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Sponsored by the Heartland Writers Guild

Coach House Inn • Sikeston, Missouri

JUNE 3 • 4 • 5, 2004

*And Great Beginnings Writing Competition*

# Heartland Writers Conference

# 11th

- 3 editors • 3 agents • 1 publisher
- 12 published authors • open mike night
- great beginnings writing competition
- agent/ editor group appointments
- two full days of workshops

*hwg*  
**heartland  
writersguild**

11th Heartland Writers Conference • June 3-5, 2004

Great Beginnings Writing Competition

7850 Parkwood Drive St. Louis, MO 63123



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

# 11th

June 3-5, 2004

## Heartland Writers Conference

**DATE** Thursday, June 3, through Saturday, June 5, 2004

**LOCATION** The **Best Western Coach House Inn**  
I-55 Exit 67 at Sikeston, Missouri

**REGISTRATION FEE** - The conference is limited to 150 attendees. Early registration not only guarantees your attendance but also offers you an opportunity to save as much as \$60. Fees and deadlines are:

**\$195 until April 12, 2004**    **Writing Competition deadline**  
**\$220 until May 20, 2004**    **General registration deadline**  
**\$255 thereafter**                    **if space is available**

If you are entering the **Great Beginnings Writing Competition**, your manuscript(s) must accompany your conference registration. No one will be admitted to workshops or meals without a badge. If you need further information, contact the Conference Attendee Liaison at (314) 631-1329 or [information@heartlandwriters.org](mailto:information@heartlandwriters.org).

**Watch the website for conference updates:**  
**[www.heartlandwriters.org](http://www.heartlandwriters.org)**

**HOTEL INFORMATION** - The Best Western Coach House Inn offers one- and two-bedroom suites at the following special rates (not including tax/surcharges): King Suite, one king bed, living room, bath, \$59 single, \$65 two person; Queen Suite, one bedroom with 2 queen beds, living room, bath, \$65 two person, \$5 for each extra person; Two-bedroom Suite, two bedrooms each with its own bath separated by living room. One bedroom has one king bed, the other bedroom has two double beds, \$85 up to 6 persons.

**For reservations, call (573) 471-9700.** Contact the **hotel directly** to make your reservations. Be sure to ask for the Heartland Writers Conference special rate. We urge you to reserve your room early. Alternate hotel rooms are available at the **Holiday Inn Express**, which is within walking distance of the conference. We have 54 rooms reserved there at a special rate if reserved before May 6. Other nearby hotels include the **Pear Tree Inn** and **Drury Inn**.

**DIRECTIONS** - Sikeston, Missouri, is on Interstate 55 approximately 2 and 1/2 hours south of Saint Louis. We regret that Coach House Inn offers no airport shuttle service. If you need transportation from Lambert Airport in Saint Louis, BART (Bootheel Area Rapid Transit) shuttle service offers reasonable rates: (800) 284-2278. **The Heartland Writers Conference assumes no responsibility for transportation of attendees.**

## Conference Schedule

# 2004

### THURSDAY · JUNE 3

2:00 - 6:00 pm                    Registration  
Hotel Lobby

6:30 pm                            Get-Acquainted Mixer  
Ashley's Dining Room  
Snack Buffet

### FRIDAY · JUNE 4

7:30 - 8:30 am                    Registration Continues  
Hotel Lobby

8:30 - 8:45 am                    Opening Session  
Welcome, Announcements

9:00 - 12:00 noon                Workshops and Agent/Editor  
Appointments

12:00 - 1:30 pm                    Lunch  
Ashley's Dining Room

1:30 - 4:30 pm                    Workshops and Agent/Editor  
Appointments

6:00 - 8:00 pm                    Heartland Festival of Books  
Coach House Inn

9:00 pm - 12:00 am                Open Mike Night  
Ashley's Dining Room  
*Back by popular demand! Share selections of your work  
in an informal "coffee house" setting*

### SATURDAY · JUNE 5

8:00 - 12:00 noon                Workshops and Agent/Editor  
Appointments

12:00 - 1:30 pm                    Lunch and Announcement of  
Great Beginnings Writing Competition finalists  
Ashley's Dining Room

1:30 - 4:30 pm                    Workshops and Agent/Editor  
Appointments

6:30 pm                            Awards Banquet  
Speakers: Robert Vaughan-Founder of HWG and Writer  
Evan Marshall-Literary Agent



# 11th Heartland Writers Conference Registration Form

For more information, contact the Conference Attendee Liaison: (314) 631-1329 • [information@heartlandwriters.org](mailto:information@heartlandwriters.org)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

How do you want your name to appear on your badge?  
(Please enter it in the box at right. Published authors who write under a pseudonym may wish to include theirs beneath their real names.)

