ([rhythm@dal.ca](mailto:rhythm@dal.ca)) as soon as you know your work has been accepted elsewhere, in which case your poetry will be withdrawn from R H Y T H M. You may expect to hear from me within six months of submitting. Unfortunately, I'm unable to pay contributors as this is a labour of love.

## **SEEKING CANADIAN-IZED 'STAR WARS' POETRY**

STAR WARS CANADA seeks poetry in all genres for a big poetry anthology "that will have an awesome sci-fi cover." Editor: Nathaniel G. Moore. Writers are invited to take words, concepts, images and names from the Star Wars films, make them Canadian. Deadline: ongoing. Remuneration: copy of the project.

<http://criticalcrushes.blogspot.com/>

## **THE ROBERT KROETSCH AWARD FOR INNOVATIVE POETRY**

The prize is awarded annually to the best poetry manuscript by an emerging Canadian writer (a writer who has published two books or less). Each year the winning manuscript will be selected by an established poet in cooperation with Snare Books. This year's judge is Rachel Zolf. The winner receives a trade paperback contract with Snare Books which will include the publication of the manuscript and a \$500 honorarium. The next deadline is **January 31, 2009**. Each entry must be accompanied with a business size SASE and an entry fee for \$30.00 Canadian. Please make all cheques and money orders payable to "Livres Snare". No cash please. Full award guidelines are available at [snarebooks.wordpress.com](http://snarebooks.wordpress.com/the-robert-kroetsch-award-for-innovative-poetry/). <http://snarebooks.wordpress.com/the-robert-kroetsch-award-for-innovative-poetry/>

## **THE WRITERS' UNION CELEBRATES THE ART OF ECONOMY WITH 10TH ANNUAL POSTCARD STORY COMPETITION**

The Writers' Union of Canada is pleased to launch its 10th annual Postcard Story Competition, which invites writers to submit a dynamic, lean, and efficient piece of just 250 words. A \$500 prize will be awarded to a Canadian writer and the winning entry will be published in the Union's Newsletter. The entries of the winner and finalists will also be submitted to a Canadian magazine for consideration. The entry fee is \$5 per submission and the deadline for entries is **February 14, 2009**. Postcard story writing is a relatively new genre that takes a thrifty approach to storytelling, using few words to create works whose brevity belies a resonance woven within them. "Over the decade that the Union has been holding the competition, we have seen this economical art form develop and flourish across the country," says Deborah Windsor, the Union's Executive Director. "It is always inspiring to see how much impact writers can make when crafting stories in this challenging format." The Writers' Union of Canada initiated its inaugural Postcard Story Competition in 1999 to discover, encourage, and promote writers of fiction and nonfiction in this form. The Competition has grown in popularity since its inception, last year attracting over 830 submissions. The Union is delighted to announce an esteemed group of jurors for the 10th Annual Postcard Story Competition. Toronto writer Anthony De Sa's first novel, *Barnacle Love*, was nominated for the 2008 Scotiabank Giller Prize and his upcoming novel, *Carnival of Desire*, is slotted for a 2011 release. A recipient of a Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence, Sylvia Gunnery of Nova Scotia has written many novels for children and young adults, as well as professional books for teachers. Winnipegger Allan Levine is known for both his nonfiction and historical mysteries, and was shortlisted in 2005 for the *Isbister Best Non-Fiction Manitoba Book of the Year* for *The Devil in Babylon: Fear of Progress and the Birth of Modern Life*. To be eligible, submissions must be written by a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant. Any text, fiction or nonfiction, up to 250 words, in the English language, which is original and not previously published in any format, is eligible. A typed, double-spaced entry in a clear twelve-point font on white paper, not stapled or exceeding maximum word length, along with an entry fee of \$5 per submission (cheque or money order), should be sent to The Writers' Union of Canada at: 90 Richmond Street East, Suite 200, Toronto, Ontario, M5C 1P1. The deadline for submissions is **February 14, 2009**. For complete rules and regulations, please go to [http://www.writersunion.ca/cn\\_postcard.asp](http://www.writersunion.ca/cn_postcard.asp).

