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Dear Writer/Group leader,

14 May 2008

ZineWest 2008 offers emerging Western Sydney Writers an opportunity for publication and prizes in a multi-genre, regional zine. We also foster networking and publicity for writers living in Western Sydney by hosting a launch featuring readings from as many finalists as possible – Oct/Nov date to be advised.

We hope you and your writing friends will send us some wonderful entries in word-based genres: prose, poetry, lyrics, cartoon, drama.

Our working definition of Western Sydney is drawn from the *Greater Western Sydney Economic Development Board's* list of councils: Auburn, Bankstown, Baulkham Hills, Blacktown, Blue Mountains, Camden, Campbelltown, Fairfield, Hawkesbury, Holroyd, Liverpool, Parramatta, Penrith and Wollondilly.

We define 'emerging' writers as generally excluding those who are professionally published in the genre submitted (other than in journals, anthologies of multiple writers, or self-published work).

Entries close 31st July. We do not require an entry fee and do not pay writers selected for publication in ZineWest. Copies of the zine will be on sale at \$5:00 each and we encourage individual writers and writing groups to support the project by ordering and purchasing copies. This year's edition will be a colour-covered, professionally printed A 5 zine, wire-bound by NWG Inc volunteers. Based on our 2007 anthology, production costs should be met by sales. Any residual profit will go to NWG Inc for costs associated with the launch. Copyright of the zine will be held by New Writers Group Inc. Individual copyright will be retained by authors and illustrators.

Once again we are very grateful to Professor Ivor Indyk and the Writing and Society Research Group at the University of Western Sydney for co-sponsoring prizes and providing judging. NWG Inc editors and guest editor Lyn Leerson (FAW Parramatta) will select around thirty to thirty-five pieces from the anonymised entries for publication in ZineWest 2008. Entries on the final publication list will then be forwarded to the Writing and Society Research Group for judging.

The judges will choose a First Prize winner and two runners-up. Taking on board a suggestion from last year, we will name a 'best entry' from each genre which has at least three entries on the publication list. Prizes available so far: First = \$400; Runners-up = Book vouchers/journal subscriptions.

Light editing may be required for publication purposes. Finalists are welcome to participate in the process through editing workshops. (Judges of course see entries prior to any edit).

Please find enclosed or attached entry form which includes guidelines. More details as they come to hand will be posted on our blog: <http://zinewest.blogspot.com>

Looking forward to your entries,

Sue Crawford
Editor, ZineWest
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