

NATIONAL LEAGUE OF AMERICAN PEN WOMEN
HONOLULU BRANCH
www.nlapwhonolulu.org

February 2010 Newsletter

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A. MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

In a flash of genius, our writers' conference committee has chosen a writer of young adult fiction, Lisa Yee, as its keynote speaker. Young adult! Who can forget the anguish of those years, the intense crushes, the terror over the wrong dress or shoes worn to a party, the stupidly trite remark blurted out for everyone to hear?

And what decisions a writer of young adult fiction has to make! Take sex. Will your message be 'Don't do it'? What teenager wants to hear that? Perhaps instead you will warn your readers off charming, dangerous boys with that light in their eyes and a slightly crooked smile. If sex and bad boys are a danger zone, what plots are left? I picture a sheet of paper torn from the computer and hurled into a wastebasket, to the sound of angry muttering.

Sounds like the concerns of a writer for young adults mirror those of adult fiction. Maybe non-fiction writers too may come away with nuggets. This year's conference promises to be one to remember.

Anyone wishing to volunteer can contact Nancy Mower at 348-2552 or nmower@hawaii.edu or Victoria Gail White at 637-6007 or victoriagw@gmail.com. Be sure to put Writers' Conference in the subject line, so you are not perceived as spam.

Aloha, Nancy

Mahalo

Our thanks to Michael Rivero for creating and maintaining our web site, updating bios and luncheon announcements to keep everyone informed. Watch this space next month for news of our future web site.

B. DELECTABLE DETOURS

None scheduled for February-March.

C. PEN WOMEN IN THE NEWS

Kaethe Kauffman, a member in both Letters and Art, was recently featured in a 4-page article with color photographs in the art magazine, D'ART INTERNATIONAL, (volume 12, #1)"Body Mapping," as a result of her recent exhibit at the Michel Allen Gallery in New York City. Kauffman also recently exhibited at the University of Salisbury and at Frostburg University galleries, both in Maryland.

Kaethe Kauffman (Pen Woman for over 15 years and Past President) seeks secure drawing studio space (dry, clean work, not wet) to rent, 300 square feet or larger, air conditioning access to sink required. Please contact her at: kaethekauffman@hotmail.com or 945-3802 (home) or 781-1048 (cell).

D. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Windward Arts Council announces the 22nd annual Teen Arts Achievement Awards competition that is open to high school students who are residents of Windward Oahu. Awards of \$300 and \$150 are offered in five arts disciplines: visual arts, music, dance, drama, and literary, including Hawaiian and Pacific arts in all disciplines. To be eligible, students must be in grades 9 to 12 and live on the Windward side.

Application deadline is March 1, 2010, with performing arts auditions set for late March-early April. The Windward Arts Council will present award recipients in a public concert and exhibition on Sunday, April 25, and will present award checks at that time. The Windward Arts Council has honored more than 150 Windward students with cash awards and public presentations since the program began in 1988.

Application forms are available from school arts teachers, private teachers, and from Anne McKay, competition chair, at annemckay@hawaii.rr.com <<mailto:annemckay@hawaii.rr.com>>, telephone 254-1147. Applications may also be requested by mail to Windward Arts Council, Box 1704, Kailua HI 96734.

TAG – The Actors' Group & VSA arts of Hawaii-Pacific invites middle and high school students to take a closer look at the world around them, examine how DISABILITIES affect their lives and the lives of others, and express their views through the art of playwriting. Playwrights may write from their own experience or about an experience in the life of another person or fictional character.

Young playwrights with and without disabilities are encouraged to submit a script. Entries may be the work of an individual student or collaboration by a group or class of students. Teacher and/or adult assistance is allowed. All entries must be one-act plays of fewer than 40 pages in length. Target audience can be children, teenagers or adults. Scripts can be comedies, dramas, or even musicals—be creative!

A selection of the entries will be professionally produced and staged on TAG's main stage in August 2010 as a part of the TAG Young Playwrights Festival.

One play will be selected for entry in the VSA arts Playwright Discovery Call for Scripts National Competition. The play that wins the national competition will be produced or staged at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. The Kennedy Center will award the winning playwright \$2,000 and a trip to Washington, D.C., to see his or her play performed.

In order to be considered for both the competition and the festival, all plays must be received by TAG on or before April 1, 2010.

For Official Rules and Guidelines go to TAG's website (www.taghawaii.net) and click on Play Competition or email tag@hawaii.rr.com. You may also call Brad Powell at 781-9647 or Laurie Tanoura at 741-4699.

Bruce Wee demonstrated several fabulous Argentine tangos with member, Baerbel Miller, at our February meeting. If you're interested in more information about classes or performances, check out his website <http://weetango.com/contact/contact.html>
Bruce also teaches beginner classes every Wednesday at the Honolulu Club from 6:30 – 8:30 pm (You don't have to be a member).

E. JANUARY MINUTES

Membership Meeting

National League of American Pen Women

January 13, 2010

The January meeting of the National League of American Pen Women took place at Alan Wong's Pineapple Room. Attendees included 23 members, 10 friends, 18 guests, 2 visitors, 1 musician, and 1 speaker, for a total of 55 attendees.

