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# WOMEN

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## Writing the West

## 11th Annual Women Writing the West Conference

Forward! Fort Worth  
Fort Worth, Texas  
October 21-23, 2005

Join WWW as we embark on a new decade! As we look forward to future adventures in writing and celebrating the contributions of women in the Western experience, let's put ourselves forward by trying new marketing techniques, stepping up to new ideas, increasing our writing skills, and stepping out but always forward.

Highlighted by the banquets celebrating the WILLA Literary Awards' Winners and Finalists, this year's conference will offer the chance to meet and mingle with writers, editors, and agents from across the United States. The 2005 WILLA Literary Awards, named in honor of Willa Cather, will be presented to the Finalists during the Saturday luncheon and presented to the Winners during the Saturday night banquet. Come with us and step back to a colorful page in Western history!



## Friday, October 21, 2005

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- 8:30am – 9:00am . . . . .**REGISTRATION for tour members** (*Mezzanine*)
- 9:00am – 2:30pm . . . . .**Tour of Fort Worth**
- 12:00 Noon – 3:00pm .**REGISTRATION** (*Mezzanine*)
- 3:00pm – 3:15pm . . . . .**Welcome to Fort Worth** (*Times Square East*)
- 3:15pm – 5:30pm . . . . .**Agent/Editor Appointments** (*Pioneer & Frontier*)
- 3:15pm . . . . . Researching Women and the West panel with award winning New Mexico author Sharon Niederman; Dawn Letson, The Woman's Collection, Texas Woman's University; and Native American novelist Jane Archer. Introduced by best-selling author Kathleen Gear (*Times Square East*)
- 6:00pm – 10:00pm . . . . .**Networking Reception and Buffet** (*Ft. Worth Room*)

## Saturday, October 22, 2005

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- 7:30 am . . . . . **REGISTRATION, Continental Breakfast**
- 8:15 am . . . . . **Greetings and Introductions** with WWW President Sarah Byrn Rickman (*Times Square East*)
- 8:30am – 9:30am . . . . . **Meet the Agents'** panel will provide expertise so you can learn more about what is involved in working with them. Introduced by Cynthia Leal Massey (*Times Square East*)
- 9:30am – 10:30am . . . . . **Meet the Editors'** panel will enlighten conference attendees about what happens when your manuscript is completed. Introduced by Cynthia Leal Massey (*Times Square East*)
- 10:30am – 10:45am . . . . . **BREAK**
- 10:45am – 11:45am . . . . . **Agent/Editor Appointments** (*Pioneer & Frontier*)
- 10:45am – 11:45am . . . . . **Marketing and Promotion** with George Arnold, retired advertising executive and published author, including Bestseller must-read, *Author's Guide to Successfully Selling Your Book*. Introduced by Cindy Sandell (*Times Square East*)
- 10:45am – 11:45am . . . . . **Say It With Pictures** picture book publishing with Donna Druchunas, whose books employ heavy photo usage; publisher/ editor Deborah Robson, Nomad Press, and Melanie Chrismer, children's author. Introduced by Kathleen Ernst (*Columbus Room*)
- 11:45am . . . . . **BREAK**
- 11:45am – 12:15pm . . . . . **BOOKSTORE** with WILLA Finalists, morning speakers & WWW authors (*Astor & Barclay Rooms*)
- 12:30pm – 2:15pm . . . . . **WILLA Luncheon** will honor 2005 WILLA Finalists with keynote speaker Jane Kirkpatrick, Wrangler Award winning author of 11 novels (*Ft. Worth Room*)



### Ellen Waterston

Ellen Waterston is the author of *Then There Was No Mountain, The Parallel Odyssey of a Mother and Daughter Through Addiction*, which was selected as one of the top ten books of 2003. Also a WILLA and Foreword Finalist, the book's recognition earned her an appearance on Good Morning America with Diane Sawyer. Her chapbook of poetry, *I Am Madagascar: A Bride Moves West From New England*, earned the 2005 WILLA prize in poetry.



