



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, May 27, 2010**

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

Twelve finalists have been chosen in the inaugural writing awards of the Professional Writers Association of Canada (PWAC) for stories published in 2009 in print or on the web.

In the features category (over 1,200 words), the finalists are:

- **Jenn Hardy** for “Cleanup in Aisle One” (*This Magazine*)
- **Kim Gray** for “Magic Hour” (*Alberta Views*)
- **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*)
- **Carolynn Semeniuk** for “Christina’s World” (*Swerve Magazine*)

In the short articles category (up to 1,200 words), the finalists 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*)
- **Philip Fine** for “Her Tough Literary Voice and Frankness About Sex Masked a Fatal Vulnerability” (*The Globe and Mail*)
- **Susan Pinker** for “Extra Credit” (*Psychology Today*)

“Congratulations to all of the finalists. They showcase the excellence and diversity of Canadian writing and do us all proud,” said PWAC President Tanya Gulliver.

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,” Gulliver said. “We’re excited to present these finalists as premiere examples of high-quality Canadian non-fiction writing from PWAC’s membership and beyond.”

The winners and runners-up will be announced at the Writers' Industry Awards Luncheon 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.

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

**More information:**

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