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* First SLF Travel Grant Winner:

The Speculative Literature Foundation (SLF) is delighted to announce that its first annual Travel Grant has been awarded to Nora Jemison. The \$600 grant will be used to help Nora research Native American cultures as they existed pre-colonization for a fantasy novel and series of short stories. The travel will be to the Navajo National Monument in Arizona and to Monument Valley in Utah. Ms. Jemison has published science fiction and fantasy short stories in Flashshot, Eternally Erotic (eBook anthology), Ideomancer (forthcoming), and Dark Sins and Desires Unveiled (anthology; forthcoming).

Ms. Jemison said: "Over the past few years I have had a strong interest in blending 'high fantasy' tropes with non-European cultures, characters, and themes. I would like to explore the concept that ancient Egypt and/or Nubia may have had contact with the Americas long before European discovery. My hope is to explore the universal impact of colonization, through the lens of a fantasy Egyptian and fantasy pre-Columbian native South American society."

SLF's Award Coordinators were an international team comprising Tiffany Jonas in the USA and Colin Harvey in the UK. Tiffany said: "While we received several excellent applications, Nora Jemison's story sample was the standout. With a cultural and culinary emphasis reminiscent of Joanne Harris (Chocolat, Five Quarters of an Orange), the characters jump off the page, and the reader can nearly taste the garlic and onion, the seared meat, and the pappardelle. Nora's synopsis of the novel she intends to write using

research partially funded by the travel grant is intriguing and unique."

Further details of SLF's Travel Grant program can be found at:

<http://www.speculativeliterature.org/Awards/SLFTravelGrant.php>.

Applications for next year's Travel Grant will open on July 1st, 2005.

* New SLF Homepage:

It was decided this month that our website had become complex enough that a sitemap would display its contents more clearly and facilitate navigation between areas. Working from an outline provided by Director Mohanraj (with considerable tweaking and critiquing by other staff) our incomparable webmasters Greg Banks and Kaolin Fire have created a super new SLF homepage. Check it out and let us know what you think.

* Small Press Co-op at World Fantasy Convention:

We had modest returns at this convention, selling about \$300 in texts and a few new memberships in the SLF. The texts that did best were those whose authors were present at the convention (doing readings or panels), or those with particularly attractive covers. Quite a few people did stop by and ask about the co-operative, and some new presses said they planned on joining. Overall, I'd say it was a quiet but generally productive convention for us, and we plan to attend again next year.

--Mary Anne Mohanraj

* Website Additions/Call for Volunteers:

In order to continue to update and expand the content of the SLF's website, we need a committed staff of volunteers to search the web for related sites and recruit new web content. If interested, please email webcoord@speculativeliterature.org. Thanks!

--Shannan Palma, Webcontent Coordinator

ACADEMICS

ASSOCIATIONS / CONFERENCES

The Science Fiction Foundation: <http://www.sf-foundation.org/index.html>

"Semi-autonomous association of writers, academics, critics and others with an active interest in science fiction." Publishes the journal Foundation: The International Review of Science Fiction. "Our aim is to promote science fiction and bring together those who read, write, study, teach, research or archive science fiction in Britain and the rest of the world."

WRITERS

MARKET LISTINGS

Challenging Destiny: <http://challengingdestiny.com>

Canadian science fiction and fantasy short story magazine published by Crystalline Sphere Publishing

WRITERS' ORGANIZATIONS

International Women's Writing Guild: www.iwwg.org

P.O. Box 810, Gracie Station; New York, NY 10028-0082;

Tel: (212)737-7536 / Fax:(212)737-9469 / E-mail: dirhahn@aol.com

Network founded in 1976 for the "personal and professional empowerment of women through writing."

CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAMS

UPDATED LISTING!

Seton Hill University: http://www.setonhill.edu/academics/wpf_homepage.cfm?ACID=102

One Seton Hill Drive, Greensburg, PA; E- mail: lynn@setonhill.edu

Seton Hill University's unique Master of Arts in Writing Popular Fiction teaches students to write marketable novels in popular genres like mystery, romance, science fiction, horror, and fantasy. Additional specialties include literature for children and adolescents, and cross-genre blends like romantic suspense or young adult mysteries. Students attend two week-long, on-campus residencies each year to master the core elements of fiction writing and effective marketing and to gain inspiration from faculty mentors and special guests, all published authors in genre fiction. Established authors mentor students one-on-one as they work toward completing a market-ready manuscript from home. Readings, classes, and on-line discussion about the history, trends, and techniques of genre fiction add depth to the student's experience.

PUBLISHERS

Ace Books, 375 Hudson Street, New York, NY 10014; Susan Allison, Editor-in-Chief.

AIO Publishing Company, LLC (www.aiopublishing.com) Tiffany Jonas,

Editorial Director. P.O. Box 30788, Charleston, SC 29417. "Our books focus on the humanity in science fiction, not on the technology. We prefer a sociological, psychological, or political emphasis, with all the intrigue that can come with it."

Avon Books, (Avon Eos, SF & F), 1350 Avenue of the Americas, Room 231, New York, NY 10019; Attn: Avon Editorial.

Bantam Spectra Books, 1540 Broadway, New York, NY 10036; Anne Lesley Groell, Editor. No unsolicited mss. Agented queries and mss. only.

Bella Books, P.O. Box 10543, Tallahassee, FL 32302; Tel: (800) 729-4992; www.bellabooks.com. Publishes titles by and about lesbians: "General lesbian fiction, romance, mystery/thriller, sci-fi/fantasy, and erotica."

Berkley Publishing Group, 200 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016. Submit through agent only.

DAW Books, 375 Hudson Street, New York, NY 10014; Peter Stampfel, Submission Editor.

Del Rey Books, 201 E. 50th Street, New York, NY 10022. Veronica Chapman and Steve Saffel, Sr. Eds. Query with outline and 3 sample chapters.

Fairwood Press (www.fairwoodpress.com), Patrick & Honna Swenson, Editors & Publishers, 5203 Quincy Avenue SE, Auburn, WA 98092. Publishers of Talebones magazine. No unsolicited manuscripts. Send query letter, but new works are not being acquired by the submission process presently.

Rising Tide Press, P.O. Box 30457, Tucson, AZ 85751; Tel: (800) 311-3565; www.risingtidepress.com. "RTP exists to serve and document the ascendancy of women--in their personal lives and in their public roles within society." Heterosexual and lesbian adventure, fantasy, mystery, science fiction, non-fiction, and romance.

TSR, Inc., [www.tsr.com](http://www TSR.com). Work for hire. Game-related, shared world fantasy novels. See submissions info at www.wizards.com/default.asp?x=books/main/submissions.

Wheatland Press (www.wheatlandpress.com), Deborah Layne, Publisher and

Fiction Editor; Jay Lake, Fiction Co-Editor; P.O. Box 1818, Wilsonville, OR 97070. Publishers of the Polyphony anthology series as well as other books.

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
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