President Nancy Moss called the meeting to order at 12:00 and asked first-time visitors to introduce

themselves.

Nancy read from an article by Victoria Gail-White, describing an experience by the artist Sanit Khewok, and how he found artistic inspiration through meditation.

Nancy introduced a new Pen Friend, **Gail Ellingsong**.

Nancy Mower and Victoria Gail-White, co-chairs of the **2010 Pen Women Biennial Writers' Conference**, announced that the conference will take place **April 9th and 10th at Punahou School**. The keynote speaker will be Young Adult author **Lisa Yee**.

Breakout sessions will include the following:

- Autobiographic Fiction – John Wythe White
- Comedy Writing – Charles Memminger
- Creative Writing – Wendy Miyake
- Editing Your Work – Kathy Reimers
- Fiction – Joe Tsujimoto
- Magazine Writing – Lavonne Leong
- Memoir – Mia King
- Newspaper Writing Panel – Shan Correa, Carol Egan, Victoria Gail-White, Dorothy Wright
- Playwriting – Lee Cataluna
- Slam Poetry – Lyz Soto
- Story as a Life Study – Margaret South
- Travel – Chick Alsop

The Conference Fee is \$100, which includes a gourmet bento lunch (and when Victoria says gourmet, we believe her!) If you register early (before March 23rd), the fee is only \$90. Student discounts are available.

All members should be receiving an email with a PDF flyer attached, containing conference details. They asked that all members please forward this flyer to contact who might want to attend. There will be a full brochure coming soon, which they will ask us to help distribute. Word of mouth is very important in helping spread the word as well, so please "talk it up" with your friends and acquaintances. If you have questions, please contact Victoria at victoriagw@gmail.com <<mailto:victoriagw@gmail.com>> .

Vice President **Susan Killeen** announced that our February speaker will be Pen Woman **Susan Scott**, who will update us on her adventures and travels. She will have just returned from sailing in the Sea of Cortez, all part of her ongoing adventures which culminated in her book *Sailing Through Menopause via Mexico*.

She also announced that **Lynn Wilcoff** will present a writing and editing workshop on February 6th and 13th from 9:00 – 12:00 noon. The fee is \$60 for the two sessions.

Susan introduced Pen Women Friend **Gail Michaels Thompson**, photographer, composer, and musician. She played several piano pieces for us. Her music was dreamy, soothing, and inspirational, and appropriately set the stage for our keynote speaker, Timothy Hearsum.

Timothy Hearsum has been a working artist and photographer for more than forty years. He has taught at several mainland universities as well as Brooks Institute of Photography and served as Curator of Photographs for the Santa Barbara Museum of Art for a number of years. He has worked extensively in

both black and white (including infra-red) and color photography. His book, *Road Trips* is a visual feast of his southwest panoramas, and the images present a photographic journal of his travels. His work can be found in over 400 private, public and corporate collections, including the Museums of Modern Art in New York and San Francisco; Museum of Photographic Arts, San Diego; the Museum of Contemporary Photography, Chicago; the International Museum of Photography, George Eastman House, Rochester; the Santa Barbara Museum of Art and many others. Hearsom is an award-winning photographer whose work is represented by Getty Images, Corbis and Sante Fe Editions.

He explained that he got his start as a Navy photographer in 1968. Through this work, in which he was able to work with a staff, he was able to develop his personal photographic vision. He discovered he loved art, so he got a BFA in photography. In his studies, he found that sculpture and art were intertwined with the art of photography. In graduate school, he worked with print making (serigraphs), all the while developing his world view. He worked with a pin hole camera and infrared film. He moved on to using a panoramic camera to capture the expansiveness of the West coast.

He was searching for a format that suited his vision, including bringing art to the public via art on buses. He explored black and white as well as color. Finally he settled on a panoramic camera with images 6 cm x 17 cm. In this format he could create photos that reflected what he was seeing there, especially in man-altered landscapes. He created ten-foot-long canvas prints so that the viewer can "fall into" a scene and experience it.

He and his wife, Judy, travel around the country, working on various photographic collections. Recently he has created a collection of agricultural photos, in which he structures time around crop cycles and seasons.

In all his work, he uses no image manipulation or filtration. He will sometimes overlay one image over another to create a new image.

He showed us representative works from his collection, including landscapes, agriculture, and the human form, using a variety of techniques. He is particularly interested in skies and road cuts. He feels that, in photography and in all art, it is important to keep our child-like instincts.

He showed us his book of panoramic landscapes, called *Road Trip*, which features 24 panoramic images, which fold out to 22". For more information on his work, visit <http://www.timothyhearsom.com/PanoramicLandscapes.htm> .

Susan and Nancy adjourned the meeting at 1:30.

F. NEXT MEETING

DATE: WED., MARCH 3, 2010
TIME: 11:30 A.M.
PLACE: THE PINEAPPLE ROOM
SPEAKER: MARY LOU SANELLI, writer, author, performer
TOPIC: "FALLING AWAKE"

G. CONTACT THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

If you have news to share, please email editor Glenda Hinchey:
glendahinchey@yahoo.com.