A Way Out of the Wilderness

THE MAYBORN
2010 Literary Nonfiction Conference
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS™
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This much-needed book for expectant mothers and their caregivers presents a fresh, proactive, and positive approach to why you may want to consider the safest and most satisfying kind of birth—natural childbirth.

$14.95 Paper; $24.95 hardcover.

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Dan E. Burns, author of *Saving Ben: A Father’s Story of Autism*. “A wonderful read that will make parents look at their own children, disabled or not, and find so much to cherish.” — *People* $22.95 hardcover.

Peggy Heinkel-Wolfe, author of *See Sam Run: A Mother’s Story of Autism*. “See Sam Run is well written and poignant as well as emotionally satisfying for the reader.” — Dianne Aprile, Spalding University $22.95 hardcover.


To order call 1-800-826-8911 or visit www.unt.edu/untpress
Join our narrative journey to find

A way out of the wilderness

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Welcome to the

It is an honor and a pleasure for me for the sixth consecutive year to be in Grapevine for the Mayborn Literary Nonfiction Conference.

This conference creates an environment allowing exposure to more than two dozen accomplished writers whose literary work is featured in newspapers, books, journals and magazines, as well as radio, television and the silver screen. Their stories evoke emotions, and at the same time, entertain and enlighten.

The writing awards presented at the Literary Lights dinner are confirmation that aspiring writers are challenged, encouraged and recognized for their efforts in the narrative craft. The writers are also given cash prizes and published in our journal, Ten Spurs, and the ultimate for these writers is receiving a book contract as a result of the Mayborn.

Also, I would like to congratulate George Getschow on his recent induction into the Texas Institute of Letters.

Sue Mayborn
Editor and Publisher
Temple Daily Telegram and Killeen Daily Herald
A Texas “Howdy” and welcome to the Mayborn Literary Nonfiction Conference. This year marks two “firsts” for the Mayborn Conference: the Bloomberg series on Business Narratives and the Valleau Wilkie Jr. Educator Scholarship.

Also, this year’s issue of MAYBORN magazine features these “new historians,” such as Hampton Sides, Bill Marvel, Bryan Burrough, James McGrath Morris, S. C. Gwynne and many more. I’m confident that our lectures, keynote speeches, informal gatherings and awards gala will continue to inspire all of us to continue fostering a culture of superb storytelling and journalism excellence.

Mitch Land
Interim Dean, Mayborn School of Journalism
Director, Mayborn Graduate Institute of Journalism
McMurtryland

All aboard. Each Friday before the Mayborn Conference convenes, we gather a group of our conferees, jump in a bus and drive to Archer City, a magical place I call McMurtryland. A speck of a town located on the wind-scoured hinterlands of West Texas, it’s Larry McMurtry’s West Texas version of Hay-on-Wye, Wales’ world-famous book town.

We meander through Larry’s sprawling bookstores, the stone shell of the Royal Theater, scene of “The Last Picture Show” and Larry’s private library filled with 32,000 rare books, lovingly collected by Larry. On the way back, we drop by Idiot Ridge, Larry’s ranch, where he birthed his Pulitzer prize epic, “Lonesome Dove.”

As part of the Mayborn Conference, we hold in-residence writing workshops in Archer City each summer that Larry finds rather enchanting. In his latest memoir, “Literary Life,” he says the workshops have turned Archer City into “a sort of seminar town.” McMurtryland is a living root of our literary heritage, a heritage I cherish. I wrote about our deep-rooted connection to McMurtryland in the Foreword to our latest literary journal, Ten Spurs, Vol. 4. Take a look at the front and back covers. I hope you’ll notice that the back roads that connect The Archer City Writers Workshop, Spurs of Inspiration, MAYBORN magazine and Ten Spurs all lead to the center of the literary nonfiction universe – The Mayborn Conference, the place that nurtures our imaginations and sets us on fire for writing. All aboard.

