



May 2011

Where writers find encouragement, expertise, and inspiration

2011 CONFERENCE NEWS

Financial aid reminder: Thanks to the generosity of several donors, MCWC has funds available to subsidize conference fees for writers of limited means. If you need help, please ask. See http://www.mcwc.org/mcwc_aid.html for guidelines.

Upcoming deadlines:

May 15: Applications close for **John Dufresne's** master class on the novel.

May 28: Participant writing contests close. Prizes include two full fellowships to the conference. Both these prizes honor the memories of former participants in the conference and in writing workshops at College of the Redwoods. The Carmen Gabriela Etcheberry-Freund Memorial Fellowship for excellence in writing is awarded to a College of the Redwoods Mendocino Campus student. Contest submissions in any genre are considered. The winner of the short fiction contest receives the Estelle Frank Fellowship. All winners and placeholders are recognized in the conference program and may have their work published in Todd Point Review. Judges for the contests are this year's conference faculty. See http://www.mcwc.org/mcwc_cont.html for more information.

June 1: Deadline for applying for financial aid.

June 15: Last day to register for MCWC 2011 at the regular rate. After that date, we charge a \$50 late fee. Download the brochure and registration form at <http://www.mcwc.org>.

LOCAL EVENTS

Wednesday May 18: Novelist and playwright **Jody Gehrman** will speak on the writing process to Writers of the Mendocino Coast, at the Mendocino Hotel Garden Room, 6:00 pm. Admission free and open to the public. Jody has been a favorite fiction faculty presenter at MCWC.

Saturday May 21: Day of the Word from 1:00 to 5:00 pm at Odd Fellows Hall, on the corner of Kasten & Ukiah Streets, Mendocino. A free all-ages poetry writing and multimedia workshop and open-mic as part of FLOCKworks' month-long celebration of lifelong learning curated by Janet Self. Gallery exhibits include book arts, visual poetry, and visual art by more than 200

artists and photographers of all ages. www.flockworks.blogspot.com, 937-2486. For more info about the poetry writing workshop: [klewis@mcn.org](mailto:kewis@mcn.org)

Sunday May 22: Ginny Rorby will share her middle grade adventure novel *LOST IN THE RIVER OF GRASS* at the Abalone Room of the Little River Inn, 3:00 pm. This page-turner is a survival story set in Florida's Everglades. Ginny is joined by special guest snakes and other surprises. (Ginny promises to keep the snakes out of sight and securely in their bags until after the reading.) Event sponsored by Mendocino's Gallery Bookshop.

Sunday, May 29: Mendocino Spring Poetry Celebration at the Hill House, Mendocino, with hosts Sharon Doubiago and Dan Roberts. Two open readings, starting at noon and at 6:00 pm, four minutes per reader. All "fans of the bare word" welcome. Read from your own poems or from the work of a favorite poet or playwright. For more information, contact Gordon Black: 937-4107, gblack@mcn.org.

Friday June 3, 6:30 pm: Dana Levin (faculty 2004) reads from her new poetry collection, *SKY BURIAL*, at Gallery Bookshop, Mendocino. The Publishers Weekly review is at <http://www.publishersweekly.com/9781556593321>

June 3-5: Mendocino Film Festival. Of special note to writers is the documentary feature *GUILTY PLEASURES*, which explores the world of romance novels and novelists. Jody Gehrman will host the q&a session after the movie. See www.mendocinofilmfestival.org for schedule and tickets.

June 7: Coast Slam at the Mendocino Hotel, all ages. Sign-ups at 6:30. Featured slam poet is Kim Johnson, between open mic and two slam rounds. Get more information on the Coast Slam Facebook page, including a Quick Start guide in Notes.

MCWC COMMUNITY NEWS

Christina Perez, dynamic host of the Coast Slam, made the San Francisco Slam Team and will be going to Nationals in Boston in August. She's looking for a host for our August Coast Slam. If you're interested, contact Christina at blue_caladonia@sbcglobal.net.

Camille Dungy (poetry faculty 2011) writes: "Happy to report that *SUCK ON THE MARROW* won the Northern California Book Award. I'm thrilled and honored. Really looking forward to this summer."

Repeat MCWC attendee **Phyl Manning**, who presently lives in New England, was published in late 2010 with her historical novel *ARCTIC CIRCLES* (sequel to *KITI ON ICE* of 2003) through Raven's Wing Books of Electric Forest Publishing. The new Briona Glen Publishing is planning to offer her *AN ORDINARY WOMAN* (narrative nonfiction memoir anthology) as a hardback within the next six months. The title of the latter is not yet set definitely. Phyl thinks that

information from MCWC sessions---and especially the interest and advice of author and Conference presenter John Lescroart---provided incentive and direction for finishing up and offering both of these books.

The 2011 ukiaHaiku festival honored **Karen Lewis** (MCWC board member) with an honorable mention for a haiku about Ukiah. For more information about submissions of haiku poems to this annual contest and festival, visit <http://www.ukiahaiku.org>.

Carolyn Cooke (MCWC Advisory Board) has a new novel, DAUGHTERS OF THE REVOLUTION (Knopf), that takes readers behind the gates of an elite prep school on the verge of coeducation during the radicalized 1960's. For Carolyn's upcoming appearances, check her website: www.carolyncooke.com.

Dana Bagshaw has just published her second novel www.fastpencil.com/publications/1564-RUNNING-FROM-GRACE which she first workshopped with James Houston at MCWC in 2008. At that time she was living in England, but has now moved back to California, and will be attending the conference again this July. She will be doing a reading after the conference of RUNNING FROM GRACE at the Gallery Bookstore in Mendocino 3:00 pm Sunday, July 31 and hopes those of you who can stay a while will join her there.