



Take Note

“The poet enjoys the incomparable privilege of being able to be himself and others, as he wishes.”

—Charles Baudelaire

New York conference empowers writers

MANY WRITERS don't realize that publishing a book requires more than writing it. In today's difficult market, they must take a business approach. In other words, besides writing well they must know how to market their manuscript, not only to the agent or editor, but to those much-desired book buyers.



The New York Center for Independent Publishing (NYCIP) set out more than five years ago to create a conference with that in mind. Enlisting the expertise of industry insiders—including agents, editors, authors, and publishers large and small—the New York Round Table Writers Conference was born.

“We've had tremendous success creating a conference geared exclusively to the business and career of writing,” says Tim W. Brown, a member of the NYCIP executive committee. “Our access to publishing-industry insiders provides attendees with practical information they won't receive at any other conference.”

Many authors, including Mary Higgins Clark, Malachy McCourt, Jonathan Ames, John Berendt, Michael Connelly, Richard Ford and Jeannette Walls, have participated in the conference. This year Wally Lamb will be a keynote speaker for the fifth annual conference in New York City, set for April 24-25. [*The Writer* is an official sponsor of this year's event.]

“It's a long trip from Stockholm, and it was well worth the time and money. I hope to be back in 2009!” said Per Holmlöv, of Sweden, after last year's conference.

What is certain for those who attend this year's conference is that the information they receive will save them missteps and wasted time in their search for publishing success. Find out more at www.writersconferencenyc.org.

—Carol Hoenig

WRITER EVENTS

Contests

AKRON POETRY PRIZE Open to all poets writing in English; submit poetry mss with total length of at least 48 pages. **Deadline:** May 1-June 15. **Entry fee:** \$25 per submission. **Prize:** \$1,000 plus book publication. **Contact:** The Akron Poetry Prize, The University of Akron Press, Akron, OH 44325. uapress@uakron.edu. www.uakron.edu/uapress/poetryprize.html.

BECHTEL PRIZE Open to previously unpublished articles and essays up to 5,000 words related to teaching creative writing in an interdisciplinary context. **Deadline:** June 30 at 5 p.m. **Entry fee:** \$20 per submission. **Prize:** \$1,500 honorarium and publication in *Teachers & Writers* magazine. Finalists also receive honoraria, possible publication. **Contact:** The Bechtel Prize, Teachers & Writers Collaborative, 520 Eighth Ave., Ste. 2020, New York, NY 10018. bechtel@twc.org. www.twc.org/publications/bechtel-prize.

CLAS MEMOIR CONTEST Submit original, unpublished memoirs to 2,500 words. **Deadline:** May 31. **Entry fee:** \$10 per memoir for CLAS members; \$15 per memoir for non-members. **Prizes:** \$300/\$150/\$50. Winners recognized at the Ventura Book Festival on July 25. **Contact:** California Literary Arts Society (CLAS), P.O. Box 782, Ventura, CA 93002. 805-643-3385. Mary Embree: marye@literaryarts-ca.org. www.literaryarts-ca.org.

LITERAL LATTÉ SHORT SHORTS CONTEST Submit unpublished shorts to 2,000 words, any style; all entries considered for publication. **Deadline:** June 30. **Entry fee:** \$10 for 1-3 shorts; \$15 for 6 shorts. **Prize:** \$500. **Contact:** *Literal Latte Awards*, 200

E. 10th St., Ste. 240, New York, NY 10003. E-mail from Web site. www.literal-latte.com.

LORIAN HEMINGWAY SHORT STORY COMPETITION Submit original, unpublished fiction to 3,000 words, any theme. **Deadline:** May 15. **Entry fee:** \$12 postmarked by May 1; \$17 thereafter. **Prizes:** \$1,000/\$500/\$500. **Contact:** Lorian Hemingway Short Story Competition, P.O. Box 993, Key West, FL 33041. shortstorykw@aol.com. www.shortstorycompetition.com.

SCRIPTAPALOOZA COMPETITION Submit 80-140 pages of original script in any genre by mail or e-mail. **Deadline:** April 15 (final deadline). **Entry fee:** \$50 per submission. **Prize:** \$10,000 plus promotion of the script by Scriptapalooza for one year. **Contact:** Scriptapalooza, 7775 Sunset Blvd., Ste. 200, Hollywood, CA 90046. 323-654-5809. info@scriptapalooza.com. www.scriptapalooza.com.

WAR POETRY CONTEST Submit 1-3 poems about war. **Deadline:** May 31. **Entry fee:** \$15. **Prizes:** \$2,000/\$1,200/\$600. **Contact:** Winning Writers, 351 Pleasant St., PMB 222, Northampton, MA 01060. 866-946-9748. Adam Cohen: adam@winningwriters.com. www.winningwriters.com.

THE WRITER 2009 SHORT-STORY CONTEST Submit an unpublished short story, to 2,000 words. Mss must be submitted with an official entry form, available at *The Writer* Web site. **Deadline:** May 31. **Entry fee:** \$10 per submission. **Prizes:** \$1,000/\$300/\$200. **Contact:** 2009 Short-Story Contest, *The Writer*, P.O. Box 1612, Waukesha, WI 53187. contest@writermag.com. www.writermag.com/2009contest.