### Carol Woods

Carol Woods is Senior Editor at Timberwolf Press in Allen, TX. She is also chair of the Lesser North Texas Writers, president emeritus of the Greater Dallas Writers' Association and member of the Oklahoma Writers' Federation, Inc. She has been a judge of the Oklahoma Writers' Federation, Inc. writing contest (fantasy/science fiction), and a judge of the *Writer's Digest Magazine's* annual Self-Publishing competition.





**Deborah Robson**

Deborah Robson is publisher/editor of Nomad Press (traditional and ethnic knitting) and, beginning this fall, of Dogtooth Books (middle-grade/YA fiction). She has edited trade, literary, university, and nonprofit books and magazines. Nomad has been named a 2005 Independent Publisher Book Awards (IPPYs) Finalist and a 2005 Colorado Book Awards Finalist. For more information, please visit .



**Rose-Mary Rumbley**

Rose-Mary Rumbley holds a PH.D. in communications from the University of North Texas. She has written four books on her native city of Dallas, TX, the latest being *Strolling Through The Park, 100 Years of the Dallas Park Board*. Her latest titles include a cookbook, *What! No Chili*, and a book about the 300th anniversary of the invention of the piano.



**Irene (Cindy) Sandell**

Irene (Cindy) Sandell, a retired teacher, has written and produced 14 documentary films on Texas for the classroom and has designed teaching materials to accompany the films. Cindy has also written a supplemental Texas History text for special needs and bilingual students. Her first historical novel, *In a Fevered Land*, has recently been selected for several high school American Literature programs.



**David Hale Smith**

David Hale Smith is the founder and president of DHS Literary, Inc., a literary agency in Dallas, TX. He has managed dozens of authors' careers and made hundreds of deals for his clients, negotiating publishing contracts with well-known publishing houses. Smith works with both literary and commercial fiction – especially mysteries, suspense novels and thrillers – as well as a broad range of nonfiction.



**Elizabeth Trupin-Pulli**

Elizabeth Trupin-Pulli has been involved in publishing for 35 years. In 1975, she and Jim Trupin founded JET Literary Associates, Inc. in New York. Their offices have now relocated to Santa Fe, NM, and Vienna, Austria. JET represents adult and YA fiction and nonfiction. Current client list available at .

2:15pm – 2:30pm . . . . . **BREAK**

2:30pm – 3:30pm . . . . . **Agent/Editor Appointments** (*Pioneer & Frontier Rooms*)

2:30pm – 3:30pm . . . . . **Polishing Your Writing Techniques** with Donna Gimarc, screenwriter and author of 16 books. Introduced by Cindy Sandell (*Times Square East*)

2:30pm – 3:30pm . . . . . **The Poetry of Memoir** with Laurie Wagner Buyer, novelist and poet; Carol Morrison, memoirist and freelance editor and Carolyn Wing Greenlee, poet and memoirist. Introduced by Ellen Waterston (*Columbus Room*)

3:30pm – 3:45pm . . . . . **BREAK**

3:45pm – 4:45pm . . . . . **Agent/Editor Appointments** (*Pioneer & Frontier Rooms*)

3:45pm – 4:45pm **From Fact and Fiction to Film** with experts Cindy Sandell, Texas author and documentary filmmaker; and Clay Reynolds, Univ. of Texas-Dallas, Assoc. Dean, instructor Literature Into Film and award-winning author. Moderated by Mary Trimble (*Times Square East*)

3:45pm – 4:45pm . . . . . **Calisthenics: Poetry Exercises To Wake Up the Muse** with WILLA Winner/Finalist Ellen Waterston, a series of seven-minute writes including readings and critiquing. Introduced by Jane Kirkpatrick (*Columbus Room*)

5:15pm – 6:00pm . . . . . **BOOKSTORE** with WILLA Winners, afternoon and evening speakers & WWW authors (*Tentative: Astor & Barclay Rooms*)

6:30pm . . . . . **Reception/Cash Bar** (*Ft. Worth Room*)

7:00pm – 10:00pm . . . . . **2005 WILLA Awards Banquet** with keynote speaker, Rose-Mary Rumbley, international speaker, writer, humorist, and historian, Ph.D. from Univ. of North Texas, instructor at Dallas Baptist College (*Ft. Worth Room*)

**Sunday, October 23, 2005**

8:00am . . . . . Continental Breakfast (*Mezzanine*)