George Getschow, Writer-in-Residence
Mayborn Graduate Institute of Journalism
Conference Advisory Board

Erik Calonius  
Author

Byron Harris  
WFAA-TV

Joe I. Hight  
The Oklahoman

James Hornfischer  
Author & Agent

Tom Huang  
The Dallas Morning News

Hannibal Johnson  
Author & Attorney

Bob Mong  
The Dallas Morning News

Sonia Nazario  
Author

Felipe de Ortega y Gasca  
Western New Mexico University

John Parsley  
Little, Brown and Company

David Patterson  
Foundry Literary + Media

Norman Pearlstine  
Bloomberg

Ron Powers  
Author

Nick Ricco  
Ricco Family Partnerships

Bob Rivard  
San Antonio Express-News

Hampton Sides  
Author

Sue Smith  
The Dallas Morning News

Brian Sweeney  
Texas Monthly

Gay Talese  
Author

Fran Vick  
Author

Ken Wells  
Author

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Director

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UNT Public Information Officer

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IT Manager

Chuck Weatherall  
Media Tech Manager

Elise Brooking  
Tasha Hayton

Noah Bunn  
Madiha Kark

Graduate Assistants

Spike Johnson  
Cover Photographer

Danny Fulgencio  
Conference Photographer

Summer 2010 | 5
## Writing Contest Jury Panel

### Article/Essay

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIRST ROUND</th>
<th>SECOND ROUND</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Beatriz Terrazas  
Freelance writer | Zac Crain  
D Magazine |
| Bill Marvel  
Author and freelance writer | John Spong  
Texas Monthly |
| Cathy Booth Thomas  
MAYBORN magazine | Mike Merschel  
The Dallas Morning News |
| Dianne Solis  
The Dallas Morning News | Tom Huang  
The Dallas Morning News |
| Dave Tarrant  
The Dallas Morning News | |

### Book Manuscripts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIRST ROUND</th>
<th>SECOND ROUND</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Kurt Eichenwald  
Author | Ron Chrisman  
Director, UNT Press |
| Susannah Charleson  
Author and freelance writer | Jim Hornfischer  
Hornfischer Literary Mgmt. |
| Doug Swanson  
The Dallas Morning News | Jim Donovan  
Jim Donovan Literary |
| Sam Gwynne  
The Dallas Morning News | |
Workshop Leaders

Article/Essay

Dave Tarrant  
*The Dallas Morning News*

Bill Marvel  
Author and freelance writer

Joan Donaldson  
Author and freelance writer

Tom Huang  
*The Dallas Morning News*

Skip Hollandsworth  
*Texas Monthly*

Book Manuscript

Susannah Charleson  
Author and freelance writer

Doug Swanson  
*The Dallas Morning News*

Manuscript Workshop Sites

1. Messina-Hof
2. Lightcatcher

Article/Essay Workshop Sites

1. Fall Creek
2. Haak
3. Homestead
4. Crosstimbers I
5. Crosstimbers II

The boxed lunches and break refreshments will be served in the Vintage Foyer. See the map of the Hilton DFW Lakes Executive Conference Center on page 34.

Literary Agents

Jim Donovan  
*Literary Agent*  
Jim Donovan Literary

Jim Hornfischer  
*Literary Agent, Hornfischer Literary Management, L.P.*

David Patterson  
*Literary Agent*  
Foundry Literary + Media
Judging Process

First and Second Round Selection for Articles and Essays

All submissions were blind reviewed. The Mayborn Literary Nonfiction Conference received 68 submissions in total – personal essays and research-and-reporting-based narratives.

The goal of the first-round judges was to select the best 50 submissions for the workshop. The judges did this by using a system that ranked each piece on a scale of one to 10. Stories ranked in the one to three scale were put in the “reject” category. Stories put in the five to seven were put in the “maybe” category. And stories ranked in the eight to 10 scale were marked “yes.”

After the five judges reviewed and scored their submissions, they swapped them with each other. The idea was to see if there was agreement on the 50 best pieces. If there was any disagreement on whether the pieces were worthy of submission into the workshop – and sometimes there was - all the judges read the pieces in dispute and discussed them. All five judges had to agree on the 50 pieces accepted into the workshop.

After the judges selected the 50 pieces for the workshop, they then had to winnow those down to the 10 “best of the best” for publication in “Ten Spurs,” the literary journal published by the Mayborn Graduate Institute of Journalism. The first-round jurists again scored the personal essay and research-and-reporting-based narratives on a one to 10 scale. Then they switched their top picks with each other to read and rank them again, and reach a consensus of the top 10.

