



Association of Writers  
& Writing Programs

## PRESS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## AWP Launches Redesigned Website & Releases List of Accepted Events for 2013 Conference

*Online Services to Members and Writers Enhanced. 516 Events Accepted for Annual Conference & Bookfair in Boston.*

**Fairfax, VA, August 22, 2012** — AWP has launched a redesigned website at [awpwriter.org](http://awpwriter.org) with new community-building features and enhanced functionality. The site, which is visited by nearly 80,000 unique users each month, includes updates to AWP's Guide to Writing Programs, the Directory of Writer's Conferences & Centers, the AWP Job List, the Writer's Calendar, and the Writer's News. Several new sections have been introduced, including a Directory of Members that allows users to build a personalized profile, and In the Spotlight, a periodic feature of AWP's members. According to executive director David Fenza, "the new site encourages greater interaction among our members and provides them, and the field, better services and resources."

The site launch coincides with AWP's release of its list of accepted events for the 2013 Annual Conference & Bookfair in Boston. The conference committee accepted a record-breaking 516 readings, lectures, and discussions, representing over 1,700 writers, teachers, students, editors, and publishers. Scheduled for March 6 – 9, the conference will also feature an estimated 650 exhibitors and is expected to draw 11,000 attendees. "The record expansion of AWP's conference and bookfair reflects the great and growing diversity of contemporary literature," said conference director Christian Teresi, "as well as the vitality of independent publishing."

Sponsors and literary partners of the 2013 conference include Bath Spa University, the Academy of American Poets, Adelphi University, Alice James Books, Antioch University Los Angeles, Cave Canem, the Center for Fiction, the Council of Literary Magazines & Presses/Small Press Distribution, Emerson College & *Ploughshares* magazine, Grub Street, Kundiman, the Jackson Center for Creative Writing at Hollins University, Lesley University, the Loft Literary Center, the National Book Critics Circle, the National Endowment for the Arts, Paris Press, the PEN/Faulkner Foundation, the Poetry Foundation, the Poetry Society of America, Poets House, the Stonecoast MFA program at the University of Southern Maine, the University of Tampa, VIDA: Women in the Literary Arts, WAMFEST & Fairleigh Dickinson University, Wesleyan University Press, and Writers in the Schools.

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*The mission of AWP is to foster literary achievement, to advance the art of writing as essential to a good education, and to serve the makers, teachers, students, and readers of contemporary writing. Founded in 1967, AWP supports nearly 50,000 writers, over 500 college and university creative writing programs, and 125 writers' conferences and centers.*