8:30am – 9:30am . . . . . **Grant Writing for Writers, 101**, Introduced by Cindy Sandell with Casey C. Hasten, who has secured more than \$7 million in competitive grant programs. Introduced by Cindy Sandell (*Times Square East*)

9:30am – 9:45am . . . . . **BREAK**

9:45am – 11:00am . . . . . **Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Women Writing the West, But Were Afraid to Ask** with WWW President Sarah Rickman. Conference adjourns (*Times Square East*)

# The 2005 WILLA Literary Awards Winners and Finalists

October 22, 2005  
Fort Worth, Texas

The WILLA Literary Award, named in honor of Willa Cather, honors outstanding contemporary and historical books that capture the diversity and broad roles of women in the American West.

## Contemporary Fiction

Winner: *The Real Minerva: A Novel* by Mary Sharratt (Houghton Mifflin)

Finalist: *Last Lullaby* by Denise Hamilton (Scribner)

Finalist: *Useful Girl* by Marcus Stevens (Algonquin Books)

## Historical Fiction

Winner: *Tombstone Travesty: Allie Earp Remembers* by Jane Candia Coleman (Five-Star)

Finalist: *Where Heaven Begins* by Rosanne Bittner (Harlequin/Steep Hill)

Finalist: *Four Souls* by Louise Erdrich (Harper Collins)

## Original Softcover Fiction

Winner: *Echoes* by Erin Grady (Berkley)

Finalist: *Higher Ground* by Gladys Smith (Llumina Press)

Finalist: *Moon in the Water* by Elizabeth Grayson (Bantam)

## Children's/Young Adult Fiction and Nonfiction

Winner: *Nothing Here But Stones* by Nancy Oswald (Henry Holt & Co.)

Finalist: *'E' is for Enchantment: A New Mexico Alphabet* by Helen Foster James/  
Nancy Twinem (Sleeping Bear Press)

Finalist: *Justina Ford: Medical Pioneer* by Joyce B. Lohse (Filter Press)

## Other Nonfiction

Winner: *Isabella Greenway: An Enterprising Woman* by Kristie Miller (Univ. of Ariz. Press)

Finalist: *The Quilt That Walked to Golden* by Sandra Dallas (Breckling Press)

Finalist: *The Montana Frontier: One Woman's West* by Joyce Litz (Univ. of NM Press)

## Poetry

Winner: *I Am Madagascar* by Ellen Waterston (Wordcraft of Oregon)

Finalist: *The Northwest Rainforest Pioneers* by Claudia Harper (Frank Amato Publications)

Finalist: *Cowboy Poetry: Turning to Face the Wind* by Jane Ambrose Morton  
(Cowboy Miner Productions)

## Memoir/Essay Nonfiction

Winner: *Into the Canyon: Seven Years in Navajo Country* by Lucy Moore  
(Univ. of New Mexico Press)

Finalist: *Above the Clearwater: Living on Stolen Land* by Bette Lynch Husted  
(Oregon State Univ. Press)

Finalist: *Grace Stone Coates: Her Life in Letters* by Lee Rostad (Riverbend Publishing)



### Bryce Milligan

Bryce Milligan is the publisher/editor/designer of Wings Press. As an award-winning author, his books for younger children, *The Prince of Ireland* and *the Three Magic Stallions* and *Brigid's Cloak: An Ancient Irish Story*, both received starred reviews in numerous journals. He has written songs, articles and reviews, five novels for young adults, six produced plays, six books of poetry, and he is the editor of two all-Latina anthologies.



### Carol J. Morrison

Carol J. Morrison is a psychotherapist in private practice and the author of *Catching On-Love with an Avid Fly Fisher* (Freestone Press). A memoir, spiritual journey, and relationship book, *Catching On* won the 2003 Jim Angell Award, presented by the Presbyterian Writers Guild.



### Sharon Niederman

Award-winning New Mexico author, journalist and novelist, Sharon Niederman specializes in features, profiles and essays relating to history, cuisine, architecture, travel and traditions of New Mexico and the Southwest. She is a consultant for historic preservation and rural economic development concerns. Her recent well-received first novel, *Return to Abo*, was inspired by stories collected from New Mexico ranch women. Visit her website at .



