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# INKWELL

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## ***From the Editor's Desk...***

Welcome back to From the Editor's Desk, a newsletter dedicated to *Inkwell*. A lot happens between our Spring and Fall issues each year, and we want to share some of our great news with you.

### **Table of Contents:**

*2008 Tribeca Grill Success*  
*Competition Announcements – judges, rules, etc.*  
*Open Reading Season*  
*Gala and Silent Auction Invite*  
*Reading at Vino 100*  
*Beyond Inkwell*

### **2008 Tribeca Grill Success**

The editors of *Inkwell* were proud to host a reading at the Tribeca Grill on July 17. A reception of wine and delicious hors d'oeuvres welcomed guests as they entered Tribeca Grill's Starlight Room. Past contributors, donors and fans all came to *Inkwell*'s first premier reading in Manhattan!

It was an evening not to be missed, featuring the talents of Joanna Herman, Kevin Pilkington and Carol Muske Dukes.

**Carol Muske Dukes** began the evening with an excerpt from her book, *Channeling Mark Twain*. She also shared from her latest book of poems, *Sparrow*. A complex blend of lyricism, bawdy humor, and personal, grief, Muske Duke's poetry is also universal in its moments of realization.

**Kevin Pilkington** enchanted listeners with narrative poems and crafty, playful poems. His humor often revealed vulnerability, or, in the case of his poem "Apple Spider," the accidental wisdom of children. Much of Pilkington's poems take place in New York City, and he is able to bring to life all of its vulgar beauty and gritty music.

**Joanna Herman**, gracious as always, was the culmination of an evening among food and good company. She shared her personal essay "Coffee an'" from the anthology, *The Milk*

*of Almonds*. “Coffee an” is about the intricate link between caffeine and sugar, individuality and tradition, love and family.

We thank all of our readers for sharing a very special evening with us and thanks to our hosts, the Nieporent family!

## **Competition Announcements**

*Inkwell* is proud to announce our 11<sup>th</sup> annual Short Fiction Contest with a grand prize of \$1500 and publication. This year’s competition judge will be Brian Morton. We accept up to three previously unpublished stories with a 5000-word limit. All work should be typed, 12-point font, double-spaced, one-sided, with a cover sheet that includes your name, address, phone, e-mail, title(s) and word count. Identifying information should not appear anywhere on the manuscript. A SASE is needed for contest notification only—all manuscripts will be recycled. The entry fee is \$15 per story; checks (USD ONLY) made out to Manhattanville—*Inkwell*.

Our 12<sup>th</sup> annual Poetry Contest will include a \$1000 prize along with publication. This year’s poetry competition judge will be Major Jackson. We accept up to five previously unpublished poems with a 40-line limit per poem. All poems should be typed, 12-point font, with a cover sheet that includes your name, address, phone, e-mail, titles, and line counts. Identifying information should not appear anywhere on the manuscript. A SASE is needed for contest notification only—all manuscripts will be recycled. There is a \$10 entry fee for the first poem and \$5 for every additional poem; checks (USD ONLY) payable to Manhattanville—*Inkwell*.

### **DEADLINE FOR COMPETITIONS:**

**Postmarked between August 1 and October 30, 2008**

NOTE: Indicate Poetry or Fiction Competition on envelope.  
If submitting to both Poetry and Fiction Competitions, please use separate envelopes.

Submissions not adhering to the above guidelines will not be considered.

