

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

HAPPY LABOUR DAY LONG WEEKEND!

UPDATE ON THE POETRY FESTIVAL AND CONFERENCE 2009

Dennis Reid, President. Planning will begin in early September regarding next year's Conference and Poetry Festival, in Vancouver, B.C. Council will be meeting via teleconference to get the ball rolling. As there was a shortfall last year in St. John's, this year we will be looking to find new ways of funding portions of our annual meeting, panels, lectures, members meeting, awards and Anne Szumigalski lecture.

Our past-President, Maurice Mierau has graciously stepped forward to start work on the financial aspects of sponsorship, for example, for catering and meeting room costs. We have also asked the Canada Council to cover a portion of the festival, through the Marketing and Promotion of Canadian Poetry project funding that we already receive. Feel free to contact any council member or Joanna our ED, for information as it unfolds if you have any further questions.

WORD ON THE STREET TORONTO: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

On Sunday in September 28th, Queen's Park will transform into a writers' and readers' paradise with Canada's largest book and magazine festival, The Word On The Street. Please join us as we celebrate the beginning of the fall book season. The League is looking for volunteers to help oversee our information table, and hand out brochures for a couple of hours during the day. If you are free, and able to share some time at our booth to mix, mingle and chat about poetry and the League, please contact Ingel at: readings@poets.ca

NORTHERN POETS IN THE SCHOOLS TOUR, ANYONE?

Funding is still available for school visits throughout Ontario. However, we are hoping that members who participate in the program will consider booking a tour to visit schools in Northern Ontario. For Northern Ontario schools the League subsidized the full cost of the poet's fee (\$300 for full day, \$200 for half day) and reimburses all travel and accommodation expenses when the author visits a minimum of three schools within the same region. Exceptions can be made for remote schools (e.g. two days in one school, one day in another school.) Please see program details here: <http://poets.ca/linktext/programs/schoolsguide.htm> or contact Ingel Madrus at readings@poets.ca.

NEWS FROM THE FEMINIST CAUCUS

By Anne Burke, Chair. Gloria Alvernaz Mulcahy is editing a companion volume to the chapbook Sisters in Spirit, with responses to the panel papers. She is associated with the Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women and Children, at the University of Western Ontario, a collaborative venture of the University of Western Ontario, the London Coordinating Committee to End Woman Abuse, and Fanshawe College. You can check out their web site at www.crvawc.ca. There is an annual conference and newsletter. On August 15, 2008, Ontario committed 1\$5 million to support victims of domestic abuse and prevention programmes, with an additional \$700,000 for special projects for "Neighbours, Friends, and Families", a public education campaign to raise awareness. For full report: www.poets.ca/linktext/newsletter.

***** News *****

ARTICLES REGARDING FUNDING CUTS TO THE CULTURAL SECTOR AS WELL AS A COPY OF THE DCH/CONFERENCE BOARD REPORT ON CANADA'S CREATIVE ECONOMY:

From the Book and Periodical Council

CULTURE ADDS 3.8% TO CANADA'S GD

Steve Ladurantaye, Globe and Mail Update, August 26, 2008 at 9:53 AM EDT.

Canada's cultural sector contributed \$46-billion, or 3.8 per cent, to Canada's gross domestic product in 2007, according to a report from the Conference Board of Canada.

Taking into account direct, indirect, and induced contributions to employment, the Conference Board of Canada estimates that the culture sector accounted for 1.1 million jobs in 2007, said the report, titled Valuing Culture "Measuring and Understanding Canada's Creative Economy. Moreover, the arts and culture industries also help to attract people and spur creativity across all sectors of the economy.

Canada's culture sector is being driven by growth in digital technology and expanding Internet use, the report states.

Canada's culture industries are increasingly focused on harnessing the energies of 'prosumers' "well-educated, demanding consumers who often participate directly in the experience of producing creative value," the report states. On a mass scale, individuals are creating their own digital content, co-creating with others and contributing to the development of commercial applications.

The report was written in collaboration with Canada's Department of Federal Heritage.

CULTURAL SECTOR HELPS DRIVE ECONOMY: REPORT

Last Updated: Tuesday, August 26, 2008 | 11:22 AM ET, [CBC News](#)

Arts and culture contributed \$46 billion to Canada's economy in 2007, but the overall impact of the sector was a much broader \$84.6 billion, according to a report from the Conference Board of Canada.

That amounts to 7.4 per cent of Canada's gross domestic product, according to the report, released Tuesday.

The study, commissioned with money from the federal Heritage Department, is the most comprehensive ever made of Canada's cultural sector.

It attributes 1.1 million jobs to arts and culture or to spinoff industries, such as tourism.

And culture has less tangible benefits, such as helping people of diverse backgrounds understand each other, the report says.

"Arts and culture industries bring people together locally, globally and virtually, helping to bridge large geographic distances and create communities of interest," the report says.

It highlights what it calls the "creative economy" as a key driver of economic growth in the future.

"Canada is a relatively small market dispersed across a large geography," the report says. "Therefore the success of many culture products and services depends significantly on international trade."

This seems to contradict the Tory policy of cutting programs that promote trade in the arts. Earlier this month it announced the end of the Trade Routes program, which exposes international buyers to Canada's cultural sector, and PromArt, which helps arts groups and international artists travel overseas.

HARPER DEFENDS CUTS

However, Prime Minister Steven Harper said Tuesday the programs cut were not effective.

"This government has increased funding for the arts in total, but every five years we go over all our funding programs to find which are the most effective. Some arts programs went down, others went up," he said, speaking at a news conference in Ottawa.

The federal government added \$50 million to the Canada Council budget this year, but also cut a significant program that helps museum exhibits tour. Reports estimate the government will cut up to \$48 million from arts spending by 2010.

The Conference Board of Canada report, which came out of a March 2008 conference of arts professionals, says digital technology is creating new opportunities for economic growth in the creative sector.

This is primarily because of the importance of the internet as a magnet for creative entrepreneurs and as a means of distributing arts projects, the study says.

"These technologies allow content producers to distribute their works to a wide audience and consumers to participate directly in creating cultural content," the report says.

Technology is also opening significant "niche markets" for more unusual cultural products that don't have a huge commercial following, but are nonetheless viable because the internet makes them easy to distribute, the report says.