### Susan R. Petty

Susan R. Petty, editor at TCU Press, has worked in all aspects of the publishing industry. She holds degrees in French from Florida State University and psychology from University of North Texas. Susan appears on the Community Cable Television program *Books in Review* and writes book reviews for the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*.



### Clay Reynolds

Clay Reynolds is an award-winning author and an associate dean at the University of Texas at Dallas. He has authored 12 books and more than 700 publications ranging from critical studies to short fiction and poems. His third and fourth novels, *Franklin's Crossing* and *Monuments*, both received the Violet Crown Award and were Spur Award finalists from Western Writers of America.

**Donna Gimarc**

Donna Gimarc, screenwriter and author of 16 books, is the recipient of numerous writing awards, including Romantic Times's prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award in the Regency genre and the romance industry's top trade magazine Career Achievement Award for Regency period romance. Writing as Elisabeth Fairchild, her work is described as theme driven, lushly set, and lyrically layered wit – Jane Austen style.

**Carolyn Wing Greenlee**

Carolyn Wing Greenlee is a Third Generation Chinese American from a gold rush/railroad family. She has spent the last 18 years researching, writing, and speaking about the Chinese immigrant experience. She has written and edited 24 books, 12 of which deal with Western history including the Chinese, overlanders, and Native Americans. She is the Poet Laureate of Lake County, CA, for the years 2004–2005.

**Casey C. Hasten**

Casey C. Hasten is CFO/Grant Writer/Compliance Consultant of Essential Support Services, Inc. She has successfully written grants for charter schools and nonprofit organizations for the last four years and has secured more than \$7 million in competitive grant programs for her clients just in the last two years alone.

**Jane Kirkpatrick**

Jane Kirkpatrick is the author of two nonfiction books and 11 historical novels. Her novel, *A Name of Her Own*, was a 2003 Oregon Book Award finalist, and *A Sweetness to the Soul* was named one of Oregon's Best 100 Books published in the past 200 years. She was recently named the Distinguished Northwest Writer of 2005. Visit Jane at .

**Dawn Letson**

Dawn Letson directs the Woman's Collection at Texas Woman's University. She received her B.A. and MLS from Brigham Young University, and served as the Curator of Manuscripts and Photographs at the DeGolyer Library, Southern Methodist University in Dallas for 11 years. Now 14 years at TWU, her current title is Assistant Director of Libraries for Special Collections.

# Moderators

**Kathleen Ernst**

Kathleen Ernst is an author and social historian from Wisconsin. Her historical novels have been finalists for WILLA, Edgar, and Agatha Awards. Her next children's book, *Secrets in the Hills*, is set in 1826 New Mexico and will be published in Spring, 2006.

**Kathleen Gear**

Kathleen Gear worked on her first archaeological excavation at the age of 10, and won her first writing contest at the age of 13. She began writing full-time in 1986 and has more than 100 nonfiction publications in the fields of archaeology, history and writing. She has authored, or co-authored — with her husband W. Michael Gear — 23 international bestsellers, which have been translated into 17 languages.

**Cynthia Leal Massey**

Cynthia Leal Massey, 2003 President of Women Writing the West, is Editor-At-Large for Scene in SA, a general interest magazine in San Antonio, Texas. An award-winning author, her novel, *The Caballeros of Ruby, Texas*, was a 2003 WILLA finalist for Best Original Softcover. Her first novel, *Fire Lilies*, won the 2002 Independent E-Book Award for Best Romance. Her personal experience essay, "The Power of Our Family History," is included in the August, 2005, *Chicken Soup for the Latino Soul* anthology.

**Mary Trimble**

After sailing the South Pacific for two years, Mary Trimble began her writing career. She has written more than 350 articles published in magazines and newspapers, including *Writer's Digest*, *Sail Magazine* and *Log Home Living*. She is the author of two young adult contemporary western novels, and is active in the American Red Cross, responding to disasters locally and nationally.