### REGISTRATION FEES

Registration Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_ (# attending) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Writing Competition Manuscript Fee \$15 x \_\_\_\_\_ (# manuscripts) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to join the Heartland Writers Guild as you register for the conference, complete the membership application and add your dues here. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### DID YOU REMEMBER TO . . .

- fill out the Agent/Editor Appointment Form below?
- complete the contest entry form (if you are entering the contest)?
- enclose two copies of each manuscript you are entering in the contest?

Please check this box if you are a published author and would like information about participating in the Heartland Festival of Books.

### AGENT/EDITOR GROUP APPOINTMENT SIGN-UP

YOUR NAME (as it appears on the registration form above) \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Your registration fee guarantees your participation in ONE Agent or Editor Group Appointment. Please provide the names of your first, second and third choices for appointments. If conference attendance permits, we hope to be able to offer two appointments. **Agents:** Fran Collin, Evan Marshall, Sue Yuen; **Editors:** Susan Swartwout, Doug Sikes, Steve Wilson.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Send all required forms with your check or money order payable to: **Heartland Writers Conference**  
7850 Parkwood Dr. • St. Louis, MO 63123

# 2004 Speakers

## Agents

### Frances Collin

Fran Collin, a literary agent, has worked independently since 1975, continuing an agency founded in 1948 by her late partner Marie Rodell. She is Trustee and agent for the estate of Rachel Carson and represents a broad general range of trade and text books-literally everything from *Silent Spring* to *Star Wars* novels. Her areas of special interest include history, biography, literary fiction, category fiction, and anything about animals.



### Evan Marshall

Evan Marshall is the president of The Evan Marshall Agency, a leading literary agency that specializes in representing novelists.

Evan began his publishing career as a book editor, working at Houghton Mifflin, New American Library, Everest House, and Dodd, Mead.

He then became a literary agent, starting at The Sterling Lord Agency (now Sterling Lord Literistic) and later founding The Evan Marshall Agency. The New York City chapter of Romance Writers of America named Evan "Agent of the Year" for 2001.

Evan has also worked as an independent book packager, as a founding partner of Sutton Press, Inc., which produced fiction titles for publishers including Avon, Harlequin, HarperCollins, St. Martin's Press, and Dorchester Publishing Company.

Evan is the international best selling author of the Marshall Plan series of writing guides. He has a BA from Boston College and attended the Radcliffe Publishing Procedures Course. Evan is a member of The Association of Authors' Representatives, Mystery Writers of America, the American Crime Writers League, and Sisters in Crime. He has also been a member of the National Board of Directors of Mystery Writers of America.



### Sue Yuen

Sue Yuen is a literary agent based in New York who operates her own agency, Inko, Inc. A graduate of New York University, she holds an MS in biology as well as an MA in fine arts and classics. Prior to becoming an agent, she worked for more than 10 years in editorial and contract positions for commercial book publishers.

## Editors

### Susan Swartwout

Susan Swartwout teaches creative writing and publishing at Southeast Missouri State University and is the Director/Publisher of Southeast Missouri State University Press which produces books and *Big Muddy: Journal of the Mississippi River Valley*, an interdisciplinary magazine. Her two collections of poetry are entitled *Freaks* and *Uncommon Ground*, and she co-edited *Real Things: Anthology of Popular Culture in American Poetry* and *A Student's Guide to Getting Published*. Her poems and short stories are published in literary journals such as *Nebraska Review*, *The Laurel Review*, *River Styx*, *Negative Capability*, *Mississippi Review*, and *Spoon River Poetry Review*, among others. She is a recipient of the Rona Jaffe Writers' Foundation Award, the Dillinger Good Award, and a St. Louis Poetry Center Award.



