Haas Wins Creative Writing Award

KU English lecturer and fiction writer Tasha Haas has won the Lawrence Arts Center and the Raven Bookstore’s 2004 Langston Hughes Creative Writing Award for fiction. In an awards ceremony on 1 February (Hughes’s birthday) at the Lawrence Arts Center, Haas received a cash prize and read from her work. The awards are featured in the 1 February Lawrence Journal-World Arts and Living Section. The article contains comments by the award-winners and the judges. By the way, Nedra Rogers, winner of the poetry award, credits some of the inspiration for her winning poems to a KU English course she took last semester (class unnamed).

Publications

Arnold, Margaret

Bergeron, David

Devitt, Amy

Farmer, Frank; Donelli, Emily (and third author)

Neill, Anna

Presentations

Boyd, Beverly
“Chaucer’s Son Thomas and the Franklin’s Tale,” Hawaii Conference on the Arts and Humanities, Honolulu, 10 January (also chaired a section)

Accepted For Publication/Posting

Farmer, Frank

Irby, Kenneth

Announcements, Notes, & News

• Information on this year’s English Department Awards and Scholarships has been distributed to department mailboxes. Please announce the writing contests to your classes and nominate your best undergraduate and graduate students for scholarships and awards. Deadline: 27 February.

• The Department has a small amount of EGARC money remaining for the purchase of audio-visual materials. If you would like to request an item for classroom purposes, please send Lori Whitten an email indicating the item, vendor, and costs by 20 February.

• Poets Against the War, reading, 12 February, 7:30 pm, Café Luna. All poems welcomed, but featuring work by Emily Dickinson, Langston Hughes, and Walt Whitman. Contact Brian Daldorph at briandal@ku.edu.

• Bring Back Sousa! This headline to a 4 February New York Times editorial caught the eye of a bemused David Bergeron. Realizing that KU English has done this very thing (welcome again, Geraldo!), he considered the possibility that this was a diatribe on faculty raiding, taking up the cause of Xavier University’s English Department. Instead it was about the halftime show at the Super Bowl.

Calendar

M 9 Demonstration of Early English Books Online (EEBO) database, Rich Ring, Watson Library, Rick Clement, Spencer Research Library, 3:30-5:00 pm, Johnson Room, Spencer Research Library. Graduate students, instructors, and faculty welcome.

T 10 British Summer Institute in the Humanities information meeting, 4:30 pm, 4021 Wescoe. This year’s institute will be directed by Brian Daldorph, 6 June-7 July. Please feel free to copy and distribute the flyer (on “Events This Week” bulletin board) and announce the meeting to your classes.

W 11 American Seminar, “Composite Indigenous Genres: Cheyenne Ledger Art as Primary Literature,” Denise Low-Weso, English, Haskell Indian Nations University, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Room.

Humanities Graduate Student Proposal Development Workshop, 6:00-8:00 pm, Watson Library, Room 419. Also 12 February at same time and place.

Poetry Slam, 7:00 pm, Hawk’s Nest. Sponsored by SUA. Call 4-2431.

The first Voting Department of the spring will be held 17 February, 4:00 pm, 4075 Wescoe (please note change of normal meeting place). Agenda: TBA
• Chris McKitterick continues to push the envelope on what qualifies as an English Department publication. His website for Microsoft partners and employees only (but that’s 20,000 potential readers) has gone live. “Understanding What Admins Do,” on the Windows Server Content Group Portal, consists of ten web pages that detail the job of a computer-network specialist. Academic bibliographers, discuss!

• KU English Ph.D candidate Sara Danger has been awarded a two-year postdoctoral Lilly Fellowship in Humanities and the Arts at Valparaiso University.

• You’re On Your Own (part 357): More insurance slippage. A memo from the Provost, dated 3 February, warns that, while the University investigates the possibility of purchasing a blanket policy for emergency evacuation and repatriation insurance, “faculty, staff, and students” traveling overseas “should purchase individual policies.” This applies not only to persons traveling abroad on funding from any KU source, but also to those who are attending a conference or conducting research using other funding sources. The Office of Study Abroad is also eliminating Medex benefits to individual faculty, staff, and students. Faculty members and staff should have received this email over the kulfs list. If you’re planning travel out of the country, you may want to read this announcement carefully.

• The first workshop in the Ford Foundation Project, “The Shifting Borders of Race and Identity: A Research and Teaching Project on the Native American and African American Experience,” will be held at the University of Kansas (23 February) and Haskell Indian Nations University (24 February). Maryemma Graham will be one of the speakers. The workshop is free, but pre-registration is required – name and mailing address to raceid@ku.edu by 10 February.

• The annual Oral History Workshop, Learning to Hear the Stories V, sponsored by the Hall Center, originated by Maryemma Graham, will take place on Friday, 12 March, 8:00 am–4:00 pm, Ballroom, Kansas Union. This year’s theme is “Voices from the Past – Speaking through the Present.” Register by 13 February.

• Live Words of the Hip World: Free Jazz, Spoken Word and Rap, a symposium devoted to the interaction of contemporary African American verbal and musical expression, co-sponsored by the English Department, following the 12 March Oral History Workshop (see above). Speakers: Professor Howard Rambsy, English, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, Professor William J. Harris, English, KU, Jeffery Mack, English, KU, 4:30-6:00 pm, Alderson Auditorium. Free and open to the public. Faculty, please consider bringing your students.

• Please Announce to Your Classes: Students interested in internship opportunities for English majors should contact Bud Hirsch, Coordinator of Undergraduate Studies, 3119 Wescoe. One possibility – Hallmark has paid summer internships available for English majors in the areas of advertising, editing, writing, and communication arts. Students should be in the second half of their junior year, be enrolled full-time, have a minimum 3.0 GPA in major (2.5 overall), and be a U.S. citizen.

KU and Regional Events

• Nature & Culture Seminar, “The Environmental Conscience of a Conservative: The Natural World of Barry Goldwater,” Brian Drake, History, 6 February, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Room.


• KU Opera opens “Face on the Bar Room Floor” and “Strawberry Fields” on 6 February, 7:30 pm, Black Box Theatre, Murphy Hall. Also 7, 9, 11, 13, 14 February.

Fellowships, Contests, Awards, Scholarships, Etc. (Posted)

• The deadline for nominations for Graduate Student Teaching Assistant Awards has been extended to 6 February. See <www.graduate.ku.edu/Awards/GTA_Award_0304.shtml> for details.

• The Foley Poetry Award, one unpublished poem of 30 lines or fewer, winner to be published in America Magazine. Deadline: 16 April.

• Poetry Contest, “Editor’s Choice” winner receives cash prize and publication in In Other Words. Deadline: 29 March.

• Nominations for Kemper Awards are now being solicited from students, colleagues, or administrative units. Nominees must be tenured or tenure-track KU faculty with at least three years in their position. Deadline: 5 April.