

Derry Playhouse Writers

Keep on Writing!
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Perseverance Pays Award: Congratulations To (cont)

Win our annual **Perseverance Pays Award!** In the spirit of 'no submissions, no publication', this award is given to the writer who receives the most rejection notices during the year. This year's award will be presented at our September Annual General Meeting, so, don't toss any rejection letters away, they may earn you this spectacular prize!

DPW Meeting Venue:

Our **new meeting room** will be in either the former EuroCAT office or the Green Room in **The Playhouse building on Artillery Street**. We will continue meeting every Wednesday from Noon until 4:00pm. Please join us.

Walled City Cultural Trail:

In the listings for events taking place on Wednesday lunchtime, DPW has a listing stating that: *"all writers are welcome to attend. Bring along your poems, plays and short stories and share the ups and downs of becoming a writer."*

Congratulations to:

Maiden City Writers on the launch of their second publication *Summer Days and Tossed Salad*, Guildhall Press. Copies may be purchased at either Bookworm or Easons` for a modest £5.00 which will go to benefit the work of Glasvey Special School in Ballykelly.

Julie Doherty who's play **God Bless The Mark** was performed at the Liverpool Writers Festival. Also, Julie was a panelist, along with Brian Keenan and Joe McGovern at this event.

Hugh Harley who is writing a weekly column, *"Scene in the City"* for the **Derry News**.

Brian Foster and **Carmel McCafferty** for the successful two-week run of Brian's play, **Marie: A Woman of Derry**, at the New Theatre in the Templebar area of Dublin in June. The humour and pathos of Marie was superbly portrayed by Carmel.

Please inform Margie Bernard of your success stories for inclusion in this newsletter. These may be submitted to her by post.

Competitions:

The **RTÉ Radio 1 Francis MacManus Short Story Competition** has set Friday, September 20th, 2002 as the closing date for entries for this year's award. The winner receives €3,000 and €2,000 and €1,000 for second and third prizewinners. For details send an SAE to : Francis MacManus Short Story Competition, RTÉ Radio 1, The Radio Centre, Donnybrook, Dublin 4 or see their website: www.radio1.ie.

Salmon Poetry Anthology will publish an anthology of the winning poet of this competition. Send a SASE with your entry of no less than 30 but no more than 60 poems to: Salmon Publishers, Ltd., Knockeven, Cliffs of Moher, County Clare. Enclose a processing fee of €10.00 with your entry before 30 July 2002. Their website is www.info@salmonpublishing.com.

Management Committee Actions:

March 2002 Meeting

At this meeting the Management Committee gave approval for submission to the NI Arts Council National Lottery Programme a proposal entitled, **BiCoastal Connections** described as follows:

Bi-Coastal Connections is a two-year programme consisting of two interrelated components:

- **Classes:**
 - Creative Writing
 - Script Writing Master Class
 - Acting / Directing Master Class
- **Theatre Presentation:**
 - Script-in-Hand Reading Festival
 - Play Production

Creative Writing: A preliminary course for those interested in pursuing a writing career, this class will aid students in the discovery of their 'voice' as a writer by exploring various writing styles, i.e., novels, short stories, poetry, scripts, essays, etc.

This course will be broken into three, three-week segments per year.

Script Writing Master Class: A thorough script writing master class aided by individual tutoring to be held six-months each year.

Acting/Directing Master Class: A six month course in script interpretation and acting techniques designed to provide students with the skills necessary to create a character and sustain it on stage. For those interested, this MC will provide director training and techniques.

Script-in-Hand Reading Festival: Every three months the Script Writing Master Class will produce a fully realized script-in-hand reading at The Playhouse of plays written, acted and/or directed by students before an audience of the general public.

Play Production: A play chosen by the Acting/Directing Master Class Tutor will be staged at Derry Playhouse to provide aspiring playwrights, actors and/or directors with concrete examples of the critical importance of staging, lighting, sound, costuming, props, etc. involved in play production.

If funding is obtained, the **Bi-Coastal Connections** project will begin early in 2003. We anticipate that **David Gothard** will teach the Creative Writing Classes and **Yabo Yablonsky**, the Scriptwriting and Acting/Directing Master classes.

June 2002 Meeting

The Management Committee adopted an **Equal Opportunities Policy** statement and a **Code of Conduct** both of which are enclosed.

This is your organization and the Management Committee welcome any suggestions for workshops, monthly speakers at our Wednesday meetings, fund raising, public events, etc. Please feel free to contact any of the officers or general members with your ideas.

Management Committee:

Officers:

Chair:

Ellen Factor

Vice-Chair:

Madeline McCully

Secretary/Treasurer:

Margie Bernard

General Members:

Ann Keys Colton

Bridie Conefry

Ann Crilly

Joe Duggan

Eugene Floyd

Don McCamphill

Rosemary Quinn

Mentors: David Gothard, Brian Foster, and Yabo Yablonsky.



Creativity is not a mystery. We experience it in ourselves when we act freely, when we consciously choose our actions and plot our lives. Our urge to be creative is the vital force that makes us grow and transform this wandering planet into a theater of unending creation.

Henri Bergson, Creative Evolution