



April 2011

Where writers find encouragement, expertise, and inspiration

2011 CONFERENCE NEWS

Registration: Sign-ups for our July 28-30 conference have been the best ever for the two weeks since registration opened. Clearly, people are excited about this year's line-up of presenters, as well they should be. It's going to be a great conference. Enrollment is limited because of space constraints, so if you're thinking of coming, you may want to avoid disappointment by mailing in your registration soon.

Master class with John Dufresne: Just a reminder that the deadline is May 15 to send your application.

Two new conference events to spark up our schedule:

Art opportunity: Janet Self, the artist who created the wonderful banners that graced MCWC last year, has offered to lead a lunch-time art project during the conference. She says: "I thought I might set up a colored banner already blocked in and have folks add words to a theme, or some additional patterns. It would thus be an expression of the 2011 conference, and something to carry forward. Also a nice way for writers to get the kinks out & try something new."

Youth Scholar reception: Cheshire Books in Fort Bragg will host a reading and reception for the 2011 Youth Scholars and their families and friends on the Friday afternoon of the conference. The deadline for Youth Scholarship applications is May 1. If you know a high school student in Mendocino County who has an interest in writing, please encourage him or her to apply. Details and application form are at http://www.mcwc.org/mcwc_hs_schol.html

LOCAL EVENTS

Wednesday, April 20, at 6 p.m. in the Garden Room of the Mendocino Hotel: Writers of the Mendocino Coast welcome novelist, Jean Hegland, to speak about the novel. She teaches creative writing at Santa Rosa Junior College. Learn more about her at www.jeanhegland.com.

Tuesday, May 3: Coast Slam at the Mendocino Hotel, all ages. Sign-ups at 6:30. Featured slam poet is Joyce Lee, following the open mic and between the two slam rounds. Get more information on the Coast Slam Facebook page, or e-mail: coastslam@gmail.com.

MCWC COMMUNITY NEWS

Cheyenne Munson was a Youth Scholar in 2001. She is now a graduate student in the Psychology department at the University of Iowa. Her research focuses on how adults

understand speech. She hopes to finish her Ph.D. in August.

The good news keeps coming for **Camille Dungy**, who will teach the poetry workshop at MCWC 2011. *Suck on the Marrow* is a finalist for the 80th California Book Awards and the 30th Northern California Book Awards. It also made it to this year's ForeWord Book of the Year short list.

The Book of Men: Poems by **Dorianne Laux** (MCWC Advisory Board and presenter 2005) reached #1 last month on amazon.com's list of bestsellers in poetry.

Ray Rhamey (presenter 2009) has a new book out. *We the Enemy* "tackles a dark side of us in an issues-driven speculative thriller."

Jade Lauryne, who writes under the pen name Ashaunti-Ra, will be one of the featured authors at the National Black Writers Festival to be held in Houston, Texas in June. She offers a workshop based on her book *Life by Design* in San Diego on April 23 at the Hampton Inn in downtown San Diego. For more information email jade@forlifedesign.info.

Sue Owens Wright (1999, 2004) reports that *Embarking on Murder*, the third novel in her Beanie and Cruiser Mystery Series, has been released in mass-market paperback by Harlequin Worldwide Mystery