

March 9, 2009

Dear Friends of the FIU Writers Conference,

I am happy to announce that in conjunction with the Martin County Library system and the fabulous Marriott Hutchinson Island Beach Resort, which will once again be our conference site, we have set the dates for the THREE-DAY 2009 FIU Writers' Conference in Stuart, Florida, Thursday-Saturday, October 22-24, 2009.

Joining us on Hutchinson Island on Florida's lovely Treasure Coast in 2009 will be an outstanding staff of writers and teachers and editors and agents: Akashic Books Editor and Founder Johnny Temple (MIAMI NOIR; Preston Allen's ALL OR NOTHING); Inkwell Management Founding Partner Kim Witherspoon; W.W. Norton Editor and Poet Jill Bialosky (INTRUDER); award-winning fiction writer and Columbia grad Matthew Sharpe (JAMESTOWN; THE SLEEPING FATHER); Pulitzer-Prize-winning non-fiction writer, U Mass Journalism Professor, and memoirist Madeleine Blais (UPHILL WALKERS; IN THESE GIRLS HOPE IS A MUSCLE); non-fiction writer Dan Wakefield (NEW YORK IN THE 50'S; THE HIJACKING OF JESUS); poet Campbell McGrath (SHANNON: A POEM OF THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION); novelist John Dufresne (REQUIEM, MASS); poet Denise Duhamel (KA-CHING); fiction writer Lynne Barrett (THE SECRET LIVES OF WOMEN); and novelist and non-fiction writer Les Standiford, (THE MAN WHO INVENTED CHRISTMAS).

Of course we hope that you will want to join us on Hutchinson Island with its magnificent beaches, just across the Intracoastal Waterway from Stuart, where the lovely Blake Library will host the evening readings, and downtown (old town) offers an exciting array of shops and restaurants. Our program offers intensive, friendly, hands-on workshops and discussions intended to help writers at all stages of development: you can enroll in up to three different three-day class sessions, and enjoy agent/editor roundtables, nightly readings and more. Tuition is only \$300 if you enroll by June 1. And if you would like to reserve an individual manuscript conference with a faculty member, you can do so for an additional \$50. Do act promptly, however, as enrollment is limited and manuscript conferences sell out quickly, as will special-rate rooms at the world class Marriott Resort (just \$129 per night; call 1-800-775-5936 and use code FIUFIUA).

Please get in touch with any questions, and make your reservations soon. Fees will go up on June 1. Meantime, here is hoping to see you in Stuart and Hutchinson Island.

Sincerely,

Les Standiford, Director  
FIU Creative Writing Program ([standifo@fiu.edu](mailto:standifo@fiu.edu))