Creative people also help fuel innovation in other economic sectors, it adds, pointing out that cities with large cultural communities are economically vibrant.

CULTURE WAS WORTH \$84.6 BILLION TO ECONOMY LAST YEAR

By Julian Beltrame, The Canadian Press, Wed. Aug 27 - 4:46 AM

OTTAWA — Canada's arts community has been given an indirect boost in its fight against government funding cutbacks in the form of a new economic report arguing that culture is a major contributor to national wealth and prestige.

The 60-page study from the Conference Board of Canada, a private-sector think-tank that did the study in collaboration with the federal government, argues that culture generated \$84.6 billion in direct and indirect economic benefits last year, or 7.4 per cent of total gross domestic product.

The report couldn't have come at a better time for Canada's arts community, which has been battling the federal government's decision to slice up to \$45 million in funding to arts programs.

The controversial decision was the subject of a special House of Commons heritage committee hearing Tuesday in which opposition MPs defended the programs, citing the spin-off benefits of arts and culture.

NDP critic Peggy Nash said she met with artists in her Toronto riding earlier in the morning and said she was told the impact would be "devastating."

But Conservative MP Dean Del Mastro said the cuts were the result of a review that found the programs wasted money. Government MPs argued that the millions saved will go to other arts and cultural programs that are producing better results.

In an interview, the report's lead author Michael Bloom appeared to give the government some cover, noting that funding of the arts from all levels of governments has grown by 3.2 per cent in both 2006 and 2007, more than the annual increases in the previous four years.

"Arts and culture does get funding from the government," he said. "We found that government spending in aggregate has tracked upwards slightly over the past two years."

Bloom said the study didn't look into the merits of the programs slated to be axed. He said its purpose was to quantify the total economic footprint of arts in culture on the Canadian economy and said the results would likely surprise many not involved in the culture industry.

HARPER DEFENDS CUTS TO FEDERAL ARTS PROGRAMS AT SAME TIME, CONFERENCE BOARD REPORT ATTESTS TO BENEFITS OF CULTURAL INVESTMENT

James Bradshaw, August 27, 2008.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper defended \$44.8-million in planned cuts to arts-and-culture programs for the first time yesterday. At the same time, the Conference Board of Canada released a report attesting to the economic benefits of investing in Canadian culture.

Harper said the government's "changes" to more than a dozen programs is the only responsible path, and echoed recent assertions by his communications director, Kory Teneycke, and Canadian Heritage Minister Josée Verner that the government has managed to walk a tightrope, trimming the fat from its culture portfolio while simultaneously increasing overall spending.

"What this government has also done in that area, as it's done across the government, is we've instituted an expenditure-management system, where over a period of five years we comprehensively review every program and we make sure that we're spending on priorities and spending on those programs that are most effective," said Harper. "Some programs in arts and culture have increased in funding, others have gone down - in total it's gone up." Federal investment in culture for the 2007-08 fiscal year was \$3.4-billion, up from \$3.2-billion in 2006-07.

Harper also painted promises from Liberal Heritage critic Denis Coderre to reinstate the eliminated programs, should the Liberals be elected, as irresponsible. "The opposition has a view that you can never cut any single program, ever. If that's how they want to run the country, you'll have two consequences. You'll either have out-of-control spending or you will have a flat amount of program funding that is increasingly less effective over time," he said.

Tom McSorley, executive director of the Canadian Film Institute, is frustrated with the Conservatives' stance. He believes the driving force behind the cuts is the "ideological adamant rock" that funding the arts is not the federal government's domain, something the Conservatives have repeatedly denied.

I don't think they listen with any degree of interest to the fact that the economic impact of the arts is demonstrably positive," says McSorley. "To fall into the fallacy that it's really about moving money around - well it isn't."

The Prime Minister's comments come in the wake of a recently released report from the Conference Board of Canada, in collaboration with the federal government, that confirms high economic returns on cultural investment. The report, entitled Valuing Culture: Measuring and Understanding Canada's Creative Economy, calls the cultural sector's role "as a magnet for talent, an enhancer of economic performance, and a catalyst for prosperity" a universal phenomenon.

The Conference Board estimates Canada's cultural sector generated \$46-billion, or 3.8 per cent of Canada's GDP, in 2007. The sector's total impact including "indirect and induced effects" on other sectors leaves an economic footprint of \$84.6-billion, or 7.4 per cent of GDP, the report states. Those revelations paint a picture of industry stability: Statistics Canada reported culture accounting for an identical 3.8 per cent of GDP in 2006.

The report put 2003 employment in the cultural sector at 616,000 jobs.

Including direct and indirect contributions to employment, the report estimates that culture accounted for 1.1 million jobs in 2007.

Canada's culture sector is being driven by growth in digital technology and expanding Internet use, the report states.

Sylvia Lesak, Project Coordinator, www.thebpc.ca, 416-975-9366

TORIES SLASHING \$44.8-MILLION IN ARTS SPENDING CANADIAN HERITAGE PROGRAMS HIT HARDEST

James Bradshaw, The Globe and Mail, August 20, 2008 at 4:43 AM EDT.

The Tories are committed to cutting \$44.8-million in spending on arts and culture by April of 2010, The Globe and Mail has learned.

As criticism of recent cuts continues, most recently from the mayors of Montreal and Toronto in a joint letter to Prime Minister Stephen Harper, details of several new cutbacks are emerging.

The Conservatives have earmarked 10 programs and parts of another to be eliminated and will reduce spending on two others, after a "strategic review" process that audited all Canadian Heritage programs for efficiency and effectiveness.

All but one cut falls under the Heritage purview, the lone exception being the previously reported \$4.7-million PromArt, a grant program for foreign travel administered by Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

VALUING CULTURE: TOWN HALL REGARDING CUTS TO CULTURAL AND HERITAGE GRANTING PROGRAMS

Who should come? Everyone concerned about the Federal Government's blatant contempt for arts and culture.

Who will be speaking? Representatives from Government, visual arts, film, video, performing arts

What will we be doing? Strategizing on how to get our voices heard in the next election

Why is this important? Because the wave of cuts and policy changes are radically changing Canadian society.

Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 3, 2008 at 7pm.
The Theatre Centre
Wednesday, September 3 2008
1087 Queen Street West, (South East Corner of Queen and Dovercourt)

Since taking power in 2006, the Conservative Government has eliminated over \$34 Million from Cultural and Heritage Granting Programs. The programs affected were designed to assist artists, arts institutions and not for profit charitable organizations in the creation, development, promotion and dissemination of Canadian art both nationally and internationally.