The top 10 picks of the first-round judges were then sent to the second-round judges to determine the six winners of the cash prizes: first place, second place and third place in the research-and-reporting-based narratives category and first place, second place and third place in the personal essay category. The second-round judges consist of two senior editors at The Dallas Morning News, a senior editor at Texas Monthly and a senior editor at D Magazine. The editors selected their top six choices independently. They conducted a telephone conference to discuss their picks and reach an agreement on the six winners of the cash awards.
Jury Selection Process for Manuscripts

All submissions were blind reviewed. Four authors served as our first-round book manuscript judges. Their job was to select the 20 best manuscripts for the workshops, and then the top 10 manuscripts for consideration by our second-round jurists.

The three manuscript jurists evaluated the originality of the idea, the storytelling skills of the writer, the commercial potential of the project, and whether the writer had devised a structure (or narrative arc) and demonstrated the know-how to sustain a full-length book project.

The top picks of the first-round judges were sent to the second-round judges, consisting of two literary agents and the director of UNT Press. Each jurist on the second-round panel was required to send a written evaluation of each manuscript and rank it on a scale of one to 10. Each judge sent their written critique and score to each other. The jurists conducted a conference call to discuss their written evaluations. The judges determined the winner of the $3,000 cash prize, and the second- and third-place winners.

The contest winners will be announced at the Literary Lights Dinner before keynote Mark Bowden.

Conference bookstore

The Mayborn Conference official bookstore will be open during most of the conference in the Meritage near the lobby on the main level of the hotel. The bookstore features all of the books written by the speakers. On Friday night, the store will be selling Mary Karr’s books and Ten Spurs in Austin Ranch. On Saturday night, the store will be near the ballroom and book signing staging area after Mark Bowden’s keynote address.
Ten Spurs is available at the conference bookstore.
The Mayborn School of Journalism offers undergraduate and graduate* programs in writing, an interdisciplinary Ph.D., certificates in narrative journalism and interactive and virtual digital communications, and produces The Mayborn Literary Nonfiction Conference. The nationally-accredited program produced eight Pulitzer prizes and trains students in the heart of the fastest-growing metropolitan area in the U.S.

That’s our story. What’s yours?

*We’re the only nationally accredited professional graduate journalism program in Texas.
Affiliated Writing Organizations

Online resources for writers

Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication
www.aejmc.org

The American Association of Sunday Feature Editors
www.aasfe.org

Texas Associated Press Managing Editor
www.txapme.com

American Society of Journalists and Authors, Inc
www.asja.org

Investigative Reporters and Editors
www.ire.org

Texas Institute of Letters
www.texasinstituteofletters.org

Society of Professional Journalists
www.spj.org

AWP - The Writer’s Chronicle
www.awpwriter.org/magazine

The Writer’s Garret
www.writersgarret.org

The Writers League of Texas
www.writersleague.org

Gangrey
gangrey.com

Creative Nonfiction
www.creativenonfiction.org

San Antonio Writers Guild
www.sawgblog.blogspot.com

Poets and Writers
www.pw.org

Lost Magazine
www.lostmag.com
Friday, July 23

7 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
Hilton Lobby  
Registration

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
1st Floor, Hilton  
Writing Workshops  
for Selected Entries, Conference Rooms  
Box lunches provided.

3 to 5 p.m.  
1st Floor  
Close Encounters of the Literary Kind, Session 1  
See the ticket in your nametag for designated time and location. Bring your ticket and nametag. Important: Please arrive early for your 15-minute appointment with one of our literary agents.

4 to 5:30 p.m.  
Austin Ranch  
Austin Ranch - Reception begins with cash bar, chips and salsa. Mosey on over behind the hotel. See map on page 35.

5:30 to 7:15 p.m.  
Austin Ranch  
Southwest Soiree - Reception and Dinner for Speakers and Conferees  
Meet up with everyone at Austin Ranch and enjoy Tex-Mex. Wear your nametag to get in.

7:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
Austin Ranch  
MARY KARR  
Mary Karr is the grande dame memoirista, a writer with such unexpected insights and mastery of language that she is often referred to simply as “the real thing.” Karr will take us on the long, potholed road she traveled writing “Liars’ Club,” “Cherry” and “Lit,” covering some how to’s and pitfalls to avoid in seeking the high ground — the place where literature meets truth...  
Lecture: “Memoir: Where Literature Meets Truth”  
Q & A with Mary Karr

8: 55 p.m. to 9:40 p.m.  
Austin Ranch  
Book signing by Mary Karr  
and the writers of Ten Spurs: Best of the Best Literary Nonfiction of The Mayborn Conference
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 to 10 a.m.</td>
<td>Late Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 to 8:35 a.m.</td>
<td>Plenary Session with Ken Raymond, a senior writer at The Oklahoman, who agreed to chronicle the final months of Jim Chastain’s cancer-shortened life, and became emotionally involved in the family’s ordeal. Lecture: “My Life with a Dying Man: The Risks and Rewards of Intimate Journalism.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:35 to 8:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Q &amp; A with Ken Raymond</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:50 to 9:25 a.m.</td>
<td>Plenary Session with Kristen Hinman, staff writer for the St. Louis' Riverfront Times, a Village Voice Media paper. In profile-writing, she explores how a reporter has to employ every trick in a reporter’s tote. Lecture: “It’s All Over When They Promise to Come After You with Guns A-Blazin’...Or is it? The Audacious Act of Profile-Writing.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:25 to 9:35 a.m.</td>
<td>Q &amp; A with Kristen Hinman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:40 to 10:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Panel Discussion with Kael Alford, Thorne Anderson and Sonya Hebert, three award-winning photographers who will explain how photojournalists create narrative in much the same way prose writers do. Lecture: “Transcendent Images: Why We’ll Live in our Cars to Get Them.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15 to 10:25 a.m.</td>
<td>Q &amp; A with Kael Alford, Thorne Anderson and Sonya Hebert</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:25 to 10:40 a.m.</td>
<td>Break outside Val Verde</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:40 to 11:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Plenary Session with Jack Shafer, Slate’s editor at large. Shafer has written on new media and the press for the New York Times Magazine, the New Republic and the Columbia Journalism Review. He’s also a devotee of the “old” media. Lecture: “Literary Journalism through the Century.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15 to 11:25 a.m.</td>
<td>Q &amp; A with Jack Shafer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 a.m. to 12:05 p.m.</td>
<td>Plenary Session with Hannah Allam, McClatchy’s bureau chief in Cairo. Allam is an American Muslim who grew up in the Middle East. Lecture: “Reporting on Muslims: Getting Beyond Bellydancers, Bombers and Billionaires.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:05 to 12:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Q &amp; A with Hannah Allam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15 to 1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch in Windfall</td>
</tr>
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</table>
2010 CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

1:30 to 2:05 p.m.  Plenary Session with Jeff Prince, a songwriter and award-winning journalist for the Fort Worth Weekly. Lecture: “Strumming Your Way Through Stories.”
Val Verde
2:05 to 2:15 p.m.  Q & A with Jeff Prince
2:00 to 4:00 p.m.  Close Encounters of the Literary Kind, Session 2. See the ticket in your nametag for designated time and location. Bring your ticket and nametag. Important: Please arrive early for your 15-minute appointment with one of our literary agents.
2:20 to 2:55 p.m.  Plenary Session with John Phillip Santos, a memoirist and media producer. Lecture: “The Memoir as Philosopher’s Stone: A Poetics of Nonfiction as Endless Quest.”
Val Verde
2:55 to 3:05 p.m.  Q & A with John Phillip Santos
3:10 to 3:45 p.m.  Plenary session with Robert Blau, team leader of projects and investigations for Bloomberg. Lecture: “Birthing Big Stories in the Big Leagues of Business Journalism”
Val Verde
3:45 to 3:55 p.m.  Q & A with Robert Blau
3:55 to 4:10 p.m.  Break outside Val Verde
4:10 to 4:45 p.m.  Plenary session with Bryan Burrough, a contributing writer for Vanity Fair. Lecture: “The Vanity Fair Way: In-Depth Reporting, Lively Writing and Arbiter of Vice and Virtue in America’s High Society”
Val Verde
4:45 to 4:55 p.m.  Q & A with Bryan Burrough
5:00 to 5:50 p.m.  Panel Discussion with David Grann, Hampton Sides and James McGrath Morris. New historians Grann, Sides and Morris discuss historical narratives. Discussion: “The Journalist as Historian: The Semi-Permeable Membrane.”
Val Verde
5:50 to 6:00 p.m.  Q & A with David Grann, Hampton Sides and James McGrath Morris
6:45 to 7:30 p.m.  Literary Lights Dinner
Hilton Ballroom
Time to dress up and enjoy an elegant evening in the Hilton Ballroom. Cash bar opens at 6 p.m.
7:30 to 8 p.m.  Literary Lights Award Presentations
8 to 9:10 p.m.  MARK BOWDEN
Best-selling author, screenwriter and journalist
Lecture: “Transitions: Mastering the Narrative Art in Newspapers, Magazines and Film”
Q & A with Mark Bowden
KEYNOTE
9:10 p.m. to close
Book signings with all conference authors
Lobby outside the Ballroom
2010 CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Sunday, July 25