**Special thanks to our 2005 BEA representatives:**

**Cynthia Leal Massey, Suzanne Lyon, Irma Ned Bailey,**

**Laurel Anne Hill, Jane Kirkpatrick,**

**Carolyn Niethammer and Harriet Rochlin.**

**Women Writing the West would like to  
thank the following for their generous  
contributions to the 2005 WWW Conference:**

**SA Magazine  
WINGs Publishing  
Timberwoods Publishing  
True West Magazine**

**Jane Archer**

Jane Archer is the bestselling author of 20 fiction and nonfiction books. *The First Fire: Stories of the Cherokee, Kickapoo, Kiowa, and Tigua and Texas Indian Myths and Legends* highlight women in legend and history, and Abilene museum Frontier Texas! features the myths on audio. Her release, *Out of the West*, was optioned for a TV movie. See [www.janearcher.com](http://www.janearcher.com) and [www.wayofthewriter.com](http://www.wayofthewriter.com).

**George Arnold**

At age 58, George Arnold wrote his first award-winning book, *Growing Up Simple: An Irreverent Look at Kids in the 1950s*. With this success and his expertise as a product marketer, he wrote *BestSeller: Must-Read Author's Guide to Successfully Selling Your Book*, a how-to for writers wanting to sell manuscripts and published authors wanting to sell five, 10, 20 times as many books.

**Ginnie Bivona**

Ginnie Siena Bivona is President of Atriad Press, a publishing company featuring the *Haunted Encounters* series and other paranormal books. In 2006, the company will expand into three additional genres – *A Texas Book*, *A Southwest Book* and *A Better Business Book*. She previously served as acquisitions editor for Republic of Texas Press, and is also a published author.

**Laurie Wagner Buyer**

Laurie Wagner Buyer came West from Chicago as a mail-order bride to live a homestead existence on the Northfork of the Flathead River near Glacier National Park. Living and working on remote cattle ranches in MT, WY, and CO, provided Laurie with plenty of inspiration for poetry, nonfiction articles and essays, memoir and, most recently, her novel, *Side Canyons*.

**Melanie Chrismer**

Melanie Chrismer started as a newspaper stringer and freelance writer. Writing for children since 1990, her 12 books range from the tall tale *Phoebe Clappsaddle* picture books series to her solar system and Hubble Space Telescope non-fiction books. "Writing defines my thoughts and lassoes my dreams." Melanie is the current editor of the WWW Catalog of Authors' Books.

**Dudley J. Delffs**

Dudley J. Delffs is editor-in-chief of WaterBrook Press, a division of Random House, Inc. He has published five books, study guides, poetry, short fiction, articles and essays. His novel, *The Martyr's Chapel*, won the 1998-99 Colorado Authors' League Top Hand Award for Mainstream Fiction, and was nominated for the Edgar Award by The Mystery Writers of America for best paperback mystery in 1998.

**Donna Druchunas**

Donna Druchunas grew up learning knitting, crocheting and many other crafts. A former corporate writer and designer, she combined her knowledge of the two, and today writes easy-to-follow knitting instructions to go along with her designs. Her articles and designs have been featured in *Family Circle Easy Knitting*, *Interweave Knits*, and *INKnitters* magazines, and she designs patterns for several yarn companies.

**Mike Farris, Susan Farris**

Attorneys Mike Farris and Susan Morgan Farris man Farris Literary Agency, Inc., which represents fiction and nonfiction works. They are actively seeking fiction projects (thrillers, suspense, mysteries, romance, mainstream, horror, action/adventure, literary, Christian, westerns) as well as nonfiction (how-to, self-help, law, true crime, current affairs, popular culture, women's issues, biography, history, travel, sports, politics, entertainment, spiritual and inspirational). On the screenplay side, they are associate managers of AEI/Atchity Entertainment International in Beverly Hills, CA. Learn more about the agency at [www.farrisliterary.com](http://www.farrisliterary.com) and contact Mike or Susan at [farris1@airmail.net](mailto:farris1@airmail.net) or [agent@farrisliterary.com](mailto:agent@farrisliterary.com).

**Kathleen Gear**

Kathleen Gear worked on her first archaeological excavation at the age of 10, and won her first writing contest at the age of 13. She began writing full-time in 1986 and has more than 100 nonfiction publications in the fields of archaeology, history and writing. She has authored, or co-authored — with her husband W. Michael Gear — 23 international bestsellers, which have been translated into 17 languages.