The most recent cuts:

- The PromArt Program, 4.7 million (administered by the Department of Foreign Affairs)
- Trade Routes, 9 million, Department of Canadian Heritage
- Stabilization Projects and Capacity Building, of the Canadian Arts and Heritage Sustainability Program
- Canadian Independent Film and Video Fund, 1.5 million
- National Training Program in the Film and Video Sector, 2.5 million
- \$300,000 to the Audio-Visual Preservation Trust of Canada, for programs archiving important film, television and musical recordings.

With the anticipation of more cuts to be announced next week, we are inviting members of the arts and the broader community, MPs and the media to attend a town hall meeting. This meeting is intended to discuss the funding cuts, the ideological and inappropriate comments made by government about recipients and to brainstorm a plan of action. For more information or media inquiries contact: info@fusemagazine.org, info@thetheatrecentre.org or heather@torontofreegallery.org

WHAT IS IT ABOUT CANADIAN CULTURE THAT FRIGHTENS STEPHEN HARPER?

"The Harper government has shot another arrow into the side of Canadian culture," Wayne Grady, Chair of the Writers' Union of Canada, said today, referring to the announcement last Friday that the Conservatives are axing another arts-funding programme, this time the Department of Foreign Affairs, Industry and Trade's tremendously important PromArt.

PromArt was the fund to which writers, artists, musicians and other members of Canada's cultural industry could apply for funding to attend cultural events abroad for the purpose of promoting their work. Last year, the program provided \$4.7 million to help 300 creators and creator agencies represent Canadian culture abroad. In the field of literature alone, Grady adds, PromArt helped literary agents and publishers attend the Frankfurt, Guadalajara and London Book Fairs, where they were able to sell foreign rights to books published by their clients in Canada. It helped writers such as David Adams Richards, David Bergen, Flavia Cosma, Madeleine Thien and Michael Redhill conduct book tours in the United States and Europe. The fund also enabled the Association for the Export of Canadian Books to organize a travelling exhibition of Canadian-authored books that went on display in China, India, Korea, Spain, and Serbia and Montenegro.

The Writers' Union contends that these cuts are not simply fiscal in nature, as the Foreign Affairs department would have us believe, since studies have shown that every dollar invested in Canadian culture brings \$10 into the Canadian economy; taxes alone replenish DFAIT's original investment. PromArt is therefore not an expenditure, it is an investment that realizes huge returns to federal and provincial coffers.

"At a time when Canadian art, music and literature are finally making huge inroads in the world outside our borders," says Grady, "when Canadian artists, musicians and writers are being invited to participate in more international conferences and festivals than ever before, government cuts to arts funding are making it harder and harder for Canadian creators to appear before their new, expanding audiences."

Such curtailments not only make it more difficult for Canadian artists to make living, Grady notes, but they also silence Canada's voice in the international cultural forum. As globalization threatens to turn the world into ever larger and more homogenized economic conglomerates, individual national cultures are becoming increasingly important ways of distinguishing between one country and another. "We need to strengthen our representation abroad," Grady says, "so that Canadian writers can make a decent living, and Canadian culture can take its place on the world stage."

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

ARTS FUNDERS MOVING FORWARD ON INTEGRATED REPORTING

Ottawa, August 5, 2008 — An integrated financial and statistical online database called CADAC (Canadian Arts Data/ Données sur les arts au Canada) is being developed for launch in late 2008.

CADAC is a web-based database that will lighten the administration burden on arts organizations applying for operating funding to one or multiple public funders by enabling them to submit one set of financial and statistical information.

For years, arts funders have heard from the organizations they fund that they would like a more unified approach to the complex and comprehensive funding application processes. A key element is the financial and statistical data required by each funding agency.

The CADAC benefits for arts organizations, arts funders and the broader sector are:

- Arts organizations will have access to reports and historical data on their own organizations, as well as reports that compare their data to all the data in CADAC for similar organizations – by size, region or discipline.
- Financial and statistical information will be secure. Only the arts funders will have access to the information provided by arts organizations applying to their programs.
- Arts funders and arts organizations will be able to use the aggregate data to identify trends and monitor the overall health of the arts sector.
- The arts sector will be able to speak with a common voice on the impact of the arts.

Pilot testing of the database is expected to begin in October with a number of arts organizations and will proceed throughout the fall. Once the testing is complete, CADAC will be phased in gradually over the next two years, beginning in late 2008.

This initiative was originally conceived by the Intergovernmental Roundtable of Arts Funders and Foundations (IRAFF) in Ontario and shepherded through the development phase by the Ontario Arts Council. The following are member partners: the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, the British Columbia Arts Council, the Canada Council for the Arts, the Manitoba Arts Council, the Ontario Arts Council, the Saskatchewan Arts Board and Toronto Arts Council. Discussions are ongoing with other provincial, territorial and municipal arts funders to encourage them to join the partnership.

In addition, the CADAC initiative has supporting partners: the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Ontario Cultural Attractions Fund, the Ontario Ministry of Culture, the Ontario Trillium Foundation and the City of Toronto.

The Canada Council for the Arts will be the secretariat and host for CADAC.

For more information: CADACInfo@thecadac.ca

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

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

QUATTRO BOOKS NOVELLA CONTEST

Quattro Books publishes short novels, 25,000-35,000 words in length, by both well-known and emerging Canadian Writers. Next year, we will publish the two best novella manuscripts submitted to us by December 1, 2008. Send your manuscript, neatly typed, along with a \$15 reader's fee, to Quattro Books, PO Box 53031, Royal Orchard Postal Station, 10 Royal Orchard Blvd., Thornhill ON, L3T 3C0. Include a S.A.S.E. if you want your submission returned to you. For more information, visit www.quattrobooks.ca

2008 PRAIRIE FIRE PRESS - MCNALLY ROBINSON WRITING CONTESTS

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

ATTENTION WRITERS, POETS, ILLUSTRATORS,

Applications are invited from creative writers for the term position of Saskatoon Public Library/Canada Council for the Arts Writer in Residence from September 1, 2009 to May 31, 2010. Remuneration: up to \$30,000 for a

nine-month term. Criteria are based on Canada Council guidelines; position subject to Canada Council funding. Applications must be received by November 3, 2008. For more details visit http://www.saskatoonlibrary.ca/pdf/WIR-posting_2009-10.pdf

BERTON HOUSE WRITERS' RETREAT

Berton House Writers' Retreat call for applications: Deadline: September 30. The Writers' Trust of Canada is now accepting applications for the position of writer-in-residence at the Berton House Writers' Retreat in Dawson City, Yukon. There are four positions available between July 1, 2009, and June 30, 2010. Each position is for a three-month period. A monthly honorarium is provided and housing and transportation costs are covered. Writers are required to perform a public reading in Dawson City and Whitehorse and are encouraged to interact with the local community. To download an application form or for more information, visit <http://bertonhouse.ca/>

THE SCIENCE FICTION POETRY ASSOCIATION IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE ITS THIRD ANNUAL WEB POETRY CONTEST.