## **WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM AT GREEN COLLEGE, UBC**

Green College at the University of British Columbia invites applications from Canadian writers for the position of Writer-in-Residence. The term of the residency will be for three months between September 1, 2009 and April 30, 2010 (fall or spring semester), subject to funding approval. The Writer-in-Residence will work with the Green College community through consultations and workshops, and will conceptualize and coordinate a reading series through the College's academic programming for the UBC community and beyond. She or he must live at the College for the duration of the term, and will be provided with travel reimbursement to and from the College, room and partial board during the stay, and a stipend of \$16,000. Writers with a minimum of one book in print (or equivalent public recognition) in any genre, who have made a significant contribution to their area of specialty over a number of years, are invited to send their applications to: Writer-in-Residence Selection Committee, Green College, The University of British Columbia, 6201 Cecil Green Park Road, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1. Applications must include a curriculum vitae, 20-30 page writing sample and two letters of reference. Please Note: Applications must be received at the Green College office on or before the **February 1, 2009** deadline to be eligible. For further information on the Green College Writer-in-Residence program, please visit the Academic Programming section of [www.greencollege.ubc.ca](http://www.greencollege.ubc.ca). Questions may be directed to Kelly Parkatti, Program and Communications Manager, at [gc.programs@ubc.ca](mailto:gc.programs@ubc.ca) or at 604-822-0676

#### **SALEM COLLEGE CENTER FOR WOMEN WRITERS 2009 INTERNATIONAL LITERARY AWARDS**

Prizes in Short Fiction, Poetry and Creative Nonfiction! Postmark deadline: **February 2, 2009**. The Salem College Center for Women Writers announces its 2009 International Literary Awards in short fiction (5,000 words maximum), creative nonfiction (5,000 words maximum) and poetry (100 lines maximum; up to 2 poems per submission, any style.) Final judges are John McNally in fiction, Jennifer Niven in creative nonfiction and Molly Peacock in poetry. The winner in each genre receives \$1,200. The two honorable mentions in each genre receive \$150. Applicants must write in English. Please include the following per entry: Three typed copies of unpublished manuscript (prose double-spaced, author's name must not appear on manuscript); One cover sheet with name, address, telephone, email, genre, word count/line count and title of work(s); \$15 reading fee in cash, check or money order in US dollars, per submission, made payable to Salem College CWW International Literary Awards. SASE for notification of winners (optional). Please mail your submission to Center for Women Writers, 601 South Church Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101. For complete guidelines, visit: <http://www.salem.edu/go/cww/> or email [cww@salem.edu](mailto:cww@salem.edu).

#### **CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR A BOOK THAT PAYS TRIBUTE TO CARIBBEAN GRANDMOTHERS**

Cormorant Books will be publishing *Grandmothers*, an anthology of writing about or by grandmothers from the Caribbean who have raised children. The writing to be included may be written by anyone, and may take any form, be fiction or non-fiction. The anthology will be edited by Angela Rebeiro, former publisher at Playwrights Canada Press. Poets, playwrights, and authors may submit new and original work, or work that has been previously published. Authors may submit no more than two pieces of work i.e. two short stories or one short story and one poem, etc. Authors will receive payment at the rate of \$15 per page in the published anthology, as well as one copy. The book is projected to be published in fall 2010. Deadline: for submissions **May 1st, 2009**. Submissions: A cover sheet to the work must include the following information: the author's name and contact information; title of piece or pieces and identify genre; whether work is original or if it has been published before; (if it has been published before, please provide full contact information for publisher and/or agent). All submissions must be available electronically, but submissions must take the form of hard copies sent to Angela Rebeiro, Grandmothers Project, c/o Cormorant Books, 215 Spadina Avenue, Studio 230, Toronto, ON, M5T 2C7 (for further information, Rebeiro may be reached at [iggy7@sympatico.ca](mailto:iggy7@sympatico.ca)). Please ensure that your work is typed or printed out on 8.5 x 11 paper, on one side only, in 11 or 12 point type.

