

68th Annual Writers Conference at Ocean Park (Maine)

August 11- August 15, 2008



No. 1

Pushcart Award nominee

Bruce Pratt discusses character creation



Nominated for a 2009 Pushcart Award in fiction, Bruce Pratt won the 2007 *Andre Dubus Award* in short fiction, and was a runner up or finalist for the 2007 fiction award from *Georgetown Review*, the 2007 flash fiction prize from *Mindprints*, the 2006 Ontario Prize, the 2005 Rick DeMarinis Short Story Award, and the 2003 Fiction Award from *Dogwood*, *A Journal of Poetry and Prose*. His short fiction has also appeared in *The Greensboro Review*, *The Boston Fiction Annual Review*, *The Dos*

Passos Review, *WordSmitten Quarterly Journal*, *Briar Cliff Review*, *Portland Magazine*, *Watchword*, *The Staccato Literary Magazine*, *The Gihon River Review*, *The Dalhousie Review*, *Puckerbrush Review*, *The Blue Earth Review*, *Diner*, *Roanoke Review*, *Potomac Review*, *The Binnacle*, *Apocalypse*, *Crosscut*, and *Stolen Island Review*.

Please start to prepare your contest entries. It's not early to begin your "Poem on Trees" entry. For newcomers, Contest 3 allows participants one entry in this category. Mount your original poem along with illustrations (photos, magazine pictures, or original sketch work). The entry is brought to the conference and nailed to a tree outside the conference building by Wednesday afternoon. Consider the potential of rain and either cover in Saran wrap or laminate. Be sure your name is ON THE BACK.

REGISTRATION FOR 2008 WRITERS CONFERENCE

Monday, August 11th---Conference registration, social, open mic, and opening session
5:30 to 8:30 PM.

Tuesday, August 11th---Dinner 5:30-7PM--

Friday, August 15th---Conference ends early afternoon

Name _____ Genre: _____

Address _____

Enclose payment: \$195 (Prior to July 1st \$160)

Make Check payable to Writers Conference and mail to:

Dr. Jim Brosnan P.O. Box 172, Assonet, MA 02702

Writers Conference AT OCEAN PARK

The 68th Annual Writers Conference at Ocean Park

News about Past Attendees

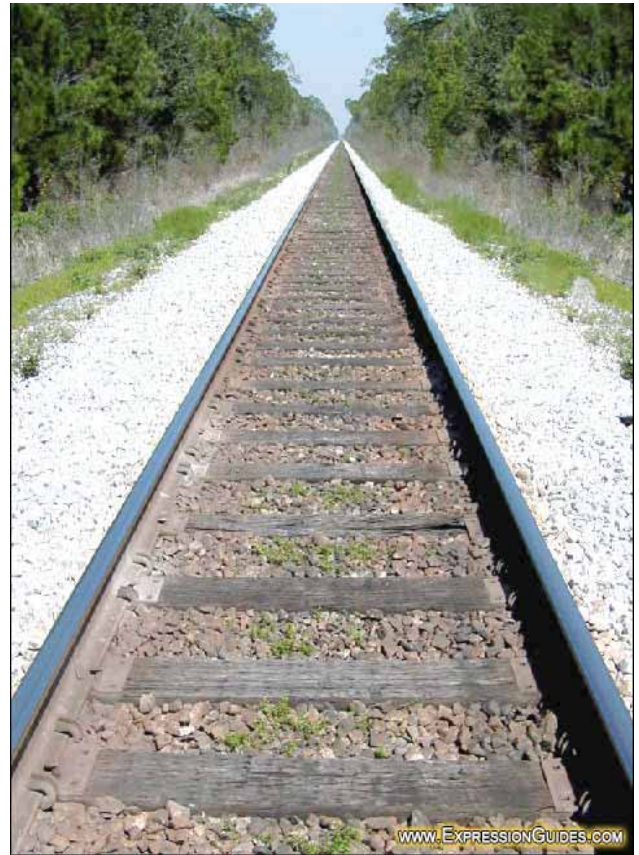
Julie Parker has won First Place in a college poetry contest sponsored by the Rhode Island Council of Teachers of English.

Pat Walsh studied with Natalie Goldberg, author of *Writing Down the Bones* at the OMEGA conference last fall.

Dr. Jim Brosnan won First Place (Editor's Choice Achievement Award) for "Crescent Moon Beach" in *Smile* magazine's poetry contest.

Prompts for the Muse

1. Describe an object (i.e. fruit, flower, stone) using any of the senses EXCEPT sight in prose description or a poem..
2. Write a piece about a song you remember. Research the lyrics on the internet.
3. Narrate a historical event from the perspective of a participant or an observer.
4. Use the photo as a prompt for a story or poem.



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.
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, 2008