Entries are free and must be submitted between August 1st and August 31st. Poems may be of any form, of 20-lines or less, and must be on the theme of ENERGY. This theme may be interpreted in a variety of ways; these include metaphysical, magical, and mystical, as well as those energies attributed to scientific realms. This is a speculative poetry contest, so submissions must have a science fiction, fantasy, or horror element. First prize is \$100 cash, SFPA website publication, Waterman pen and journal, a signed hardcopy copy of *The Journey to Kailash* by Mike Allen, a copy of *In the Yaddith Time* by Ann K. Schwader, and a one year SFPA membership. Second prize is \$40 cash, SFPA website publication, an original painting by Marge Simon (the winner's choice of three), one year subscription to *Dreams & Nightmares*, and a copy of *Riffing on Strings*, edited by Sean Miller & Shveta Verma. Third prize is \$20 cash, SFPA website publication, a copy of *Lost Innocence: A Niteblade Anthology* edited by Rhonda Parrish, and a copy of *Sporty Spec: Games of the Fantastic* edited by Karen A. Romanko. Other prizes include *The Poet's Workshop – and Beyond* by Terrie Leigh Relf, M.A., *Covenant* by Elissa Malcoln, a copy of each available *Spec House of Poetry* title, and a copy of *Passionate Eye: The Collected Writings of Suzanne Vega* by Suzanne Vega. Please check the link below for more detailed information and guidelines. <http://www.sfpoetry.com/2008poetrycontest.html>

PROJECT COORDINATOR (BNPC) 18- MONTH CONTRACT POSITION

Breathing Northwinds is a project of Community Arts Ontario (CAO) and Debajehmujig Theatre Group (Debaj). Community Arts Ontario is the employer for this contract. The BNPC is accountable to CAO's Executive Director. The purpose of the Breathing Northwinds (BN) project is to:

- Provide crucial support to the early stages of the development of a Northern Ontario network of arts organizations, artists and arts supporters.
- Increase awareness among northern organizations, Aboriginal organizations, northern institutions, funders and patrons of local needs, regional needs and the strategies required to address them.
- Increase awareness among funding institutions of the cultural contexts that exist in the north and a realization of how institutions must change in order to accommodate these realities.
- Improve working relationships between and among organizations, sectors and communities in Northern Ontario.
- Increase the capacity of northern Ontario arts organizations to identify, resource and lobby northern institutions to support artistic development in the region.
- Increase the capacity of northern Ontario arts organizations to identify and address their own needs and advocate on their own behalf.
- Increase the capacity of northern organizations to access funding from traditional arts funders.

The first phase of Breathing Northwinds was a gathering held in June 2007 in Wikwemikong First Nation on Manitoulin Island. During this gathering, a first circle of participants formed Community Artists of Northern Ontario (CANO). Those present agreed to stand as the ad hoc advisory committee to provide initial stewardship. Since that time, CANO participants have not had the opportunity to gather again but have continued to meet and bring new communities/participants into the network.

The Breathing Northwinds Project Coordinator is to follow up with facilitating communication among an already established and growing northern network. In the next phase of the project the BNPC will collect information on professional development training needs, service and programming needs of the arts communities in northern and remote locations. The BNPC will produce statistics, anecdotal and other data to CANO (which includes reps from CAO and Debaj). In consultation with northern organizations, s/he will develop assessments and a

strategic plan to meet those needs. In the last phase of the project, the BNPC will coordinate initial training required by the various communities.

Job Description:

- Maintain and update a database of artists, community groups and organizations in northern Ontario's arts communities.
- Promote participation in CAO's Temagami gathering in June 09.
- Encourage participation in other gatherings of interest to northerners, in consultation with CANO.
- Conduct assessments of the program, service and infrastructural support needs of northern and remote artist communities. It is recognized that different communities have different needs and that generalizations will not serve.
- Collect stories, information and statistics that will support the ongoing development of northern arts infrastructure.
- Facilitate communication and resourcing between and among northern arts communities.
- Design an initial training/professional development plan for 12 northern arts community venues in consultation with those communities.
- Coordinate training/professional development sessions for northern arts communities using local/northern resources and expertise as much as possible.
- In consultation with CAO, Debaj, CANO and communities develop a strategic plan to support the ongoing development of northern culture and arts.
- Provide interim and final reports to Community Arts Ontario, Debajehmujig Theatre Group as well as CANO. Reports will contain 1) assessments of the current situation, 2) barriers/challenges to cultural/artistic development in various communities, 3) recommendations regarding the next steps for northern cultural development and 4) recommendations on institutional change required of CAO, funders and other institutions in order to better serve northern arts communities.
- Financial and administrative record-keeping for the project.

Qualifications:

The BNPC will have northern work experience and be familiar with Indigenous cultures in northern Ontario. S/he will have an awareness of issues confronting artists and organizations in northern and remote regions of the province. The BNPC will work in partnership with Debajehmujig Theatre Group and northern organizations and be accountable to CAO's Executive Director. The BNPC will be able to travel widely and provide her/his own administrative supports.

Application Deadline: 5pm, Monday September 22, 2008, Start Date: October 1, 2008, Remuneration: \$60,000. Priority will be given to applicants who live in northern Ontario. Apply to: Zainab Amadahy, Executive Director, Community Arts Ontario, 354-401 Richmond Street West, Toronto, ON, M5V 3A8 or zainab@communityartsonario.cab

THIRD ANNUAL GOLDEN BERET AWARD

The Calgary International Spoken Word Festival is thrilled to present the third annual Golden Beret Award as part of the 2009 festival. The Golden Beret Award will be given to a Canadian spoken word artist who has made a substantial contribution to the development of the discipline, through their own writing/performance works, and their involvement in the community at large.

