



Mississippi University  
for Women  
*A Tradition of Excellence for Women and Men*

College of Arts and Sciences  
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Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Dear Southern Literary Festival Member or Prospective Member:

I am very pleased to invite you and your students to the 2010 Southern Literary Festival to be held April 22-24 at Mississippi University for Women in Columbus, Mississippi. We are excited to host students from around the South on our historic campus, and are planning a very student-centered Festival, including multiple workshop sessions for students and expanded time for the Festival Contest prize winners to read from their work. We are planning individual readings in each of the five contest categories during the day on Friday and on Saturday. Between these student readings, there will be writing workshops, as well as readings or craft discussions for students who weren't able to sign up for the workshops. We also hope to have ample social time for students and faculty, including an open mike session.

Featured readings planned for Thursday and Friday evenings include:

**Jeanie Thompson**, executive director of the Alabama Writers' Forum, former SLF contest winner, and author of *The Seasons Bear Us*, *White for Harvest*, *Witness*, *Litany for a Vanishing Landscape*, *How to Enter the River*, and *Lotus and Psalm*

**Alan Huffman**, author of *Sultana*, *Mississippi in Africa*, and *Ten Point*

**Dedra Johnson**, author of *Sandrine's Letter to Tomorrow*

Confirmed workshop leaders include: Richard Lyons, Catherine Pierce, Becky Hageston, Michael Kardos, Michael Smith, Kendall Dunkelberg. Leaders may be added, depending on demand for workshops. As the schedule develops, more information will be available on our website <<http://www.muw.edu/llp/SLF.html>> and also on Facebook at <<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=134767873229>>.

For those who may not know our history, the Southern Literary Festival Association was founded in 1937, and its first constitution was established in 1939. All schools whose representatives have signed the constitution are invited to become active members in the association for the 2010 festival by renewing their membership. Schools who have never been members may join by signing the constitution, once their eligibility has been determined by the Executive Committee. If your institution is not a member, write the President to apply for membership. This should not be an obstacle in most cases.

Membership dues of \$150.00 are to be paid by the deadline: December 15, 2009. Please have your department make the check out to MUW Foundation and include Southern Literary Festival on the comment line. Send to Dr. Kendall Dunkelberg, Dept. of Languages, Literature & Philosophy, Mississippi University for Women, P.O. Box MUW-1634, Columbus MS 39701. For those whose departments require an invoice, one has been included. If you need something more formal or official, please let me know.

Payment of dues entitles each institution to submit entries to the Southern Literary Festival contest, administered by Vice President institution, Blue Mountain College. Official forms are also included. The deadline for this year's contest is January 19, 2010. Entries should be sent to Dr. Barbara Holland, Department of Language and Literature, Blue Mountain College, Blue Mountain, MS 38610. Schools should conduct a preliminary contest to determine their top 2 entries in each of the five categories of short fiction, poetry, one-act play, formal essay, and informal essay. Schools may submit 2 entries in any or all categories, plus the student literary magazine category.

We look forward to hosting everyone at Mississippi University for Women and promise an exciting and valuable experience for your students!

Sincerely,

Kendall Dunkelberg  
SLF President 2010