#### **INTRODUCING PRISM INTERNATIONAL'S FIRST ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST**

Go down in history as the winner of PRISM's inaugural poetry contest! Deadline: **January 30, 2009**. \$1000, Grand Prize; \$300 2nd Prize; \$200 3rd Prize. Judge: TBA. Entry fee: \$28 for 3 poems. Each additional poem: \$7. Contest entry includes a 1-year subscription or a 1-year renewal on your current subscription. Pay your entry fee online, or download an entry form: <http://prism.arts.ubc.ca/contests.php>. For more info: PRISM International Contemporary Writing from Canada and Around the World, [www.prismmagazine.ca](http://www.prismmagazine.ca), Buchanan E462-1866 Main Mall, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1, 604-822-2514.

#### **CANADIAN AUTHORS ASSOCIATION 22ND ANNUAL NATIONAL CAPITAL WRITING CONTEST (NCWC)**

CATEGORIES: Short Story (max. 2500 words); Crime/Mystery (max. 2500 words); Poetry (max. 3 poems, each not exceeding 60 lines, structured or free verse; not haiku). PRIZES (in each category): 1st Prize: \$500 sponsored by Canadian Authors Association – Ottawa; 2nd Prize: \$250 sponsored by the Ottawa Citizen; 3rd Prize: \$100 sponsored by Collected Works Bookstore. Rules: The contest is open to all writers in Eastern Ontario and Western Quebec/Gatineau (Postal codes J & K). The entry fee for Prose submissions is \$10 per entry. Canadian Authors Association (CAA) members may submit one entry FREE, and pay \$10 for each

additional entry. Contestants may submit an unlimited number of Prose entries; each entry must be the original, unpublished work of the author; each entry must be accompanied by a separate cover sheet; entries in different categories must be accompanied by separate cover sheets. The entry fee for Poetry is \$10 per entry packet of THREE poems. Canadian Authors Association (CAA) members may submit one packet FREE, and pay \$10 for each additional packet. Contestants may submit an unlimited number of entries; each entry must be the original, unpublished work of the author; each packet of THREE poems must be accompanied by a separate cover sheet; Cheques should be made payable to CAA Ottawa Branch and designated "NCWC". Entries must be in English, typed, double-spaced, on 8½" x 11" paper, one side only, page-numbered consecutively on the bottom right side of the page. The contest category and title of each submission must be indicated on the top left-hand corner of every page; author's name must not appear on the manuscript pages. Poetry entries must be in English, typed, on 8½" x 11" paper, one side only, and page-numbered consecutively (if necessary). The contest category and titles of each of the three poems must be indicated on the top left-hand corner of every page; author's name must not appear on the manuscript pages. Cover sheet must clearly indicate the author's name, expiry date of CAA membership (if applicable), address, telephone number, email address, category and title of entry or, in the case of Poetry, the titles of the three poems included in the entry packet. The author's name must NOT appear on the manuscript. The Contest Convener will assign a code number to ensure anonymity, as the National Capital Writing Contest is "blind-judged." Deadline for submissions is **Friday, February 6, 2009**; entries postmarked after this date are disqualified. Copyright remains with the author; winning entries may be published in The Ottawa Citizen and/or a CAA Ottawa Branch Anthology at a future date. Entries will not be returned. Overpayment of entry fees will not be returned. Mail entries to: Canadian Authors Association, Ottawa Branch, National Capital Writing Contest, 163 BELL ST., N., PO Box 57081, Ottawa, ON K1R 7E1, Attention: Sherrill Wark. Prizes will be awarded at the Canadian Authors Association Winners Circle to be held at the Ottawa Public Library, Auditorium – 120 Metcalfe Street at Laurier, on Tuesday, May 12, 2009. First-place winners are invited to read at that time. All contestants are invited to attend this special event, which is open to the public. For further information, contact Sharyn Heagle, President, CAA Ottawa Branch at sharyn\_40@yahoo.com .

#### **THE BANFF CENTRE LITERARY ARTS CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**

Writing With Style. Edna Alford, Director

- Spring 2009  
Program dates: April 20 - 25, 2009  
Application deadline: February 2, 2009  
Faculty: Michael Crummey (Chapter One Novel), Alan Cumyn (Writing for Children), Marilyn Dumont (Poetry), Myrna Kostash (Creative Non-Fiction)
- Fall 2009  
Program dates: September 14 - 19, 2009  
Application deadline: May 13, 2009  
Faculty: Joan Clark (Writing the Past/Historical Fiction), Mark Anthony Jarman (Short Fiction), Trevor Herriot (Memoir), Jeanette Lynes (Poetry)  
For writers of all levels.

