

**September 24, 2008**

**Hudson Valley Writers Guild Newsletter**

**Guild Announcements: Writing from Art, Community of Writers (Albany), Web Site, Annual Meeting in November**

**Member Announcements: Carol Graser**

**Area Announcements: Children's Literature Symposium, The Arts Center**

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**Guild Announcements:**

**Writing from Art - Saturday, October 4, 2008, 10:00 - 3:00 pm**

The Hudson Valley Writers Guild and the Albany Institute of History and Art are sponsoring a workshop which will focus on poetry and other creative writing inspired by the exhibit *Impressionist Giverny*. Award winning Albany poet and teacher Therese Broderick, MFA, will join Erika Sanger, Director of Education at the Albany Institute, to conduct the workshop. Fee - \$25.00 for members, \$30.00 for non-members. To register, contact the Institute at 518-463-4478 x 404 or [sangere@albanyinstitute.org](mailto:sangere@albanyinstitute.org).

A reading of works created from this workshop will be held on **Friday, Nov. 7** at the museum's Albany First Friday evening - 6:30 pm. Open to the public and free of charge.

**Community of Writers - October 18, 2:00-4:00 pm**

The Hudson Valley Writers Guild will hold its annual Community of Writers reading in the main auditorium of the Albany Public Library, 161 Washington Avenue. This annual series presents local writers in various genres to highlight the variety of writers living in the Capital District. This year the presenters are:

Helen Raynes Staley, former English professor at Sage College and former board member of the HVWG. Her story, "The Paw on the Tarmac," was published in 2007. Her short story collection, *The House on the Rim and Other Stories*, is forthcoming from Westview Book Publishing.

Naton Leslie, who was recently named "Best Poet" for the second time by Metroland. His most recent book is the collection *Emma Saves Her Life* (Turning Point Books). He is a recipient of fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the New York Foundation for the Arts. He teaches creative writing at Siena College.

Elizabeth Brundage, who holds an MFA in fiction from the Iowa Writers' Workshop,

where she received a James Michener Award. Her short fiction has been published in the *Greensboro Review*, *Witness Magazine*, and *New Letters*. Her first novel was titled *The Doctor's Wife* and Viking/Penguin has recently published her second novel, *Somebody Else's Daughter*.

For information on this program, contact Dan Wilcox at 518-482-0262 or e-mail at [dwlcx@earthlink.net](mailto:dwlcx@earthlink.net).

### **Web Site**

Our new web site is up and running! Thank you for Miriam Herrera, board member and miracle worker, who has given our web site a new look. Check out these features: a history of the Guild, writing groups, programming, member links, latest news, as well as local and national links. You can find our membership form and print it off and send it in with your membership dues, as well. If you have a literary link you'd like to add, just send it in! All links will be evaluated for interest to the larger writing community.

**Check out [www.hvwg.org](http://www.hvwg.org).**

### **Annual Meeting**

Save the date! November 18, 2008 at the Colonie Library. More details and a reminder will follow in October/November. If you'd like to save the Guild postage for your reminder of dues, you can download a membership renewal form off our web (see above) and send your dues (\$30) in before the annual meeting! Or plan to pay at the annual meeting, saving yourself postage, as well.

### **Member Announcements: Carol Graser**

Carol recently started running poetry workshops at Tryon Girls Center, a New York State juvenile detention center. She's been impressed with the fluid, expressive writing they produce and how much they love poetry. These girls have a lot of difficulty in the classroom but they sit attentively through the poetry workshop, are supportive of each other's writing and engage in very profound discussions of the poems I bring for them to read. They would benefit greatly from more exposure to poetry but unfortunately, their library doesn't provide much.

If some of you would be willing to donate a volume or two of poetry (or any book you feel would be relevant to them), it would go long way to helping these kids. The majority of girls in the Tryon are 15- or 16-years-old, although some are as young as 12. Almost 73 percent are African American or Hispanic, and many come from poorer neighborhoods in New York City. The majority of girls have suffered past physical and sexual abuse, and many need mental health care as well as treatment for drug and alcohol addiction.

You can bring your donations to Caffè Lena on poetry night, Wed. Oct. 1, mail them to the address below or contact Carol at [cgraser@nycap.rr.com](mailto:cgraser@nycap.rr.com).

Carol Graser, 380 Fayville Road, Galway, NY 12074

**Area Announcements:**

**Fall Symposium: "The Art of the Book" - Saturday, Oct. 25, 2008**

The Children's Literature Connection, The English Dept. at HVCC, and the Greater Capital Region Teacher's Center are pleased to present this symposium. The theme, "The Art of the Book," will encourage attendees to consider the many facets of creating children's literature. Panelists will include Caldecott winning author/illustrator Mordicai Gerstein, book publicist Jen Brown, author Tracie Vaughn Zimmer, and art professor Matt McElligott.

Registration (\$120) includes lunch. Venue: Hudson Valley Community College's Bulmer Telecommunications Center. Time: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Register at [www.teachercenter.org](http://www.teachercenter.org). Follow directions to register - select course #2925.

**The Arts Center**

The Memoir Project is off to a big start with Da Chen giving a reading on Sept. 22. Don't forget the next three events: October 20 - Laura Shaine Cunningham, November 17 - Julie Gutmann (co-sponsored by HVWG), and December 15, Sandi Dollinger.

If you are interested in course offerings, check out their web page at [www.artscenonline.org](http://www.artscenonline.org). You will see everything from courses on writing memoir to poetry to travel writing - and more!

**The Hudson Valley Writers Guild offers space in its newsletter for submission and program opportunities, but does not endorse any programs or publications that are not offered through the Guild.**