



November 2011

Where writers find encouragement, expertise, and inspiration

2012 CONFERENCE PLANS

Harriet Chessman, who was going to teach the Emerging Writers morning workshop, has had to drop out. In her stead, Harriet has helped us recruit **Elizabeth Rosner**, whom she describes as "the brilliant author of award-winning and extraordinarily beautiful fiction: *THE SPEED OF LIGHT* (2001, Ballantine), winner of numerous prizes and awards, including Borders Original Voices and the Prix France Bleu Gironde; and *BLUE NUDE* (2006, Ballantine), a national bestseller and a San Francisco Chronicle Best Book, recently out in paperback with Simon & Schuster.

"In addition to her significant and acclaimed fiction, Elizabeth has published a chapbook of poems, *GRAVITY*, which touches with grace and precision on many of the themes and images in her fiction. She has also published numerous essays in *The New York Times* and other places.

"And in addition to all this, she is one of the kindest and most generous writers I know; she has taught for almost thirty years at the college level, and she has been an inspiring and encouraging mentor at numerous writing retreats and conferences."

Read more about Elizabeth on her website, www.elizabethrosner.com/

Bios for all our outstanding MCWC 2012 faculty are at http://www.mcwc.org/mcwc_faculty.html
Mark your calendar for March 15, 2012, the date registration opens. MCWC 2012 dates are July 26-28

PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION

MCWC has not served the writing community for 22 years on conference fees alone. Every year, we fund-raise to bring up to six students of high school age to the conference on full scholarships. Donations from friends have also enabled us to offer financial aid to writers of limited means whose stories need to be told. This year is no different; we need to raise around \$6,000 to fund these and our new outreach programs such as writing workshops for seniors and the Coast Slam, which offers a creative outlet to at-risk youth.

Can you help? Since MCWC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, all donations are tax deductible. We're grateful for all support, no matter how small the amount. Mailing address for your check, made out to MCWC, is:

Friends of MCWC
PO Box 2087
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

We're working on a way of accepting credit card donations through PayPal. We'll let you know when it's in place.

EVENTS

Saturday November 12, 2:00 p.m. at Cheshire Bookshop, Fort Bragg: Writers from the College of the Redwoods and from Redwood Coast Senior Center will present new work. Writing workshops held at the Senior Center during October were sponsored by the Mendocino Coast Writers Conference and the California Arts Council's Creating Public Value Program. The purpose is to bring literary arts to wider audiences in Mendocino County. For more information contact Karen Lewis at 707-357-0592.

Saturday, December 4, 11:00 a.m. at Gallery Bookshop, Mendocino: **Katie Lewis** (Young Writer Scholar 2006) reads and signs her first illustrated children's book, **SIMON AND THE ORANGE SCARF** (Poesis Press). Now working full-time as a painter, Katie writes: "Writing is still a huge part of my life. Winning the scholarship was just one of many things that helped me along this road. I am excited to keep learning and growing and am grateful to have been able to go to such an amazing conference." More details about Katie's writing and artwork on her web site: www.katherinelewisart.com.

Tuesday, December 6, Coast Slam in The Grind at College of the Redwoods, Fort Bragg. Sign ups start at 6:00 p.m., the Slam starts 7:00. Featured poet is **Danee Black**, aka Queen D. She is the 2010 Golden State Grand Slam Champion, 2010 Slammy Award winner for Poet of the Year, Berkeley Individual Slam Champion, 2010 ILL List finalist, and 2011 Indie Inkslam Champion. She is currently the Oakland representative for the 2011 Woman of the World Poetry Slam. She is a member of the 2011 Oakland Slam Team and was a member of the 2010 San Francisco Slam Team, ranked top 10 in the nation.

MCWC COMMUNITY NEWS

Gerry Haslam (faculty 2004 & 2006) writes: "My wife Jan and I are the authors of **IN THOUGHT AND ACTION: THE ENIGMATIC LIFE OF S.I. HAYAKAWA**, just released by Univ. of Nebraska Press."

Robert McDowell (faculty 2002, 2003 & 2009) has launched a new book, **THE MORE WE GET TOGETHER: THE SEXUAL AND SPIRITUAL LANGUAGE OF LOVE**, published by Poesis Press.