The 2008 Golden Beret Award was presented to Calgarian Sarah Murphy, for her lifelong dedication to Spoken Word and contributions to grassroots activism.

NOMINATE NOW – And this is how!

Spoken word artists and/or friends interested in submitting for this soon-to-be-prestigious award are invited to send a one page letter via snail (address below), or on-line at www.calgaryspokenwordfestival.com The deadline is October 30, 2008. Snail: 1428A – 44th Street SW, Calgary, Alberta T3C 2A6.

The selection committee (comprised of four members of the business and artistic communities) will evaluate candidates based on the following qualities: originality of creative process, mastery of the genre, innovation, quality of writing, use of new technologies, contribution to community and openness to diverse voices.

The winner of the third Golden Beret Award will be invited to present their work at the 2009 Calgary International Spoken Word Festival in April, where the award will be announced.

The Calgary Spoken Word Society, which presents the Calgary International Spoken Word Festival, is a non-profit organization whose mandate is to showcase local, national & international spoken word artists; to present culturally diverse works; to offer innovative and progressive approaches to literacy; and to give voice to under-represented communities. For more information: Please call Sheri-D Wilson or Colette Mactaggart: 403.686.4292

AQUA BOOKS WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE

As part of Aqua Books' plan to become Winnipeg's Cultural City Hall, we would like to announce the Aqua Books Writer-in-Residence program. The Aqua Books Writer-in-Residence will occupy one of Aqua's Writer's Studios, located on the second floor of Aqua's new bookstore/bistro at 274 Garry Street for a four-month term, rent-free. In return, the Writer-in-Residence will be expected to give a reading and a workshop during their term and be available for manuscript evaluation. Aqua Books would like to invite Winnipeg writers of every genre to apply to the Writer-in-Residence program. Writers must have had at least one book published professionally. Previous experience teaching creative writing is preferred but not required. Applications should include a resume and cover letter. Dates for residencies are a choice of: September to December -- January to April -- May to August. Be sure to include second and third choices for times when applying for a residence. The Aqua Books Writer-in-Residence committee will be considering applications for fall 2008 and 2009 beginning August 15. For more information, please contact Aqua Books owner Kelly Hughes at 943-7555 or kelly@aquabooks.ca.

CBC LITERARY AWARDS

CBC Literary Awards: Deadline: November 1. Three categories - short story, poetry, creative non-fiction with first (\$6,000) and second (\$4,000) prizes awarded in each category, in both official languages. For complete details, visit www.cbc.ca/literaryawards

RBC BRONWEN WALLACE AWARD FOR EMERGING WRITERS

A prize of \$5,000 will be awarded to the best work of poetry. Two honourable mentions will each receive \$1,000 prizes. Applicants should submit 5 – 10 pages of previously unpublished poetry. To be eligible candidates must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant, under the age of 35, unpublished in book form and without a book contract, but whose literary work must have appeared in at least one independently edited magazine or Anthology. The deadline for submissions is October 31, 2008. Submissions should be sent to: RBC Bronwen Wallace Award for Emerging Writers c/o The Writers' Trust of Canada, 90 Richmond Street East, Suite 200, Toronto, Ontario, M5C 1P1. For further information please visit www.writerstrust.com or contact: James Davies, Program Manager (Prizes and Awards) 416.504.8222 x 245 or jdavies@writerstrust.com

12TH ANNUAL ROBERT FROST FOUNDATION POETRY AWARD

The Robert Frost Foundation is accepting submissions of poetry written in the "spirit of Robert Frost" (whatever you feel that may be). Poets may submit up to three poems on plain paper of not more than three pages for consideration. Prior published work may be submitted. Deadline: September 15. For more information, please visit: www.frostfoundation.home.comcast.net/~frostfoundation/wsb/html/frostsite1215/contest.htm

MANSFIELD PRESS

Mansfield Press currently publishes poetry, fiction and literary non-fiction. For poetry, please send the entire manuscript to the Mansfield address. For prose, please send a couple of chapters along with an outline of the entire book. For more information, please visit www.mansfieldpress.net

SCHLOSS SOLITUDE RESIDENCIES, GERMANY

Please note the detailed information about the residency opportunity at Schloss Solitude near Stuttgart, Germany and share with any other interested artists, universities or associations. Details of the program are contained in the documentation. Application deadline is October 31, 2008 (Postmark). Application forms can be downloaded from the application website <http://application.akademie-solitude.de>. For the 12th time in 18 years the international residency program Akademie Schloss Solitude is granting 65 residency fellowships of three to twelve months. From 2009 to 2011, 1.36 million Euros will be distributed.

31ST ATLANTIC WRITING COMPETITION WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Now entering its thirty-second year, the annual Competition was an important first step for such authors as Lesley Choyce, George Elliott Clarke and Budge Wilson, a legacy that is reinforced by the success of recent first-time published writers Jamie Leck, Ami McKay, Jackie Halsey, and Mark Blagrove (among others), all of whom once placed in the Competition.

This year, nearly two hundred writers from all four Atlantic Provinces submitted novels, poetry, short stories, and works for children to the annual Atlantic Writing Competition for unpublished works. The contest juries spent

eight months carefully reading and providing individual feedback for each entry before choosing this year's fourteen winners.

