

## Happy New Illustration of the Year!

It's a new year and with it comes our newest Illustration of the Year! The 2023 Illustration of the Year is Sejuti Bala's "Cosmic Swimmers"!

"I have always thought of deep sea and deep space as two ends of a vast unknown; as above so below, compelling depths of boundless beauty that humanity has barely explored a fraction of. To an astronaut the vacuum of space is the frontier of setting sail, and in this piece, I imagine a lost astronaut, an untethered explorer and the awe of getting to hold the miracle of a star in your hands, to be one with the particle of possibility, to swim with the fishes. How long has the cosmic sailor been here? Caught in the undertow of a perennial wave? What lives in that shell of a space-suit? I leave the rest to your imagination."

— Bala on the inspiration behind "Cosmic Swimmers"



Read more about the 2023 Illustration of the Year art and artist on the [SLF's blog](#)!

## What's In This Month's Issue:

- Illustration of the Year Winner
- Co-writing opportunities
- A.C. Bose Grant
- Upcoming Deep Dish
- Call for Jurors
- Thank you SFWA
- Writing the Taboo Workshop Update
- Opportunities for Writers



## Co-Writing Opportunities

### SLF General Cowriting

When: Every Saturday from 11-2am

Where: Zoom; More info [Here](#)

## CALL FOR SPEAKERS

Are you a member who would be interested in hosting a panel? Let us know what topics you are an expert in!

## GRANTS

### A.C. Bose Grant is Open

The A.C. Bose Grant annually gives \$1000 to a South Asian / South Asian diaspora writer developing speculative fiction. It supports adult fiction, but work that is also accessible to older children and teens will be given preference in the jury process.

More info on the A.C. Bose grant [here](#)

Open to Applications: January 1st  
Applications Close: January 31st  
Winner Announced: March 15th



### Upcoming Deep Dish Reading March 16th 2023

The SLF is hosting it's next installment of it's Chicago reading Series, Deep Dish, at Volumes Bookstore & Cafe on March 16th!

Featured readers include:

Tara Betts, author of *Refuse to Disappear*

Yvette Lisa Ndlovu, author of *Drinking from Graveyard Wells*

and Angeli Primlani, author of *The Marlen of Prague: Christopher Marlowe and the City of Gold*

Sign up for a newsletter or follow socials or [our blog](#) for more updates on the upcoming reading!

### AC. Bose Grant Call for Jurors

CALL FOR JURORS: The SLF needs volunteer jurors to help read applications for the A.C. Bose Grant.

If interested, send a brief note to [grants@speculativeliterature.org](mailto:grants@speculativeliterature.org) with the subject line: JUROR.

**JURORS NEEDED**



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## SLF NEWS & UPDATES

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### Thank you SFWA

We are pleased to announce that the Speculative Literature Foundation has been awarded \$1,000 by the Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers Association (SFWA) Givers Grants Committee. This was apparently an extremely competitive year. They received over \$146,000 in grant requests. Thank you, SFWA, for your support, and your faith in our mission! We'll put it to good use keeping our writer resources accessible on the internet.



### New Writing the Taboo Date

The Weekend Writing Workshop for "Writing the Taboo" with instructor Mary Anne Mohanraj has been postponed until February 11th.

To those looking to apply, or are interested in learning more about the class, visit the Courses page on the SLF's website [here](#).

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR WRITERS


Applications are open now for the 2023 Writers Retreat for Emerging LGBTQ Voices from LambdaLiterary!

Lambda Literary's Writers Retreat for Emerging LGBTQ Voices boasts representation in seven genres, including their newest: screenwriting and speculative fiction. Applications are open through the end of January! **Apply now!**

# WRITERS RETREAT

FOR EMERGING LGBTQ VOICES

A PROGRAM OF LAMBDA LITERARY



## 2023

### Clarion West Six Week Workshop

When:

Applications are open from January 4 through March 1, 2023. (Clarion West charges a nonrefundable application fee of \$60 (USD), which is payable via Square. There is an early bird special of \$35 for applications received before February 15.)

What: Every summer, Clarion welcomes a cohort of emerging writers to the workshop. Students have the opportunity to make intimate connections among a close-knit community of peers. They are joined each week by a different instructor — a highly regarded author or editor — who offers a unique perspective on the field.

How: For more information on Clarion's workshop, applying, and scholarships check the **workshop's webpage!**



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