#### **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](http://www.markinflanagan.com) or contact Janice Lee at 403.220.8177 or [leej@ucalgary.ca](mailto: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](mailto:editors@vallummag.com). We do not review fiction. [www.vallummag.com](http://www.vallummag.com)

## **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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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, 2009**. For more info: <http://www.geocities.com/panthergpss/Contest.html>

## **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](mailto:jdavies@writerstrust.com), Web: [www.writerstrust.com/programs\\_woodcockfund.html](http://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](mailto:lorrineilsenglenn@gmail.com). For more info: <http://www.placesforwriters.com/2008/10/seeking-writing-about-mothers.html>

### **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](mailto: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](http://www.myspace.com/onealwalters)

### **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](mailto:admin@CanAuthors.org).

### **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](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](http://www.nochesdepoesia.com)

\*\*\*\*\* Events and Readings \*\*\*\*\*

### **AWESOME FACE RETURNS WITH AWESOME FACE FIGHTS S.A.D**

Awesome Face returns with Awesome Face Fights S.A.D at Café Deux Soleils on Friday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9pm with special guests The Creaking Planks plus The Video Madness of Doctor WFT?, Travis the magician plus much more fun. The band that had never played a show and sold out Café Deux Soleils in November returns

with another "kids show for adults". Come help fight the seasonal blues as we go to the beach. Come prepared for story time, nap time, vitamin time, sing a longs, show and tell, exercise time, crafts and colouring and much more. \$8 at the door or dress in your finest summer beach wear (bikinis, speedos, sarongs, panama hats, tank tops, sports bras, and more) and get in for \$5. For more info: 604 215 9230.

### **VANCOUVER POETRY SLAM**

Vancouver Poetry Slam (<http://www.myspace.com/vancouverpoetryslam>) continues at Café Deux Soleils (2096 Commercial Drive) every Monday of every month. The first poetry slam of 2009 will be Monday January 5th for Vancouver's 2009 women of the world poetry slam finals featuring Seattle's, Tara Hardy (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Lr118r8W18> / <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WSdgotX7XVA>). Tara is a working class, queer, femme poet who writes and teaches in Seattle, Washington. She is the founder and art and education director of BENT, a writing institute for LGBTIQ writers in Seattle. In 2002 she was elected by the people and named by city council as Seattle's Poet Populist and She won the Seattle Grand Slam Poetry Slam Champion title the same year. She holds an MFA in fiction writing from Vermont College, and an MSW from the University of Michigan in Community organizing. Tara is a daughter of the United Auto Workers and worked in the battered women's movement for 15 years. This night will also showcase 8 of Vancouver's finest female poetry slammers as they try to win a trip to Detroit, Michigan to represent Vancouver at the 2nd annual "wowps" poetry slam festival three rounds of exciting poetic action doors at 8pm. Slam starts at 9 o'clock. For more info: [mcgarragle@gmail.com](mailto:mcgarragle@gmail.com).

### **POETS, MUSICIANS AND PERFORMERS SAY FAREWELL TO DUBYA**

Poets, musicians and performers say farewell to Dubya on his last night in office. Bye Bye Bush Bash features poets Nik Beat, Lara Bozabalian, Gypsy Eyes, Jeff Cottrill, David Clink, Sandra Kasturi and more. Musical parodies by Kirsten Sandwich and Pelayo Matute. W/ open mic (on theme). Cervejaria, 842 College. 730pm. Free. For info, [james@hotsaucedwords.ca](mailto:james@hotsaucedwords.ca)

### **TORONTO POETRY SLAM**

Toronto Poetry Slam (January 17) features the top spoken word artists in a poetry competition, plus guest feature Moe Clark from Montreal. Drake Hotel, 1150 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON. 730pm. \$5. Hosted by Dave Silverberg. [www.torontopoetryslam.com](http://www.torontopoetryslam.com)

### **A POETRY BENEFIT FOR LARA BOZABALIAN**

A Poetry Benefit for Lara Bozabalian (January 9), the Toronto poet who represented the city at the Individual World Poetry Slam. Featuring performances by Boonaa Mohammed, Krystle Mullin and comedian Dave Merheje. The Central 603 Markham St., Toronto, ON. 7:30pm. \$5.

