

WRITE AWAY

Rockford Writers' Guild | Since 1947

Making Sense with James Marshall



When & Where: Sunday, Sept. 16,
1-3pm in the Riverview Room at
Burpee Museum of Natural History,
737 N. Main Street, Rockford.

The theme of the 2018-2019 RWG Writing Season is *The Year of Sensational Writing*. Here is what the Guild's Vice President of Events has to say:

"First month, bring an example of writing that highlights one of the five senses. Second month, bring your own work highlighting the same sense." -James Marshall

Here is an example from a novel I am currently reading:

"Evelyn's brother died after his wife sprayed the house with a rose-scented room freshener that made Frank sneeze so hard he had a coronary..." -Garrison Keillor, *Pontoon*.

That passage highlights the sense of smell. When I read it, I feel an itch in my nose and an ache in my heart.

James will lead the meeting in a discussion and conduct a sense-themed writing contest. Bring short pieces of work; no more than 1300 words and make sure the writing you bring is suitable for all ages.

Looking ahead: For the Oct. 21 meeting, the good professor would like you to bring your new writing that highlights the same sense you discussed in September.

-CK

\$100 Winner

Thank you to all who entered the Summer "Free" Poetry Contest.

After much discussion, for the 2018-2019 RWG Writing Season, we have decided to select less winners for each contest, never more than four.

For "Free", I decided to select one \$100 winner.

I spent several days reading, pondering, and re-reading all the poems, but I kept coming back to **Wilda Morris's** poem, **Not Born to Be Chattel**. It's an important, rousing, touching, political poem. It may offend some, but its rhythm and message are pure and poetic. Morris's poem addresses racism and has the power to engender discussion among those who read it.

The poem will be published in the *The Rockford Review* and Wilda? Your check is in the mail.

Writing Opportunities

2019 Winter-Spring Edition of The Rockford Review

Submit up to 3 new poems (50 lines or less) or three new prose pieces (1300 words or less) or a combination of up to 3 poems and prose pieces. No theme, open to all. Deadline Oct 15. Include bio, 50 words or less. Compensation: \$5 per published piece & contributor copy of *The Rockford Review*. Notification by December 1, 2018.

Fall "Vote" Prose Contest

Submit up to 3 prose pieces, each 1300 words or less. Prose (anything not a poem) must express the theme *Vote*. Deadline: Nov. 15, 2018. Cash prizes up to \$100. Winning entries will be published in *The Rockford Review*. Winners announced in December newsletter.

Email subs to editor@rockfordwritersguild.org or mail them to RWG - PO Box 858 - Rockford, IL - 61105. Submissions will not be returned.

Call for Writers/Artists/Vendors

Who: Rockford Area Arts Council (RAAC) is looking for artists (visual, musicians, poets, performers, etc.) to participate at *Beattie Is...Back!* Click artsforeveryone.com for the application.

What: *Beattie Is...Back!* is a family-friendly arts festival that will feature a high-quality artist market, interactive public art, art demonstrations, on-stage performances and specialty food vendors. Patrons will be entertained and delighted by a host of roaming performers as they wander the festival grounds.

When & Where: Saturday, September 8, 2018 from 9am - 6pm at City Market Block; corner of Market & Water Streets in Rockford.

It's Alive! A Ghost Story Writing Contest (Rockford Public Library)

Who can enter: High school and college (undergraduate) students Deadline: Oct. 15, 2018. Email subs to Zoe Norwood at znorwood@rockfordpubliclibrary.org or mail to Zoe at Rockford Public Library, Hart Interim, 214 N. Church St., Rockford, IL 61101. Include your contact information and name of your school. Prizes: Barnes & Noble & Noble Gift Card - 1 to a high school student, 1 to a college student.

Lori Marshall's Notes from the July 15, 2018 Un-Gala Burpee Museum of Natural History Riverview Room

News: Chris Aldridge had a signing in Freeport. Bill Mathis has published his book, *Face Your Fears*.