### Doug Sikes

Doug Sikes, Publishing Consultant for Turner Publishing Co. of Paducah, KY, has worked in this capacity since 1990. Upon entering the field, his love for publishing was immediate. Combining the career experience in advertising, marketing, and product start-up with an intense passion for good books, especially history and nonfiction, he has made a substantial contribution to his company's success, producing many high profile and innovative titles as well as less glamorous, but much loved, regional and state histories, totaling nearly 100 titles in all. He is currently working on about 25 new books, including upcoming titles such as *University of Kentucky Basketball 101 Years* and *Miss America, 85th Anniversary History*. He has numerous awards from Turner Publishing such as Publisher of the Year and Book of the Year, as well as commendations for design and outstanding cover designs. Sikes will be speaking to writers on **How to Get Published** at the conference in what should be an insightful and informative session.



### Steve Wilson

An editor with **McFarland & Company, Inc. Publishers** since 1991, Steve Wilson coordinates the acquisitions program for an annual list of 220 titles and is involved in all facets of this scholarly and reference publisher's editorial operations. He handles manuscript proposals in all subject areas within McFarland's list and serves as managing editor of the twice-yearly *Journal of Information Ethics*. His personal interests include Southern literature, woodworking, and automotive history.

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Highlights Magazine Editor: To be announced on Heartland Writers Guild website.

## Publisher

### Sherry Gibson

Sherry Gibson is the owner of Gibson Printing and has been in business for 10 years. Gibson Printing specializes in catering to each individual customer's needs. They offer all types of printing services such as, specialty products, promotional items, and many types of marketing materials. In 2003 they expanded their service to include book publishing. Sherry will be presenting a workshop about self-publishing.

## Special Guests

### Jerry Gross

Jerry Gross has been critiquing and line editing fiction and nonfiction for many years. Among the posts he has held: VP and Editorial Director of Warner Books, VP and Associate Editor-in-Chief of New American Library, and Sr. Editor of Dodd, Mead and Co. Since 1987, as a partner in Gerald Gross Associates LLC in Croton-on-Hudson, NY, he has been a freelance editor and book doctor working with agented and unagented authors, editors, agents, and publishing executives. Mr. Gross is the editor of *Editors on Editing: What Writers Need to Know About What Editors Do*, the standard work on trade book editing, used widely at writers' conferences and in publishing and writing courses.

When not editing and critiquing, Mr. Gross creates and presents workshops on writing, editing, and publishing at writers' conferences and universities.

### Robert Saigh

Robert A. Saigh has been editing, copy-editing, indexing, and writing fiction and nonfiction for over 25 years. He has edited and indexed subjects ranging from art and history to law and finance to science and religion. He has written/co-written two computer books, hundreds of environmental articles (when living in Chicago), and other articles for the Gale Group, American Management Association, World Explorer Magazine, National Writers Union, Mensa, Sierra Club, and more. He is currently completing two novels, several scripts, and an assortment of short stories.



## Authors

### Charlotte Hubbard

While she was a school librarian and English teacher, Charlotte Hubbard started selling confessions to magazines such as *True Confession* and *Secrets*. She has sold more than 70 stories and moved into book-length fiction with her first historical romance, *Colorado Captive*, in 1991. In 1997 she opened a writing and editorial service, **Novel Possibilities**, which offers writing instruction and manuscript critiques. Writing as Melissa MacNeal, she is the author of three Black Lace novels and a serialized erotic romance online. She lives in Jefferson City, Missouri, with her husband, Neal, and her border collie, Kelly.

### Vicki Cox

Vicki Cox of Lebanon, Missouri, is author of *Rising Stars and Ozark Constellations* and *Profiles of Courage, Ingenuity, and Success* (Skyward Publishing); *They Died Too Young: Diana, Princess of Wales* (Chelsea House); and *Women Who Win: Marion Jones* (Chelsea



House). She is also a freelance feature writer of nearly 500 profiles in numerous publications including the *St. Louis Post Dispatch*, *Christian Science Monitor* and *Crit Magazine*. She is an adjunct professor for Drury University, teaching *Culture of the Ozarks*. She is a multiple Missouri Writers Guild winner in categories including best newspaper story, best magazine story, best essay and best juvenile book.

### Carol Fisher

After teaching communications arts and speech communications for 35 years, Fisher, newly retired, is enjoying a career change. She is now grading her own papers, doing her own research, and delivering her own speeches as she pursues and promotes her writing projects full time.