The H.R. (Bill) Percy Prize for unpublished novel

- 1st - Chris Benjamin (Halifax, NS)
- 2nd - Tim Reeves-Horton (Port Medway, NS)
- 3rd - Don Roy (Antigonish, NS)
- HM - Darrell Kays (Bedford, NS)

The Joyce Barkhouse Writing for Children and YA/Juvenile Novel Prize

- 1st - Brenda Tate (Pleasant Valley, NS)
- HM - Carol Moreira (Glen Haven, NS)
- HM - Elizabeth L. Pooley and Margaret Goodmanson (Lockeport, NS)

Poetry Prize

- 1st - Veryan Haysom (Mahone Bay, NS)
- 2nd - Heather Craig (Grand Bay-Westfield, NB)

The Budge Wilson Short Story Prize

- 1st - Victoria Lynn Hirtle (Mahone Bay, NS)
- 2nd - A. Luke MacNeil (Willow Grove, NB)
- 3rd - Anne Lévesque (Moncton, NB)
- HM - Sheila Morrison (Halifax, NS)
- HM - Diane Wile-Brumm (Bridgewater, NS)

WFNS extends warmest congratulations to all participants in this year's competition. Entry forms for the 32nd annual Competition are now online at www.writers.ns.ca/awc.html or upon request by calling 902-423-8116. On the eve of Word on the Street, writers, publishers, booksellers, librarians, teachers, friends, family and fans from across the Atlantic region will assemble for the annual Gala Celebration of Writers and Writing. Everyone is welcome at Alderney Landing Theatre in Dartmouth, Saturday September 27 at 7pm. The winners in this year's four categories of the Atlantic Writing Competition will read from their work, and all those who have placed in the contest will be awarded their prizes. The evening's festivities will also feature WFNS' annual Silly Silent Auction of Lunatic Literaria – spa treatments, original art, homemade gourmet Pecan Kahlua pies, rare and first edition books, and an abundance of other writerly goodies will be up for bids on the auction table. Mark it on your calendars and don't miss out on the hottest event of the literary season. For further information, please contact Jane Buss or Susan Mersereau, WFNS, (902) 423 8116 / talk@writers.ns.ca / www.writers.ns.ca

1ST ANNUAL RODERICK HAIG-BROWN LECTURE

I am looking for proposals for the 1st Annual Roderick Haig-Brown Lecture, to be given in late November in Campbell River, B.C. We're hoping for a lecture of about one hour (although we're flexible), something that picks up the environmental and literary torch from Haig-Brown and which is of the highest standard of environmental literature. We anticipate that the successful proposal will be some combination of the following qualities: poetic, scientific, conversational, practical, visionary, down-to-earth, heartfelt, and, above all, something that can stand proudly among the best examples of creative nonfiction writing we have. Is that a tall order? Sure, but they're big boots to fill, and I know we have the talent in this country to fill them. We would like the topic to have a deep relevance to the Northwest Pacific Coast. Details of compensation have yet to be worked out, but this will be a paid gig, through the Campbell River Arts Council and its community partners. It is our expectation to publish the lecture, and all succeeding ones, in a series with a B.C. Publisher (tba) and to gain national (at least) recognition for this work. At the moment, we'd like a one page proposal, a cv, and a sample of writing of up to 10 pages. You can send them to me by September 15, 2008. I would really love to have indications of interest, even if not fleshed out, well before that. We have a short timeline, but we are committed to making this happen. Our vision is to kickstart a program of national and international quality, that grows for years to come, which brings Haig-Brown's vision into the present, and extends it. We openly welcome deviations from Haig-Brown's style or interests, but are looking for proposals that somehow stand in his footsteps. If you are interested, or are able to suggest a writer I should contact or consider, please contact me at rhenisch@telus.net . Feel Free to forward this message. Thanks!

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

KEEPING THE CREATIVE SPIRIT AWAKE, SANTIAGO, CHILE!

A Poetry Workshop with Barry Dempster in Santiago, Chile, January 11 to January 25, 2009. Whatever stage you might be in your writing, the stakes are similar: to use language as if you had just invented it; to find the

emotional and spiritual resonance beneath the image; to let as much of the world into your work as possible. A poem is a magic spell that starts with very ordinary tools. First and foremost comes an awakening to the details around you, and a response that calls forth all the music you can muster, all the truth there is to tell.

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

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

THREE POETS AT EZRA'S POUND - TORONTO

Do you know the shy, funny, risky, smart work of Chris Fraser, Ferdous Nahar and Jill Jorgenson?

Come hear these three not-often-heard poets at the exquisite and intimate Ezra's Pound Café, 238 Dupont Street, Toronto. 416 929-4400 Thursday October 2, 2008, 7:30pm. Organized and hosted by Ronna Bloom

BRANDON UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF ARTS LITERARY SPEAKERS SERIES FALL 2008 EVENTS

The Brandon University Faculty of Arts is delighted to announce an exciting line-up of award-winning writers at BU this fall for the 2008-2009 BU Literary Speakers Series! All of the readings below are free of charge, and all are welcome and encouraged to attend!

- Friday, September 26, 12:40 to 1:30 p.m. in the BU Alumni Association Gathering Space (located at the south end of the John E. Robbins Library): Marilyn Dumont, reading from *that tongued belonging* (Kegedonce Press), and Jane Munro, reading from *Grief Notes & Animal Dreams* (Brick Books). Co-sponsored by THIN AIR: The Winnipeg International Writers' Festival.
- Thursday, October 20, 8:00 to 10:00 p.m. in Room 104 Clark Hall (Main Level): Stan Dragland, reading from *The Drowned Lands* (Pedlar Press). Co-sponsored by Pedlar Press.
- Thursday, November 6, 8:00 to 10:00 p.m. in Room 104 Clark Hall (Main Level): J.S. Porter, reading from *Thomas Merton: Hermit at the Heart of Things* (Novalis). Co-sponsored by the Canada Council for the Arts

SHANE KOYCZAN IN TORONTO

Monday Sept. 15. Shane Koyczan, B.C. spoken word star, make a rare Toronto appearance. Featuring with Last Call Poets, including Dave Silverberg, Amanda Hiebert, Valentino Assenza. *The Boat*, 158 Augusta Ave., Toronto at 8pm. \$5. 416-312-3865.

INTERNATIONAL SEQUENCE NYC

The Bowery Poetry Club, 308 Bowery, NYC 10012 212.614.0505, Sunday, September 7th, 2008, 4:00 - 5:30 - \$7. Featuring: The Canadian No-Style Team, Ian Ferrier, Sarah Murphy, and Sheri-D Wilson. The first installment of the International Sequence is set to take off this September at New York's Bowery Club. Spoken Word heavyweights Ian Ferrier, Sarah Murphy and Sheri-D Wilson make up the Canadian No-Style Team, and they're set to launch you into a high-calibre afterglow in an international evening of Spoken Word spectacular!

Montreal-based Ian Ferrier is the co-founder and executive producer of the poetry and music label *Wired on Words*. One of the top poet-performers in the North American Spoken Word scene, his most recent CD, *What is this Place*, was released by Bongobeat Records and selected as "Best CD of 2007" by HOUR magazine.

