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*Generous Donation Establishes Older Writer's Grant

The Centric Co. advertising agency has donated \$750 to the SLF to fund an annual Older Writer's Grant. This will be a merit-based award to a writer 50 years of age or older. It is designed to provide financial assistance to emerging writers who have not yet established themselves at the professional level. We are currently in the process of developing the details of the award-see next month's newsletter for specifics on how to apply.

*Fountain Award Winner On-line:

Alison Smith's story "The Specialist" can now be read on-line at <http://www.mcsweenys.net/Specialist.htm>

*Website Additions from Shannan Palma:

There was no June update as I moved and got settled in a new city, but the combined June/July update begins our new focus on building up specific areas of the site, while continuing general updates. Our summer focus has been our formerly meager convention listings, and I'm happy to report that they are growing fast. In addition to several new cons, we now have links to several independently maintained regional con listings, and updated dates and locations for the individual cons already posted. Our August focus is the Editor pages. Do you know of a site you think would fit? An essay you think might help others? You don't have to be a member of the committee to submit a link! Please email suggestions to:

webcoord@speculativeliterature.org.

This update contains 15 new links, 13 updated links,
and one new staff bio for Webcontent Committee member
Deborah Biancotti.

Shannan Palma, Web Content Coordinator

READERS / READING DISCUSSION GROUPS:

The Tolkien Society: <http://www.tolkiensociety.org/>
UK-based society founded in 1969 to further interest in the life
and works of J.R.R. Tolkien. This registered independent
nonprofit charity has international membership, and sponsors
regular publications and annual events, including the upcoming
Tolkien 2005 (see convention listings for more info).

READERS / AWARDS

(-- UPDATE TO CURRENT LISTING --)

Aurealis Awards: (new URL) <http://www.aurealisawards.com>
The Aurealis Awards were established in 1995 by Chimaera
Publications, the publishers of Aurealis Magazine, to recognize
the achievements of Australian science fiction, fantasy and
horror writers.

READERS / CONVENTIONS

(-- UPDATE TO CURRENT LISTING --)

Capricon 25: <http://www.capricon.org/capricon25/index.html>
February 10-13, 2005. Arlington Heights, Illinois. Chicago-area
convention, Direct inquiries to: webmaster@capricon.org.

(-- UPDATE TO CURRENT LISTING --)

Conflux 2: <http://www.conflux.org.au/>
April 22-24, 2005. Canberra, Australia. Annual convention. Direct
inquiries to: Deborah Biancotti, webmaster@conflux.org.au.

(-- UPDATE TO CURRENT LISTING --)

Confluence: <http://www.parsec-sff.org/confluence/>
July 23-25, 2004. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Annual Literary
Science-Fiction and Fantasy Convention in Western Pennsylvania.
Direct inquiries to: confluence@spellcaster.org. 2005 UPDATE WHEN
AVAILABLE.

Continuum 3: <http://www.continuum.org.au/>

July 15-17, 2005. Melbourne, Australia. Annual convention. Direct inquiries to: Sarah Marland, publicity@continuum.org.au.

Icon: <http://icon.sf.org.nz/>

March 25-28, 2005: The 26th National New Zealand SF Convention. Direct inquiries to: webmaster@icon.sf.org.nz.

Interaction: <http://www.interaction.worldcon.org.uk/>

August 4-8, 2005. Glasgow, Scotland. The 63rd World Science Fiction Convention. Direct inquiries to: info@interaction.worldcon.org.uk.

L.A.con IV: <http://www.laconiv.com/>

August 23-27, 2006. Anaheim, California. The 64th World Science Fiction Convention. Direct inquiries to: info@laconiv.org.

LepreCon 31: <http://www.leprecon.org/lep31/>

May 6-8, 2005. Carefree, Arizona. Direct inquiries to: lep31@leprecon.org.

Midwest Construction: <http://www.midfan.org/mwc.html>

September 17-19, 2004. Columbus, OH. The con for con runners, Midwest Construction focuses on the running of local and regional cons. Hosted by Midwest Fannish Convention, Inc. Direct inquiries to: mwc@midfan.org.

Mythic Journeys: <http://www.mythicjourneys.org/index.php>

Pre-Conference June 2-4, 2004, Conference June 4-6, 2004. Atlanta, GA. Mythic Journeys is a conference and performance festival inspired by the legacy of Joseph Campbell that will explore how myth lives and inspires us today through psychology, literature, scholarship, fantasy, performance, and more. Direct inquiries to: info@mythicjourneys.org. 2005 UPDATE WHEN AVAILABLE.

(-- UPDATE TO CURRENT LISTING --)

Noreascon Four: <http://www.noreascon.org/>

September 2-6, 2004. Boston, MA. 62nd annual World Science Fiction Convention. Direct inquiries to: info@noreascon.org.

Southeastern Science Fiction Conventions:

<http://www.testermanscifi.org/SFConsPart1.html>

Extensive guide to Science Fiction and Fantasy Conventions held annually in the Southeastern United States. Includes links.
Compiled as part of the Testerman Sci-Fi Site.

Southern Fandom Resource Guide: <http://www.scenic-city.com/sfmg/>
Comprehensive listing of conventions held in Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia, West Virginia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Maryland, and portions of eastern Texas and southern Missouri, as well as cruise ship conventions that leave from Florida and Louisiana ports and travel through the Bahamas and Gulf of Mexico. Includes links. Contents copyright Kelly Lockhart.