Fisher's writing interests include gardening, cooking, and American culinary history. She is currently under contract with McFarland Publishing. Investigation of her McFarland project has taken her on the research trail from America's colonial kitchens to those ever popular TV kitchens. In her workshop, **Hints for the Hunt: Tips for a Successful Search**, she will be stirring up a recipe for effective research and will be presenting a smorgasbord of ideas for writers who want to hone their research skills and techniques. Fisher is the president of Heartland Writers Guild.



### Morley Swingle

Morley Swingle has been the Prosecuting Attorney of Cape Girardeau County, Missouri, since January 1, 1987.

He has published over twenty articles and book chapters on criminal law in various publications, including the *Missouri Law Review*, the *Journal of the Missouri Bar*, and *The Prosecutor* (the journal of the National District Attorneys Association). He has written one of the chapters of the Missouri Bar's book *Criminal Practice*. His 1995 bar journal article won the W. Oliver Rasch Award from the Missouri Bar Association for being "the outstanding" article published that year.

In 1992, Swingle was selected by the FBI as one of only 50 prosecutors in the country to attend and graduate from the Advanced Course for Prosecutors at the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

His first novel, *The Cold of Cape Girardeau*, was published in October 2002 by the Southeast Missouri State University Press, and has sold more than 6,000 copies.



### Jennifer Lawler

Jennifer Lawler, a second-degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do, is a writer and martial arts/self-defense expert. She teaches self-defense, martial arts, and writing workshops throughout the country and coaches writers on becoming more successful. She is the author of twenty published books, with several more forthcoming. Her books include *Dojo Wisdom: 100 Simple Ways to Become a Stronger, Calmer, More Courageous Person* (Penguin Compass); *Martial Arts for Dummies* (Wiley); *Feng Shui Your Workspace for Dummies* (Wiley); and many others. Her forthcoming books include *Dojo Wisdom for Writers: 100 Simple Ways to Become a More Inspired, Successful, and Fearless Writer*.

A former college English teacher, she earned her Ph.D. in English (medieval literature) from the University of Kansas in 1996. She served as director of continuing education at an area college and has taught writing classes in a local adult education program.



## Ellen Gray Massey

Ellen Gray Massey, born in Nevada, Missouri, and a resident of Laclede County, Missouri, since 1946, has taught for forty-three years in Missouri at Conway Elementary, Hartville and Lebanon High Schools, and from 1986-2000 for Drury University's Graduate Education program. She teaches Elderhostel classes each year for the YMCA of the Ozarks at Potosi and Ozark Adventures in Branson. She has published numerous articles, short stories, essays, eleven novels, and six nonfiction books. In 1995 she was inducted into the Writers Hall of Fame of America. In 1997 *A Candle Within Her Soul*, a biography of Mary Elizabeth Mahnkey, a journalist and poet from Taney County, was named finalist in Western Writers of America's Golden Spur Award and received the Walter Williams Major Work Award from the Missouri Writers Guild. *A Life I Can See*, produced in March 2000, is her first full-length musical play. *The Bittersweet Ozarks at Glance*, a quality hardback photo book, was published in 2003 by Skyward. The title of Ellen's workshop is **Strong Settings Make Strong Novels.**

## 'Fog' Gilbert

Poet "Fog" Gilbert grew up near Yankee Stadium but calls Carbondale, Illinois, home since he first began attending Southern Illinois University in 1968. He has published eight books of poems. His ninth book, *The Truck Driver and the Pizza Maker*, which will be available by conference time, is co-authored with Melanie Bous who is also a speaker at this year's conference. "Fog" has had more than 100 of his poems published in journals and magazines since he began writing seriously in the 1980s. "Fog" now teaches English and a poetry workshop at John A. Logan College. Gilbert will be conducting the poetry workshop at the conference.

## Kathie DeNosky

As an unpublished writer, Kathie DeNosky won or placed in 18 Romance Writers of America chapter contests and was a Golden Heart finalist in 1996 and 1999. Since selling her first book to *Silhouette Desire* in June of 1999, she has sold 15 books in four years, received numerous awards, including a national Reader's Choice Award and a Write Touch Reader's Award for the Best Short Contemporary of 2001 and recently had one of her books nominated for Best *Silhouette Desire* of 2003 by *Romantic Times Magazine*.