Author of seven books, Sarah Murphy is a translator, interpreter, teacher, performer, community activist, and award-winning visual artist. Her first CD, when bill danced the war, was recorded on September 11th, 2007, and will be released at the opening night gala of the 2008 Canadian National SLAM! Competition in November.

Poet, performer, film-maker, educator, producer, and artistic director Sheri-D Wilson has seven collections of poetry; her most recent, Autopsy of a Turvy World, follows Re:Zoom (2005), which won the 2006 Stephan G. Stephansson Award for Poetry, and was shortlisted for the CanLit award. She has two Spoken Word CDs (arranged by Russell Broom), and four award-winning VideoPoems: Airplane Paula (2001), Spinsters Hanging in Trees (2002), Surf Rave Girly Girrl (2004), and The Panty Portal (2008), all produced for Bravo!FACT. She is the founder and artistic director of the Calgary International Spoken Word Festival, one of the most respected Spoken Word Festivals in Canada.

WRITING WORKSHOP FOR WRITERS

If you are interested in developing your creative muscle and your discipline as a writer, this course is for you. Gloe Cormie, will facilitate a 7 week writing workshop to bolster and enrich your writing life, whatever your writing genre. Strategies to improve your writing in the genres of creative non-fiction, poetry, and fiction, will be emphasized. There will be in-class writing exercises and weekly assignments which will receive an attentive response from both the instructor and class participants. Bring a one-page sample of your writing to read for the first class. This course is for those who have attended Gloe's previous writing classes as well as new registrants. Maximum ten students. Register ASAP. Begins Oct.15 and ends Dec. 3, 7 Wednesdays (Nov. 12 off) 10:00-12:00 noon, Silver Heights Community Centre, SW Grosvenor & Oak. Instructor: Gloe Cormie. Presented in cooperation with River Heights Community Centre (Phone 488-7000) and Creative Retirement Manitoba (Phone 949-2565). For further information phone either number, or check these websites: <http://www.riverheightscc.org> <http://www.crm.mb.ca>

NOCHE DE POESIA - MONTREAL

- September 3rd - 22nd Noche de poesia (reopening our monthly series) http://nochesdepoesia.com/noches/22e_noche_de_poes_3_septembre_2008 with Juan Mildenberger (espagnol), Robert Oriol (français), Antoaneta Roman (roumain, espagnol, français), Hugh Hazelton (anglais, espagnol, français)
- September 24th - NDP's 1st delegation showcases their LIBER08 Performance for Montréal audience (before Barcelona trip) http://nochesdepoesia.com/noches/d_l_gation_ndp_liber08_en_spectacle_montr_al with Robert Oriol (français), Omar Alexis Ramos (espagnol), Angel Mota (espagnol), Danny Plourde (français), Catherine Kidd (anglais) and video poems by Orangerine Production (Québec) as well as Raimundo Morte (Catalonia)

REGISTER NOW FOR INFLUENCY 5: A TORONTO POETRY SALON

Featuring Guest Poets: Michael Boughn, Gary Michael Dault, Tanis MacDonald, Lillian Necakov, Meredith Quartermain, Emily Schultz, Jordan Scott, and David Silverberg. Eight accomplished poets working in distinctive styles will appear as both guest readers and peer critics in this unique lecture-reading series facilitated by Margaret Christakos. Each poet's critique of a colleague's work will be followed with a reading by the poet under discussion. A group discussion led by Christakos will follow. Students will accumulate critical vocabulary to discuss more fluently the divergences of approach, motive, process and product typical of Toronto's multitrade literary culture. For writers and readers alike. Wednesday evenings, 7 - 9:30 pm, Sept 17 to Nov 26 (no class Sept 24) \$225, plus \$100 book fee (8 books). University of Toronto School of Continuing Studies, Creative Writing Program, St George Campus (Bloor and St George). For more information contact: Margaret Christakos, at mchristakos@hotmail.com. Registration available online at www.learn.utoronto.ca, course code 1777

ANDREA THOMPSON AT VANCOUVER FRINGE FESTIVAL

After successful runs in Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg and Calgary, Andrea Thompson will be performing her one-woman spoken word show, Mating Rituals of the Urban Cougar at the Vancouver Fringe Festival. The show is a saucy, sultry, estro-centric deconstruction of the term "cougar" that brews up a potent mix of poetry, storytelling, humor and myth - taking the oral tradition back to its roots. Opening night is a two-for-one show on Saturday Sep 6, 2008 at 10:30 PM at Playwrights Theatre Centre 1398 Cartwright St. Granville Island. The show runs until Saturday Sep 13. For more info & reviews please go to www.andreathompson.ca

TONIGHT IT'S POETRY - SASKATOON

The second season of Tonight it's Poetry (TIP), Saskatoon, Saskatchewan's only weekly poetry reading series, is in the works. TIP will recommence on September 21st and will run until June 14th. This series is a diverse

platform that features both amateur and established poets. Each Sunday TIP hosts four amateur poets who read for seven minutes each, and one established poet (one or more books) who reads for up to twenty-five minutes. The readings occur on Sundays at 8pm at the downtown bar Flint, which is located at 259 Second Avenue South. For more information or to claim your spot in this unique series, please contact TIP founder and organizer, Taylor Leedahl, at tonight.its.poetry@gmail.com.

WIRE (West Island Readers Electric) INVITES YOU TO AN EVENING OF POETRY & PERFORMANCE

Thursday, September 25th: 7-9 pm, Café Aurora, 552 Beaconsfield Blvd (south of Highway 20, west of Woodlands exit). Admission: Free. Host: Julie Mahfood (phone 514-671-9941) with Jennifer Shenouda, Sandra Stephenson (co-founder, Poets Against War), Patricia Srigley (finalist, CBC 2008 Quebec Writing Competition), Neale McDevitt (author of One Day Even Trevi Will Crumble), Louise Dessertine (singer/songwriter extraordinaire), and special guest Tony Robinson-Smith (author of Back in 6 Years).

