

SAN FRANCISCO WRITERS CONFERENCE NEWS

4th ANNUAL SAN FRANCISCO WRITERS CONFERENCE
FRIDAY thru SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16-18, 2007
EVENT VENUE: InterContinental Mark Hopkins Hotel

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25 DAYS AND COUNTING!

Yes, that's all the time left before the San Francisco Writers Conference takes place on President's Day weekend...February 16-18 at the Mark Hopkins Hotel. We are so excited about the high quality of the presenters, and the great opportunities we can offer our attendees with agents and editors from New York, Los Angeles and San Francisco, we can hardly wait!

It won't be long before we are sold out (for the fourth year running)! So, please tell your writing friends, critique partners, fellow writing club members or anyone else you know. If they would benefit from a writing conference of this caliber, they must register soon or risk being too late. The easiest way to sign up is to go to the SFWC website at www.SFWriters.org.

HOTEL ROOM UPDATE

The special SFWC room rate of \$142 for the InterContinental Mark Hopkins was phenomenal and the rooms are going quickly. Last time we checked, the room block was already sold out for Thursday night. When the room block is sold out for Friday, Saturday and/or Sunday, you will have to pay the going (higher) rate to stay at the hotel during the conference. So call immediately if you haven't yet booked your room. 415-392-3434.

WHAT'S NEW ON SFWRITERS.ORG

As the conference date quickly approaches you will notice a lot of changes to the San Francisco Writers Conference website: www.sfwriters.org.

* We have posted a revised program schedule and list of speakers, although both will most likely continue to change slightly until right before the conference. Find these revised pages under the "2007 Conference" section of the website.

* We have also completed the first round of judging for the SFWC Writing Contest and have posted the list of 50 finalists under the "2007 Writing Contests" portion of the website. The final judging is taking place right now and the winners will be announced during Saturday's luncheon at the conference.

* We have also added a page called “Tips for Attendees” in the main conference section of the site. It gives great advice on what to wear, what to do, where to eat, where to park and how to get to the conference hotel.

By the end of the month we will have the NEW information for Speed Dating for Agents—including a wonderful guide to the participating agents with photos and their contact information. This will help in planning your strategy at the event.

So go to www.sfwriters.org and load up on new information. See you in February!

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

How would you like to host an editor, agent or author presenter at this year’s event? Not at your home but at the Mark Hopkins. You can! We will also arrange some one-on-one time with the presenter you host for personalized feedback on your work.

Oh, you can even sponsor a volunteer room so our hard working team captains won’t have to rush back to the Mark each morning.

Bottom line is your donation to the 501(c)3 non-profit San Francisco Writers Conference allows us to put on an even better conference. Call Elizabeth Pomada if this sounds interesting to you. 415-673-0939.

BOOKS FROM OUR PRESENTERS

We were brainstorming at lunch one day, when we realized what a treasured gift it would be if we could give our **2007 San Francisco Writers Conference Scholarship winners** and each of our **SFWC Writing Contest winners** a copy of a book that was actually written by one of our presenters. We could match the book to the appropriate winner so it would be that much more meaningful. If they were going to attend the event, they could get the book autographed by the author and receive their congratulations and advice.

We told our presenters about the idea and they loved it. So, if you are a winner in this year’s San Francisco Writers Conference Writing Contest or a SFWC Scholarship winner, we have a very special book waiting for you! Once again, a big thanks to all of our very generous presenters!

LEARN A LOT FROM KEVIN SMOKLER

Conference speaker Kevin Smokler will offer one-on-one 15 minute consultations throughout the weekend called "Everything You Want to Know About Writing and Publishing But Were Afraid to Ask!" Cost is \$50 per session. You can sign up for a session at the San Francisco Writers Conference registration table during the event.

All funds go towards scholarships for high school students to attend next year's conference. Kevin Smokler has consulted with writers published through each of the major houses in New York along with several national bestsellers.