### **AN ALL-FEMALE POETRY SLAM QUALIFIER**

An All-Female Poetry Slam Qualifier (January 13) to determine Toronto's rep at the Women of the World Poetry Slam. Featuring High Heels Lo Fi. Hosted by Andrea Thompson. The Boat, 158 Augusta, Toronto, ON. 7pm signup, 730pm show. \$5. for info, [torontopoetryslam.com](http://torontopoetryslam.com)

### **JACKPINE PRESS**

Featuring Daphne Marlatt & Frances Hunter, Between Brush Strokes and Ada Smailbegovich & Tiziana La Melia, Avowal Of What Is Here on Friday, January 16 at 7:30 pm the refinery arts & spirit centre, 609 Dufferin Avenue, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Catered by The Epicurean. NEW Jackpine press website launches April 2009 [www.jackpinepress.com](http://www.jackpinepress.com)

***** New Members *****
-------------------------

### **JENNICA HARPER**

Jennica Harper was born in North Bay, Ontario and grew up in Brampton. She came to Vancouver in 1998 to earn her MFA in Creative Writing from UBC. In 2006, her first book of poetry, *The Octopus and Other Poems*, was published by Signature Editions; her second book of poems, *What It Feels Like for a Girl*, came out with Anvil Press in 2008.

Her long poem "The Octopus" was shortlisted for a National Magazine Award; her poem "Autumn Detail" was selected for the Poetry in Transit project (2007); and her long poem "Liner Notes" was shortlisted for the 2008 CBC Literary Awards.

Jennica also works as a screenwriter, story editor, and creative writing instructor in Vancouver, B.C.

### **KELLY-ANNE RIESS**

Regina writer, Kelly-Anne Riess, is the author of the poetry collection *To End a Conversation* and the bestselling *Saskatchewan Book of Everything*. Her work has appeared in magazines and newspapers across the country and on the A&E Biography Channel and History Television. In 2008, she was short-listed for a Saskatchewan Lieutenant Governor's Arts Award.

#### **NILOFAR SHIDMEHR**

Nilofar Shidmehr is the author of *Shirin and Salt Man* (Oolichan Books, 2008) and the Farsi Translator of Toni Morrioso's Novel *The Bluest Eye* (Iran, Tehran, Vistar Publishers, 1997).

Nilofar was born and raised in Iran and migrated to Canada in 1997. She has an MFA in creative writing and is currently a PhD student in the Center for Cross Faculty Inquiry at the University of British Columbia. Her poetry and fiction have been published in several Canadian and Iranian literary magazines, newspapers, and websites such as *Descant*, *A Room of One's Own*, *The West Coast Line*, *Sharvand*, and *Iranian.com*. She also writes screenplays and makes video poetry. Recently, her video poem *The history of his blue towel* was featured as a part of *Visible Verse 2008* at Pacific Cinématèque in Vancouver.

Nilofar is currently working on her second poetry collection *A Triangle of Names for an Immigrant: Biographics, Narratives, and Ironics*.

***** <b>Members News</b> *****
---------------------------------

#### **CARMELO MILITANO**

'The Fate of Olives' was short-listed for the F.G. Bressani award for non-fiction in November. For more info: [http://www.italianculturalcentre.ca/itoolkit.asp?pg=SHORTLIST\\_CANDIDATE](http://www.italianculturalcentre.ca/itoolkit.asp?pg=SHORTLIST_CANDIDATE)

#### **ELANA WOLFF**

*You Speak to Me in Trees* (Guernica, 2006), by Elana Wolff, is the winner of the **2008 F.G. Bressani Prize for Poetry**. This is a biennial prize awarded by the Vancouver Cultural Centre Society. Previous winners include Carmine Starnino, Fulvio Caccia, Olive Senior, Liliane Welch, Len Gasparini, and John Terpstra.

-----  
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](mailto: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., Suite 608, Toronto, Ontario, M4W 3C7. Send news to [readings@poets.ca](mailto: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.