Mail to:

INKWELL - Manhattanville College  
2900 Purchase Street  
Purchase, NY 10577

### **MAW STUDENT/ALUM CONTEST**

For the 4th year, *Inkwell* will sponsor Poetry and Fiction Contests for our MAW students and alumni. Send one unpublished poem (maximum 40 lines) or one unpublished short

story (maximum 2,500 words) (Students may submit in both categories, with a \$10 fee for each entry.) Fiction must be typed, double-spaced, with no identifying information on the entry. Poetry must be typed, single-spaced, with no identifying information on the entry. No electronic submissions. Please indicate MAW Poetry Contest or MAW Fiction Contest on envelope. Only entries postmarked (or brought to the *Inkwell* office) between August 1<sup>st</sup> and October 15<sup>th</sup> will be considered. All other entries will be disqualified. NO MANUSCRIPTS WILL BE RETURNED. Judging the contest this year is MAW alum Susan Moorhead. Susan has published stories and poems in numerous print and on-line venues and has a children's book forthcoming. Each winner will be awarded a \$200 cash prize and publication in *Inkwell's* Spring 2009 issue. Winners will be invited to read at *Inkwell's* Gala Reception held in September 2009.

## **Open Reading Season**

In addition to our competitions, *Inkwell* will begin accepting unsolicited poetry, prose, artwork (which for the first time includes comic and graphic narrative). Our reading period is from August 1<sup>st</sup>—November 15<sup>th</sup>. For additional information please visit our website at [www.inkwelljournal.org](http://www.inkwelljournal.org).

## **Gala and Silent Auction Invite**

*Inkwell* cordially invites you to our annual Gala Reception and Silent Auction, Friday September 26, 2008 from 6:30pm to 9:30pm. We will be celebrating our Spring 2008 issue and debuting our Fall 2008 issue! The event will be held in the East Library, Reid Castle on Manhattanville College campus. Buffet and refreshments will be served, and there will be readings by our authors. RSVP to [Inkwell@mville.edu](mailto:Inkwell@mville.edu) is required.

## **Reading at Vino 100**

On Thursday, October 16, 2008, from 6:00pm-8:00pm *Inkwell* will showcase a reading with a wine tasting and light refreshments hosted by Vino 100 in White Plains. Don't miss out on the opportunity to taste some great wines and hear some compelling prose. The entry fee is \$10. Be sure to RSVP to [Inkwell@mville.edu](mailto:Inkwell@mville.edu).

## **Beyond Inkwell**

### **Congratulations to some of our past contributors...**

**Martin Steingesser** (Spring, Issue #21) has not only been named as Portland Maine's Poet Laureate (2007-2009) but has also won the Maine Writers & Publishers Alliance 2007 Annual Writing Competition. His poem "Compline" will appear in a forthcoming issue of *Café Review*.

*Westchester County Business Journal* has featured an article on **Fred Yannantuono** (Fall, Issue #22) entitled *Stirring the Muse*, written by John Golden:

<http://www.westchestercountybusiness.com/archive/profitspassions/pp050505.php4>

**Margot Wizansky** (Spring, Issue #23) has won the *Writers at Work* 2008 Poetry Fellowship Competition for her manuscript "Cosmography." The prizes included a financial award, a June reading in Salt Lake City, publication in *Quarterly West*, a five day workshop with judge Kim Addonizio, and a consult with an agent. Margot told *Inkwell*, "My good fortune began when Ellen Voigt named me a finalist in the *Inkwell* competition in December for my poem "At the Abbey of Retired Nuns."

*Main Street Rag* has recently released **Patrick Carrington's** (Spring, Issue #23) latest chapbook, "Hard Blessings." Order information for the chapbook can be found on this page:

<http://www.mainstreetrag.com/store/chapbooks.php>

**Marie-Helene Bertino's** (Spring, Issue #23) story "North of" has just won a Pushcart Award and will be featured in the publication's thirty-third volume.

If you haven't already, be sure to check out **Sandra Kohler's** poem, which was first featured in our Spring Issue 23 entitled "What is Coming." The poem appeared on Verse Daily. Included are some of Sandra's other works.

<http://www.versedaily.org/2008/aboutsandrakohleriw.shtml>

**Stacia Fleegal's** (Fall, Issue #24) first full-length manuscript, "Anatomy of a Shape-Shifter," has been accepted for publication by WordTech. We look forward to reading it.

*Thank you for supporting Inkwell!*  
***www.inkwelljournal.org***

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