Every one of Kathie's books has made the Waldenbooks Category Romance Bestsellers List. Writing highly sensual stories spiced with a good dose of humor, she has also seen her books translated into 24 different languages and has recently reached the milestone of having over a million copies of her books in print worldwide.



## Melanie Bous

Melanie, a native Californian, has had diverse experience in the writing and entertainment fields. With her grandfather a Vaudevillian and her mother a singer, she has roots in the entertainment industry. Her love for writing began with her sister's senior year in high school when Melanie assisted her sister with creative writing assignments. Melanie began writing poetry in the 1980s. Some of her poems have been used by therapists and marriage relationship counselors. One of her poems was chosen for the Living Memorial Sculpture Garden in Weed, California, dedicated to the veterans of WW I, WW II, the Korean War, and Desert Storm. Melanie's work experience has included truck driving, tending bar, working for the phone company, organizing a family resource center for Native Americans, and working as a drug and alcohol counselor. She has worked for a publisher of college textbooks, written ad copy, and has been a personal assistant to a pro-

ducer/director of independent films. She has worked as an auditions and casting agent and as a stills photographer for a motion picture. Melanie now manages two actors, helping to guide their careers and is working on a soon to be published novel. Melanie has found that being creative is essential for her to feel well and balanced in her life. Her workshop is titled **"Living with the Fires of Creativity."**

## Jane Shewmaker Hale

Author/publisher Jane Shewmaker Hale says, "One of the most important things a writer can do is attend conferences and get to know others connected with the field of writing. Links to the world of publication are invaluable whether you are an independent publisher or if a major publishing house has bought your book. Either way, you will be required to help promote your work. The final goal of a writer is to get their work to the reader." Hale's six-book set of children's holiday mysteries with companion stuffed animals are a product of Rainbow Publications/Toys, owned by Hale. *Every Day is Mother's Day*, the first book in the "Every Day" series is published by Skyward Publications. Hale is an active partner in Hale Fireworks L.L.C., Hale Sportswear, and other family businesses. She is also a freelance photo journalist and authors a weekly newspaper column. Vice-president and 2004 Conference Chairman of Missouri Writer's Guild, Hale moved into the office of president in May 2004. She is president of Ozark Writers' Inc. and a member of numerous writers organizations.

## Linda Madl

Linda Madl's work includes ten novels, eight novellas, several short stories, book reviews, and nonfiction articles. Her first historical romance, *SWEET RANSOM*, came out in 1989 from Pocket Books.



Madl's nonfiction work includes feature stories and book reviews for newspapers and magazines, newsletters for technical firms, engineering project profiles, and military award writing.

As a professional she has been active in the St. Louis Writers Guild (past president), Romance Writers of America (charter member and past president of the Kansas Fiction Writers, RWA Chapter #181), and Novelists, Inc. She has presented programs and workshops at numerous meetings including the 2000 RWA Region 2 Conference in Omaha and the 1999 RWA National Conference in Chicago.

## Robert Vaughan

Robert Vaughan sold his first book when he was 19 years old. That was 47 years, nearly 250 titles, and 20 million books ago. Writing under 35 pseudonyms, he has hit the *New York Times* and *Publishers Weekly* bestseller lists twice. Vaughan authored *Andersonville*, which was made into the popular TNT television mini-series.



His book *Survival* (under the pseudonym K.C. McKenna) won the Spur Award for best western novel (1994), *The Power and the Pride* won the Porgie for best paperback original (1976), and *Brandywine's War* was named by the Canadian University Symposium of Literature as the best iconoclastic novel to come from the Vietnam War. He was inducted into the Writers' Hall of Fame in 1998.

Vaughan has written military drama, westerns, histories, men's action and adventure, mysteries, police procedural, humor, romance (using female pseudonyms), literary, and mainstream and is a popular speaker at schools, universities, civic, and writers' groups where he often performs a one-man Hemingway show. He is the founder of Heartland Writers Guild.

# Great Beginnings Writing Competition

## Entry Guidelines

To enter the writing competition you must attend the conference. Finalists will be announced during Saturday's luncheon. Awards will be presented at the evening banquet on Saturday, June 5.

## Deadline - April 12, 2004

Manuscripts **MUST** accompany your conference registration and be postmarked no later than **April 12, 2004**. Your work must not have been accepted for publication at time of submission. You may submit a maximum of three (3) entries. However, you may submit no more than two (2) entries in any one category. If you have been published in a category, you may **NOT** enter that category.

