



Issue 2

February 16, 2008

The Quill

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Contests, Contests, Contests

In the January Quill the 2008 Petigru Review guidelines and deadlines were announced. Now, it is with great excitement that we announce the guidelines for two other writing opportunities -- The Carrie McCray Literary Awards and the SCWW High School Contest.

If you have any questions on these two contests, please contact Kim Blum-Hyclak, the new contest chair for SCWW. Welcome aboard, Kim!

SCWW Carrie McCray Literary Awards

Named in honor of one of SCWW's founding members, the Carrie McCray Literary contest is open to all registered attendees of the 2008 conference. You may enter one manuscript in each category:

Short Fiction -- 4,000-word limit

news...

New publication
dates, deadlines

In an attempt to
provide the most
comprehensive
information about
SCWW events, The
Quill will always be
published after any
SCWW board
meetings. The next
meeting will be
Saturday, March 15,
2008. The deadline to
provide information for
The Quill will be the
date of the meeting.

Novel-First Chapter(s) -- 4,000-word limit
Non-fiction -- 4,000-word limit
Plays & Screenwriting - Beginning Scene(s) -- 4,000-word limit
Poetry -- 40-line limit

A winner in each category will be presented with \$100 after the Saturday evening dinner at the SCWW conference in October.

Eligibility: Work must be original and unpublished, except for works published in *The Quill*. First-place winners for 2007 are not eligible to submit in the category in which they won. Works submitted to the 2008 anthology and works by faculty members are also ineligible.

Format: All entries must be typed. Prose must be double-spaced. The author's name, address, phone number, e-mail address and title of the entry must appear on a separate cover sheet. Each page should include the title and page number. The author's name may appear only on the cover sheet. Entrants failing to comply with the above guidelines may have their work disqualified.

To enter: After you have completed the registration process, send three copies of each entry and one cover sheet, by September 1, 2008, to:
Carrie McCray Literary Awards
Kim Blum-Hyclak
1315 Treetop Dr.
Lancaster, SC 29720

SCWW High School Contest

The South Carolina Writers' Workshop announces its 2008 high school competition. It is open to high school juniors and seniors enrolled in any public or private schools or homeschool program. First and Second place winners in fiction, non-fiction and poetry categories will receive a cash prize. There is no fee to enter.

For rules and entry form, please contact the Contest Chair, Kim Blum-Hyclak at rhyclak@comporium.net.

Submissions must be postmarked no later than March 12, 2008.

SCWW Conference News

Susan Boyer, 2008 conference chairperson, brings an update on the October conference.

This year's conference will be back at The Myrtle Beach Hilton Resort, on October 24-26.

The keynote speaker will be Michael Connelly!

This year, we have a whole committee of folks working hard to deliver the best event possible to our membership. Barbara Evers, our faculty

chairperson, is busy recruiting a faculty of ten agents, ten editors, and ten top-notch authors and poets. We'll have some faculty specifics for you next month. One thing we're changing up this year is that we're combining the scholarship and volunteer programs into one volunteer program.

Volunteers attend the conference free of charge in exchange for working during approximately half the conference, in addition to helping out with pre-conference tasks. We're asking volunteers to sign up between now and March 1st. We'll take the first twenty active SCWW members who email me at conference@myscww.org and request a volunteer spot.

Because there is so much to be done to prepare we'll need every volunteer to handle one or more pre-conference tasks, depending upon the size of the task(s). Examples of these type tasks are gathering and distributing critiques, making name badges, and making signs. Please make sure you have the time to commit between now and the conference to fully participate before volunteering.

We'll also have at least one volunteer meeting, likely in Columbia, approximately one month before the conference, and one the Thursday night of conference week.

Please note, while volunteers do not have to pay a conference registration fee (complete package, including conference meals) or a fee for the Friday intensive workshops, they are responsible for their own travel expenses, hotel room and incidental expenses.

Our volunteer staff was a critical part of the success of last year's conference, and I'm really excited about working with a group of folks who will be dedicated all year long!

Susan Boyer 2008 Conference Chairperson

Let us show off your work!

SCWW will host a table at the South Carolina Book Festival, Saturday and Sunday, February 23-24, 2008, at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center (110 Lincoln Street). At the table, we will display examples of members' published works. If you would like to include your books in the display (no more than one copy of each book), please contact Carrie McCullough (carriemccullough@bellsouth.net) or stop by the SCWW table.

In addition, if you would like to volunteer your time to help answer questions about SCWW for potential new members, please contact Carrie McCullough. We really need a few more volunteers for Sunday.

Member takes dip into business publishing pool

Leanna Adams and Elizabeth Gordon are celebrating their new book, *The Chic Entrepreneur: Put Your Business in Higher Heels*. Set for release May 6 by Robert D. Reed Publishers, it's a business strategy book for women. Congratulations, Leanna, an SCWW member involved in the Charleston chapter.

In industry news...

The in the past month, a number of independent bookstores have announced plans to close. While some were open for only a few months and others a few decades, a common woe was listed -- not enough customers were buying books. While we can't save all the bookstores, writers can do their part with one simple action -- going to an independent bookstore and buying a book.

It doesn't just help a local business, it helps our industry. While it might seem a grassroots approach that only helps the commercial end of our goals, consider this: the more books sold at lower discounts from the publishers, the better chance writers have of getting a great contract for their next works.

Let the publishers and bookstores know you support the industry. Stop by a booth at the S.C. Book Festival later this month.