

# 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Writers Conference at Ocean Park (Maine)



August 10- August 14, 2009

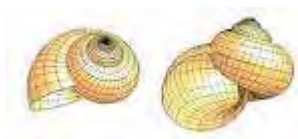
No. 1

Portland Editor

Colin Sargent



COLIN SARGENT is a playwright and author of three books of poetry. A graduate of the United States Naval Academy, he has been awarded the Maine individual artist fellowship in literature and earned a Stonecoast MFA in creative writing. His screenplay *Montebello Ice* is under option at Gideon Films. The Portland, Maine resident is founding editor and publisher of award-winning *Portland Magazine* as well as a board member of the literacy organization Maine Reads. *Museum of Human Beings* is his first novel. According to *Publishers Weekly*, "Playwright Sargent's debut novel is a stylish look at the fate of Sacagawea's baby son, Jean Baptiste Charbonneau... An impressively rounded portrait of the laid-back, introspective, nomadic Baptiste, this novel will satisfy fans of American history."



Three Time Novelist

Elise Juska

ELISE JUSKA grew up outside Philadelphia and attended Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine where she majored in English and won the Hawthorne and Sinkinson Prizes for her short stories. She completed her Master's in Writing at the University of New Hampshire in 1997, receiving the Lt. Albert Charait Award for best short story and the Tom Williams Memorial Award for excellence in fiction writing.



She has published three novels with Simon & Schuster: *Getting Over Jack Wagner*, *The Hazards of Sleeping Alone*, and *One for Sorrow, Two for Joy*, released in June 2007.

Her short stories have appeared in numerous magazines and anthologies including the *Harvard Review*, *The Hudson Review*,

*Berkeley Fiction Review, Salmagundi, BlackWarrior Review, The Seattle Review, Room of One's Own, Calyx, Good Housekeeping, Philadelphia Stories, The Carolina Quarterly, Philly Fiction, and Writes of Passage: Coming-of-Age Stories and Memoirs from The Hudson Review.* Her novella *Perfect Weather for Driving* was included in the anthology *Cold Feet* and her nonfiction has appeared in publications such as the *Philadelphia Inquirer* and the essay anthology *The Subway Chronicles: Scenes from Life in New York.*

Elise has taught fiction writing at The New School in New York City, in the MFA program at the University of New Hampshire, and at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, where she received the Director's Award for Teaching Excellence. She has served on the fiction faculty at several writing conferences including the Rosemont Summer Writers' Retreat, the Penn Writers Conference at the University of Pennsylvania, and the Stonecoast Summer Writers Conference in Casco Bay, Maine.

She is currently teaching at the University of the Arts and working on a new novel.

## News about Past Attendees

For the second year in a row, **Julie Parker** has won First Place in a college poetry contest sponsored by the Rhode Island Council of Teachers of English.

**Nicholaes Roosevelt** is hosting a summer solstice retreat at Woolman Hill in Deerfield, MA in June.

**Pat Walsh** recently attended the Festival of the Book at the University of Southern Maine.

**Elizabeth Verzo** has graduated from Loyola University in Chicago with her master's degree in nutrition.

**Dr. Jim Brosnan** was a featured poet at the unveiling of the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of *The Bridge* at Bridgewater State College.

## Prompts

1. Write a story or poem using the phrase, "The door opened..."
2. Write about a keepsake. It could be memoir, a poem, or a short story.

## First Call for Contest Entries

### General Contest Rules

1. Open to all Writers Conference Participants (previous winners not excluded)
2. Only ONE entry will be accepted for each category (except Jakeman Contest)
3. Entries on 8.5 x 11 white paper, double-spaced. Include contest title ONLY.
4. All poetry and prose entries should have a 3 x 5 index card paper clipped with the author's name, address, phone number and the titles of the work submitted and WORD COUNT for prose pieces; LINE COUNT for poetry (Not counting the title)
5. Cash prizes (\$20, \$10, \$5) and award certificates will be awarded Friday morning.

**The poetry entries CANNOT exceed 30 lines or 42 characters (including spaces) per line, and must also be sent electronically.**

**Prose Entries CANNOT exceed 1500 words.**

### Poetry - 4 Award Categories:

- **Adelbert M. Sr. & Lillian Jakeman Memorial Poetry Tournament**  
Open style. Limited to 30 lines. Submit up to 3 poems for judging.
- **Popular Vote of Entries in Above Category by WC Participants**  
All submissions will be printed in Poetry Tournament Booklet.
- **Katherine Saunders Memorial Poems on Trees**  
Any length, style, form, size poem to be posted on trees in Porter Hall Grove. Must be hung by noon Wednesday to be eligible.

- **David McCord Memorial Beach Inspiration Poetry**  
Bring pen and paper, a beach chair or blanket.

### Prose - 3 Award Categories:

- **Fiction** 1500 word (maximum) adult fiction
- **Hilma & Alfred Barrett Memorial Non-Fiction** 1500 word (maximum) adult non-fiction.
- **Richard F. Burns Inspirational Prose** 1500 word (maximum) fiction or non-fiction inspirational.

**Send ALL entries to Dr. Jim Brosnan, P.O. Box 172, Assonet, MA 02702. Deadline: July 1, 2009**