



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, June 5, 2010**

## **Winners Announced for the Inaugural PWAC Writing Awards Competition**

Winners and runners-up have been announced in the inaugural writing awards of the Professional Writers Association of Canada (PWAC) for stories published in 2009 in print or on the web.

The winner in the features category (over 1,200 words) is **Jenn Hardy** for her entry “Cleanup in Aisle One,” which appeared in the July/August 2009 issue of *This Magazine*. The runner-up is **Carolynn Semeniuk** for “Christina’s World,” which appeared in the December 2009 issue of *Swerve Magazine*. The other finalists in this category are:

- Eve Lazarus for “The Parent Trap” (*Enterprise*)
- Kimberley Noble for “Why Garth Drabinsky is No Ordinary Fraudster” (*Toronto Star*)
- Kerianne Lauren Sproule for “Girls Interrupted” (*Swerve Magazine*)
- Kim Gray for “Magic Hour” (*Alberta Views*)

The winner in the short articles category (1,200 words or less) is **Philip Fine** for his article “Her Tough Literary Voice and Frankness About Sex Masked a Fatal Vulnerability”, which appeared in the October 6, 2009 print edition of *The Globe and Mail*. The runner-up is **Susan Pinker** for “Extra Credit,” which appeared in the November/December 2009 issue of *Psychology Today*. The other finalists in this category are:

- Ann Chandler for “Royal Rewards” (*More*)
- Ann Chandler for “Sage and Stewardship” (*Canadian Cowboy Country*)
- Wendy Helfenbaum for “A Fine Romance” (*Canadian Family*)
- Giancarlo La Giorgia for “Good Eats, At Your Convenience” (*The Globe and Mail*)

“Congratulations to the inaugural PWAC Writing Award winners, runners-up and other finalists. The judging panels’ selections demonstrate the rich diversity and overall quality of journalism and creative non-fiction in the country,” says PWAC President Tanya Gulliver. “PWAC is pleased to showcase the skills of Canadian writers through the award competition.”

Gulliver also thanked the competition’s judges for their expert consideration: Stephen Kimber, Elaine Kalman Naves, Bilbo Poynter, Maxine Ruvinsky, Eric Siblin and Jennifer Walker.

2010 is the first year that PWAC has presented the PWAC Short Articles Writing Award and the PWAC Features Writing Award. “Interest in the competition exceeded our expectations, particularly the number of entries received from writers outside of PWAC’s membership,” Gulliver said.

The winners and runners-up were announced on Friday, June 4, 2010, at MagNet, Canada’s premier magazine industry conference. The first prize in each award category has a \$500 value, including a free PWAC membership for a year (if eligible).

*PWAC, established in 1976, is the national organization representing over 600 freelance writers and journalists in Canada.*

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