Meeting Description:

Celebrating the 71st Anniversary of the Guild

Six writers shared their entries from, "Thank You," the summer-fall edition of *The Rockford Review*: Mike Bayles, Cindy Guentherman, Tom Lee, Angelo Kuntz, Fern Kuntz, Sam Kuntz.

Writing Contests:

1. Theme: "Take 5" (Poetry or prose):
Winners were Cindy Guentherman and Nikki Atterberry.
2. Theme: "Emily":
Winners were Susan Brazas and Jocelyn Kuntz
3. Theme: "Bill":
Winners were Katie and Angelo.
4. Theme: "Resiliency":
Winners were Tom Walsh and Doris Kampfe.

Winners were recorded for the Guildy Pleasures Podcast during a live recording. Listen [here!](#)

Next Meeting: Sunday, September 16th from 1-3 at the Burpee Museum.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Marshall

Guilty Good News

Keep It Fresh: If you would like your literary good news published in the newsletter, email your new items every month to **Connie Kuntz** at editor@rockfordwritersguild.org every month. **Email Blast** items go to email director **Wilda Morris** at rockfordwritersguild@gmail.com

Chris Aldridge invites members to check out [his writing website here](#) and to read his science fiction short story on [Mad Scientist Journal](#).

Charlotte Digregorio will exhibit her illustrated haiku ("haiga") at Fremont Public Library in Mundelein until Oct. 7. In other news, one of her haiku was published in *Coffee, Tea and Other Beverages*, a poetry anthology and she wrote the Foreword to haiku poet Robert Epstein's new book, *Checkout Time Is Soon*. And she recently published a feature article in (*Arlington Heights*) *The Daily Herald*. Digregorio will do a poetry reading at Brewed Awakening in Westmont, IL, Sunday, Nov. 25. The reading is sponsored by Illinois State Poetry Society.

Susan Goldberg invites you to a free screening of the critically acclaimed film *Minding the Gap* on Sat., Sept 15 at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Rockford. The film, directed by Bing Liu was shot in Rockford. It explores the complexities of modern-day masculinity, volatile upbringings, and skateboarding culture.

Bill Hudson's poem, "Lost Words" will be published in the next edition of *Lyrical Iowa*, due out in the fall.

Mark Hudson recommends the online magazine, *Rejected Manuscripts* because they consider and sometimes publish writing that has been previously rejected. FMI: rejectedmanuscripts.org.

Connie Kuntz is the new Morning Edition Producer for 89.5 WNIJ, the local NPR station in northern IL. As she adjusts to her new schedule (work begins at 4am), *Guilty Pleasures Podcast* is on hiatus until winter.

Four of **Wilda Morris's** poems are in *Natural Voices: Celebrating Nature with Opened Eyes*, a new anthology from Natural Land Institute. She will read them at **Nature at the Confluence**, 306 Dickson St., South Beloit, IL on Fri, Sept 28 between 6:30-8:30pm. \$5 admission fee. Morris also has two poems in the online issue of [Voice on the Wind](#).

Walt Polzin held an author signing at Barnes & Noble in Medford, Oregon for his two novels, *BADMAN* and *MALFON*.

Molly Chesnut Sides taught writing to young Rockfordians this summer through a program called ArtsPlace through Rockford Area Arts Council. The teenagers' work is published in a book of new poetry entitled, *WOKE*. Purchase a copy for \$15 from the RAAC office at 713 E. State St. M-F from 10-4. Molly says, "You won't be sorry."

Join the Rockford Writers' Guild! (Or Renew)

Membership Levels:

Adult \$35 (1-yr) \$65 (2-yr) \$95 (3-yr)

Family or Couple: \$50 (1-yr) \$90 (2-yr) \$\$130 (3-yr)

Youth/Student \$15 (1-yr)

Library \$25 (1-yr)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Your membership with RWG is active until:

Complete form and send check or money order to Rockford Writers' Guild - PO Box 858 - Rockford, IL - 61105. Join/Renew online at www.rockfordwritersguild.org.

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