Swancon 30: <http://www.swancon.com/>
March 24-28, 2005. Perth, Australia. A Festival of the Imagination. Direct inquiries to:
Swancon30@westnet.com.au

Tolkien 2005: <http://www.tolkiensociety.org/2005/about.html>
August 11-15, 2005. Aston University, Birmingham, England. The Tolkien Society is sponsoring a conference and convention to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the complete publication of *The Lord of the Rings*. The timing has been orchestrated to be convenient to international travelers who wish to attend Interaction, the 2005 Worldcon, as well. Direct inquiries to form at: <http://www.tolkiensociety.org/2005/contact.html>.

Thylacon: <http://www.thylacon.com/>
June 10-13, 2005: Hobart, Australia. The next National Australian SF Convention. Direct inquiries to: thylacon@monissa.com.

World Science Fiction Society: <http://worldcon.org/>
Contains information and links to all Worldcons, past, present, and future.

(-- UPDATE TO CURRENT LISTING --)

WindyCon 31: November 12-14, 2004. Schaumburg, Illinois.
Generally the largest Chicago-area convention, run by ISFIC (the Illinois Science Fiction society). Direct inquiries to:
webmaster@windycon.org.

(-- UPDATE TO CURRENT LISTING --)

WisCon 28: <http://www.sf3.org/wiscon/index.html>
May 28-31, 2004. Madison, Wisconsin. An extremely well-respected

and literary convention, which is also the world's only feminist science fiction convention. Excellent panel discussions on science fiction and fantasy, with emphasis on issues of feminism, gender, race, and class. Run by SF3, a fan group supporting literary and fanzine fandoms in Madison, Wisconsin. Home of the James Tiptree Jr. Award, an annual literary prize for science fiction or fantasy that expands or explores our understanding of gender. Direct inquiries to: concom@sf3.org. 2005 UPDATE WHEN AVAILABLE.

(-- UPDATE TO CURRENT LISTING --)

World Fantasy Convention: <http://www.worldfantasy2004.org/>
October 28-31, 2004. Tempe, Arizona. This year's theme is Women in Fantasy and Horror. Home of the World Fantasy Awards. Direct inquiries to: wfc2004@leprecon.org.

World Horror Convention: <http://www.whc2005.org/>
April 7-10, 2005. New York City, New York. Committee@whc2005.org.

ACADEMICS / ASSOCIATIONS / CONFERENCES

(-- UPDATE TO CURRENT LISTING --)

ICFA: <http://www.iafa.org/>
March 16-20, 2005. Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The annual conference of the International Association for the Fantastic in the Arts. Direct inquiries to: Len.Hatfield@vt.edu.

(-- UPDATE TO CURRENT LISTING --)

Mythcon 35: Bridges to Other Worlds:
<http://www.mythsoc.org/mythcon35.html>
July 30-August 2, 2004. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan. The annual conference of the Mythopoeic Society. Location varies year to year. Direct inquiries to: mvanloo@comcast.net. 2005 UPDATE WHEN AVAILABLE.

(-- UPDATE TO CURRENT LISTING --)

Mythic Journeys: <http://www.mythicjourneys.org/index.php>
Pre-Conference June 2-4, 2004, Conference June 4-6, 2004. Atlanta, GA. Mythic Journeys is a conference and performance festival inspired by the legacy of Joseph Campbell that will explore how myth lives and inspires us today through psychology, literature, scholarship, fantasy, performance, and more. Direct inquiries to: info@mythicjourneys.org. 2005 UPDATE WHEN AVAILABLE.

(-- UPDATE TO CURRENT LISTING --)

Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association:

<http://www.h-net.org/~pcaaca/>

March 23, 2005. San Diego, California.

April 12-16, 2006. Atlanta, Georgia.

April, 2007. Boston, Massachusetts.

Upcoming National Meetings for these associations of scholars whose research interests include all aspects of popular culture including detective, mystery, horror, science fiction, fantasy and comics. Their website also contains dates and locations for various regional conferences.

(-- UPDATE TO CURRENT LISTING --)

WisCon 28: <http://www.sf3.org/wiscon/index.html>

May 28-31, 2004. Madison, Wisconsin. An extremely well-respected and literary convention, which is also the world's only feminist science fiction convention. Excellent panel discussions on science fiction and fantasy, with emphasis on issues of feminism, gender, race, and class. Run by SF3, a fan group supporting literary and fanzine fandoms in Madison, Wisconsin. Home of the James Tiptree Jr. Award, an annual literary prize for science fiction or fantasy that expands or explores our understanding of gender. Direct inquiries to: concom@sf3.org. 2005 UPDATE WHEN AVAILABLE.

STAFF BIO

Deborah Biancotti

Deborah Biancotti grew up reading fantasy & science fiction and never really stopped. Her first grade teacher told her she was a 'day dreamer', and it was sometime after that she decided to become a writer. At university, she studied literature and psychology, figuring a writer should know about both prose and people. Her first published story won the Aurealis Award for Best Horror Short Story in 2000, and she won the Ditmar Award for Best New Talent the following year. She has a full-time job with the government, a casual job as a website developer, and oh, yes, she's still busy writing. Her work has appeared in such magazines as Altair, Redsine, Agog!, Borderlands and Orb, as well as the anthologies Ideomancer Unbound, Southern Blood and Passing Strange. She lives in Sydney Australia and her website is at <http://deborahbiancotti.net>.

Newsletter information:

Suggestions, comments, and information to be included in the Newsletter may be sent to Editor David Lunde at news@speculativeliterature.org. If you do not wish to continue receiving the newsletter, write to the same address with "unsubscribe" in the subject line-be sure to include your name.

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David Lunde, Senior Editor
Ariana Osborne, Associate Editor

David Lunde
davelunde@earthlink.net
Why Wait? Move to EarthLink.

Your Editor goofed up in the on-line address for our Fountain Award winner Alison Smith's story "The Specialist". The correct address is: <http://www.mcsweeneys.net/specialist.htm>

My abject apologies to all.

David Lunde