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Recommended Citation

Plath, James, "For Immediate Release" (1992). *News and Events*. 6095. https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/news/6095

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.--Illinois Wesleyan University and Clockwatch Review, an award-winning journal of the arts, are sponsoring a competition for writers, ages 14-18, to spur development of young Illinois poets and fiction writers.

Up to two winners of the competition will will receive free tuition, room, board, and manuscript evaluation at the Illinois Wesleyan University Writers' Conference in Bloomington, Aug. 2-7, 1992.

Entrants may submit up to six typed, double-spaced pages of poetry or fiction. The winner(s) will be selected on the basis of quality and promise. Only one entry per writer will be considered. Manuscripts cannot be returned. Entries must be postmarked by June 1, 1992 and sent to: Clockwatch Review Young Writers Awards, Department of English, Illinois Wesleyan University, P.O. Box 2900, Bloomington, Ill. 61702.

Winners will have the opportunity to study fiction with Ellen Hunnicutt, an author of several books and short stories and a teacher of creative writing at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; poetry with James Elledge, an award-winning poet, writer, and professor at Illinois State University; writing for children and youth with Patricia Hermes of Fairfield, Conn., who has won many national honors for her fiction books for young people; and nonfiction with Michael Dorman, a freelance writer from Dix Hills, N.Y., and a writer for Newsday, a Long Island, N.Y.-based newspaper.

The conference features workshop instructors in fiction, poetry, writing for children, and nonfiction who are writers and teachers nationwide. Several editors and agents will lead marketing seminars and small group sessions.

"One of the things that sets the Illinois Wesleyan conference apart from others is the individual attention that writers receive", said conference director Bettie Wilson Story. "Young writers can benefit from the hours of skill training provided, and two instructors evaluate manuscripts and provide individual conferences with each conferee who submits manuscripts in advance."

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Clockwatch Review is an independent, non-profit journal of the arts, published in association with Illinois Wesleyan. Past issues have featured well-known figures such as Ray Bradbury, Salvador Dali, James Dickey, Arlo Guthrie, Vincent Price, and many new writers.

The IWU Writers' Conference is in its 16th year. For further information about the conference, write: IWU Writers' Conference, Illinois Wesleyan University, P.O. Box 2900, Bloomington, Ill. 61702.