NEW (FALL) POETRY WORKSHOPS AT COLLECTED WORKS BOOKSTORE, OTTAWA

If anyone is interested, I've just booked a series of dates for my new seasonal poetry workshops at Collected Works Bookstore, Wellington & Holland, Ottawa, happening on Monday nights: September 22, 29; October 6; November 17, 24; December 1, 8, 15. \$200 for 8 sessions. 7pm to 9pm. for information, contact rob mclennan at az421@freenet.carleton.ca or 613 239 0337; an eight week poetry workshop (not during the fall edition of the ottawa international writers festival, obviously), the course will focus on workshopping writing of the participants, as well as reading various works by contemporary writers, both Canadian & American. participants should be prepared to have a handful of work completed before the beginning of the first class, to be workshopped (roughly ten pages).

WRITING YOUR WAY OUT OF A PAPER BAG

Is there a recurring frustration or a block that keeps throwing itself at you? This three-hour intensive workshop is for people who have come up against a block, either personally, professionally or as writers. It includes a talk about blocks, frustrations, and the tactics we use to avoid/deal with situations. Let some air into those stuck places through a variety of in-class writing exercises, and open the door to new directions.

Sunday September 21st, 2-5pm

Before Sept 14 \$75; After \$85

Snacks will be provided.

Danforth and Greenwood area

To register contact ronnabloom@utoronto.ca

THE MARKIN-FLANAGAN DISTINGUISHED WRITERS PROGRAM

The Markin-Flanagan Distinguished Writers Program presents a free public reading on Wednesday, September 10, 2008, to celebrate the residencies of two of its writers: incoming Writer-in-Residence Charlotte Gill and outgoing Writer-in-Residence Sina Queyras. Charlotte reads from her award-winning story collection, Ladykiller, seven stories exploring some of the darker undercurrents of urban living, and Sina reads from a selection of new work written during her residency. The reading is free and open to the public. A book signing and reception follow the reading. For more information, or to arrange a manuscript consultation with Charlotte Gill, contact 403.220.8177 or leej@ucalgary.ca.

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

RALPH CUNNINGHAM – FULL MEMBER

Ralph Cunningham was born in Toronto in 1932. He attended Frankland Public School, Jarvis Collegiate and University College, U of T. Among other things he worked in film at the CBC. He has published in numerous magazines beginning with The Canadian Forum in 1962 and in two anthologies, Made in Canada (edited by Douglas Lochhead and Raymond Souster) and Songs from the North (High Street Community Church, 1989, edited by Jack Brooks and Tony Cosier). In addition, he has published four books of poetry, Lovesongs and Others (Fiddlehead, 1979), ...No Continuing City (Multicultural Books, 2004), Mirrors of Memory (Multicultural Books, 2006) and Schwanengesang (Multicultural Books, 2008).

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

ALLAN BRIESMASTER

Allan had a busy month of August, which included participation as a host and speaker in the 2nd annual Purdy Country Literary Festival in Marmora, ON, Aug. 2 - 4, and a reading with Ruth Walker and John B. Lee in the 2nd annual Canada-Cuba Literary Association Festival in Brighton, ON August 23.

On August 27, Allan's new book Temple of Fire, from LyricalMyrical Press, was launched in Toronto. Temple of Fire is a limited-edition 8 1/2 x 11 art book with Allan's poetry and 22 coloured ink drawings by Holly Briesmaster. For more info, contact Allan at abriesma@ican.net.

At 8pm, Tuesday, September 2, Allan is a featured reader in the Art Bar Poetry Reading Series, at Clinton's, 693 Bloor St. West, Toronto. He will be reading new work, plus a few selections from Temple of Fire and Interstellar. See <http://www.artbar.org/calendar.html>.

Allan is also one of the readers in the Words Alive Literary Festival at the Sharon Temple in Sharon, ON, Saturday, Sept. 21, 1:45pm. <http://www.wordsalive.ca/about>.

JOHN DONLAN

John Donlan's fourth collection, Spirit Engine, has been published by Brick Books this spring, and has received good reviews in the Toronto Star and elsewhere. John's reading tour includes Kingston, Hamilton, London, Toronto, Saskatoon, Calgary, and Vancouver.

PATRICIA KEENEY

Patricia Keeney has just had two new volumes (/Le Livre de Jeanne /and /Le Livre de Patrick/) in her series of French translations published by Le Poemier de Plain Vent in Bergerac, France.

In May, she gave a paper on Venus and Adonis at the Craiova Shakespeare Festival in Romania.

In June, she was one of the featured poets in both workshops readings for the Blue Bridge Festival in Sutton, Ontario.

Patricia Keeney had had her long poem /South African Suite/, resulting from her six-month residency in that country, accepted for publication by the major South African journal, /New Contrast/.*

PENN KEMP

Penn Kemp is performing "Gathering Good Company" with the Gerry Fagan Singers to open the Gala of In Good Company, a month long celebration of arts in London. Oct. 5, 8 pm, The Grand Theatre, Richmond St., London ON. Contact: ingoodcompany@donnacreeghton.com, (519) 471-3343.

Penn is reading in Montreal on September 25, 2008, 7:30 pm for THE YELLOW DOOR POETRY AND PROSE READINGS in Montreal, www.yellowdoor.org. And on Sept. 28 for Matrix magazine's Pilot Reading Series at Bar Blizzarts, in Montreal. Contact Mike Spry, spry@matrixmagazine.org.

Penn's video of reflections on the Thames in literature is now up on http://torontosun.feedroom.com/?skin=oneclip&ehv=http://sunvideo.canoe.ca&fr_story=bd5a60f786dc45d6046e3231d6bed65e5487d5a9&rf=ev&autoplay=true". And recent poetry is posted on Sufi Poetry Carnival, <http://www.ditchpoetry.com/pennkemp.htm> and <http://www.goddess-pages.co.uk/>.

PETER A. LETENDRE

If I Could Be A Doughnut by Peter A. Letendre is a book of humorous poems that will inspire and delight children. This diverse collection has funny verses exploring the imagination of the young, enchanting nature poems featuring creatures large and small, and captivating tales of the wild frontier. Some poems challenge children to ponder overcoming adversity and enjoying life. Others will cause young readers to giggle out loud with their surprises, rhymes, and jokes. Amusing black and white illustrations charmingly capture the spirit of the poems. For more info: <http://www.palwrite.com/content.html>

JEANETTE LYNES

Jeanette Lynes' fourth collection of poetry, It's Hard Being Queen: The Dusty Springfield Poems has just been released by Freehand Books. The book will be launched in Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, and Kingston. Please see the Freehand Books website for launch details.

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.

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