UPCOMING WRITERS GATHERINGS

HAVE COMPUTER, WILL TRAVEL

The market for travel writing has dramatically changed. Come sip wine and munch hors d’oeuvres while an expert panel of travel writers talk about the new trends and opportunities. Please send an e-mail to laird_harrison@hotmail.com if you’re coming to this event.

Where: The Mechanics Institute, 57 Post Street, San Francisco

Location: Half a block from the Montgomery Street BART

When: January 25, 2007, 6:00 p.m. hors d’oeuvres and wine, 7 p.m. program

Cost: Nonmembers \$12, ASJA members \$5 includes wine and hors d’oeuvres

Panel:

* Bonnie Tsui is a freelance writer (*Outside, Adventure, Travel + Leisure*) & editor of the forthcoming book *A Leaky Tent is a Piece of Paradise*.

* Jay Cooke is the commissioning editor, US East, for Lonely Planet publications.

* Lee Foster is a freelance travel writer, photographer and author of several books, including *Travels in an American Imagination: The Spiritual Geography of Our Time*.

- * John Flinn is executive travel editor of the San Francisco Chronicle.
- * The panel moderator, Eva Diemel, is an editor at Wilderness Press

LITERARY SALON IN THE CITY

January 29, 2007

Visit a brand new literary salon in San Francisco and hear Michael Larsen & Elizabeth Pomada talk about how to get the best out of any writers conference at the hip new Farmer Brown restaurant, Hotel Metropolis 25 Mason Street Street, Monday, January 29th at 6 p.m. (Farmer Brown features the art & produce of California Black farmers and was recently featured in 7 x 7 magazine. The Sneak Peak Lit Lounge is there every Monday night at 6 p.m. and will demonstrate the wide diversity of talent in the City by the Bay.

Remember to bring the first 2 pages of your novel, your poetry or your nonfiction idea for the open mics Friday and Saturday nights! And be sure to check out the "Tips on travel" page just added to the website.

WRITING FOR PUBLICATION CLASS ANNOUNCED

Starting Feb. 7th

Former SFWC attendee Nina Amir's "Writing for Publication" will be offered this spring in person or online. Nina will teach six different article forms, and discuss how to write query letters, work with editors, evaluate publishing contracts, and put together book proposals. In addition, she will edit some of your work and you will receive critiques and feedback from the group and from her. The goal of the course is for students to have something completed (an article or query letter or both) by the end of the class. The teleclass will begin on February 7 and run for five consecutive weeks from 12:30-1:30 p.m. (PST). The class costs \$125, but if you enroll by February 4th, the cost is only \$110. To enroll, simply visit www.purespiritcreations.com and click on the "teleseminar" link. Then scroll down to the class description. If you want to take this class with Nina in person, she'll be teaching in Los Gatos in April. Contact: namir@purespiritcreations.com.

MEGA BOOK MARKETING UNIVERSITY

March 2-4, 2007

Los Angeles, CA

www.MegaBookMarketing.com

Mark Victor Hansen promises you will learn EVERYTHING you need to know to make your book a best Seller! And he ought to know since he and Jack Canfield are the masterminds behind the Chicken Soup for the Soul books.

REDEFINING AGING & LITERACY LIAISON

SFWC presenters Elisa Southard and Teresa LeYung Ryan have been honored once again. Elisa has been chosen to be on the AARP Women's leadership Circle "Redefining Aging" Committee and Teresa has been asked to be the "Literacy Liaison" for Women's National Book Assn-SF Chapter. Don't miss their presentation at the San Francisco Writers Conference on Feb. 16th!

To respond to any of these items, please email Elizabeth Pomada at sfwriterscon@aol.com.

Yours for good books that sell, especially when they're yours!

San Francisco Writers Conference
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Please note—We email almost all of our registration and conference information to you, so if you change your email address, be sure to let us know.

If you enjoy getting these emails let us know and feel free to pass them along to your writer friends. Anyone can sign up for this newsletter at www.sfwriters.org. If you have writing-related news to share, send it to us at Barbara@sfwriters.org . If you don't want to receive these emails, send us an email at Barbara@sfwriters.org requesting that your name be taken off the San Francisco Writers Conference mailing list.