## Formatting

Manuscripts, synopses, and treatments must be double-spaced on plain white 20 or 24 lb. paper. Do **NOT** use a fancy font or small print. Examples of acceptable fonts are Courier, Courier New, Times New Roman or Times Roman. The font size should be no larger than 12 points and no smaller than 11 points. Screenplays must be in the appropriate screenplay format. Letter quality dot matrix print is acceptable in addition to inkjet or laser print.

Each **SUBMISSION** must include two (2) cover pages:

**COVER PAGE #1** should contain:

- Entrant's **NAME, ADDRESS and TELEPHONE NUMBER**
- **TITLE** of the work
- The name of the **CATEGORY** being entered
- Actual or anticipated length of completed manuscript (for book-length entries and screenplays only), and
- The anticipated **MARKET** for the work (see examples at right)

**COVER PAGE #2** should include:

- All of the above information **EXCEPT** your name, address and telephone number.

Do **NOT** include your name on any page other than the first cover page. Entries are numbered and judged on merit relative to other submissions. Send entries loose-leaf. Do **NOT** bind in any way. Send **TWO (2) COPIES** of each submission. Retain your original copy. The **CONTEST ENTRY FORM** must be filled out in full and returned along with your manuscripts, entry fee, and conference registration form and fee. A **\$15 handling fee** must accompany each manuscript entry.

**FINALISTS** will be judged by editors, agents or other professionals specializing in the respective category of writing.

**PRIZES** - First Place entries in each category will receive an engraved plaque. Second Place entries will receive a certificate. Evaluation sheets will be returned to each entrant Saturday night after the banquet. Entries will **NOT** be returned.

**PLEASE NOTE** - Winning **DOES NOT** guarantee publication or representation.

## Categories

Any category that does not receive a sufficient number of entries may be consolidated with other categories.

### Novel

Submit a synopsis that does not exceed seven double-spaced pages and the first chapter in one of these categories: 1) Mainstream/Single Title; 2) Mystery/Suspense; 3) Romance; 4) Genre Fiction (i.e., Adventure, Western, Sci Fi, Fantasy, etc); or 5) Juvenile/Young Adult.

### Short Story

Submit a manuscript no longer than 2,500 words.

### Children's Picture Book

Submit entire manuscript.

### Book-Length Nonfiction

Submit first chapter (any length) and a proposal that does not exceed seven pages.

### Article-Length Nonfiction

Submit a manuscript no longer than 2,500 words.

### Poetry

Submit entire poem.

### Screenplay

Submit a one-page treatment and the first 50 pages.

When stating the anticipated market for your work, be as specific as possible. i.e.: 1) Fiction - Romance - Silhouette Desire or Harlequin Temptation; 2) Fiction - Short Story; 3) Fiction - Genre Fiction - Western; 4) Nonfiction - Book - History.



# Great Beginnings Writing Competition Entry Form

Please complete this form in full. The name on your entry form must match the name on your conference registration form and Cover Page #1 of your manuscript. Do NOT enter this competition under a pseudonym. **Deadline:** April 12, 2004

NAME (must match registration form) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRY	TITLE	CATEGORY
#1.	_____	_____
#2.	_____	_____
#3.	_____	_____

**Disclaimer:** I have read and understand the official rules of the Great Beginnings Writing Competition. I understand that judging is subjective and I agree to abide by the decision of any judges and/or contest officials. I shall hold harmless the Great Beginnings Writing Competition, Heartland Writers Guild, contest personnel and/or judges for any and all disputes arising from circumstances beyond the control of the contest officials. Unsigned entries will be returned.

Contestant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**HWG MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION** - Guild members who pay their dues before January 1st are listed in the annual Membership Directory and are entitled to a discount on conference fees. Annual dues are \$24 for individuals and \$30 for couples sharing one mailing address.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ WEBSITE \_\_\_\_\_

If you do **not** wish your telephone number to be published in the Member Directory, please check this box.



Please describe your writing interests. List all published works, education/writers training or writing goals (attach additional sheet). If you elect to become a member of HWG as you register for the conference, a membership card, a copy of the Member Directory, and the next issue of the HWG newsletter will be mailed to you. The newsletter includes upcoming program topics as well as the date and location of the next guild meeting.