8 to 8:35 a.m.  Panel Discussion with Kevin Fedarko and Bill Marvel. They'll discuss their tricky and perilous experiences as novice ghostwriters. Lecture: “Ghost Writing: Boot Camp for Book Authors.”
Val Verde

8:35 to 8:45 a.m.  Q & A with Kevin Fedarko and Bill Marvel

8:50 to 9:25 a.m.  Panel Discussion with Steve Weinberg, Mike Merschel and Bob Shacochis. They explore a troubling question swirling around literary criticism: Is the traditional way of talking about books dead? Discussion: “Get Rich, Get Famous: The Business of Writing about Books.”
Val Verde

9:25 to 9:35 a.m.  Q & A with Weinberg, Merschel and Shacochis

9:40 to 10:15 a.m.  Plenary Session with Paula Butturini. Journalist turned first-time author teaches how to master the art of selling your masterpiece. Lecture: “Surprise! How the Real Work Begins Only AFTER You’ve Written ‘The End.’”
Val Verde

10:15 to 10:25 a.m.  Q & A with Paula Butturini.

10:30 to 11:05 a.m.  Panel Discussion with Colin Harrison, senior editor at Scribner, and S.C. “Sam” Gwynne, a writer for Texas Monthly. Discussion: “Lessons in Literary Labyrinth: How a Texas Monthly Writer and an Editor with a Novelist’s Eye Labored Over Empire of the Summer Moon.”
Val Verde

11:05 to 11:15 a.m.  Q & A with Colin Harrison and S.C. Gwynne

11:15 to 11:30 a.m.  Break outside Val Verde

11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.  Keynote
Auditorium

GARY SMITH
Acclaimed Sports Illustrated writer and author of “Beyond the Game” and “Going Deep” discusses one of his best-known stories. Conversation: “Exploring His Literary Masterpiece, Shadow of a Nation.”

12:15 to 12:25 p.m.  Q & A with Gary Smith

12:25 to 12:30 p.m.  Farewell Address: Mitch Land

12:30 to 1 p.m.  Book signing for Gary Smith, Bill Marvel, Paula Butturini, S.C. Gwynne, Colin Harrison and Steve Weinberg
Bookstore

Adios, amigos!

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Mary Karr

Memoir: Where literature meets truth

Mary Karr is a best-selling memoirist. She is the author of “Lit,” the long-awaited sequel to her critically-acclaimed and New York Times best-selling memoirs “The Liars’ Club” and “Cherry.” Hailed as “the memoir of the season,” “Lit” answers the question asked by thousands of fans: How did Karr make it out of that toxic upbringing to tell her own tale? In “Lit,” Karr takes readers on the journey of her descent into the inferno of alcoholism and madness, and her astonishing resurrection. Not since St. Augustine cried, “Give me chastity, Lord – but not yet!” has a conversion story rung with such dark hilarity. “Lit” has garnered rave reviews across the country and was an immediate best-seller. The New York Times says with “Lit,” Karr “has written a book that lassos you, hogties your emotions and won’t let you go. . . Explores the subjectivity of memory even as it chronicles with searching intelligence, humor and grace the author’s slow, sometimes exhilarating, sometimes painful discovery of her vocation and her voice as a poet and writer.” “The Liars’ Club,” Karr’s first memoir, won prizes for best first nonfiction from PEN (The Martha Albrand Award for nonfiction), the Texas Institute for Letters, and was a finalist for The National Book Critics Circle Awards. “The Liar’s Club” chronicled her hardscrabble Texas childhood with enough sass and literary verve to spark a renaissance in memoir, cresting the New York Times best-seller list for more than a year. “Cherry,” her account of a psychedelic adolescence and sexual coming-of-age, also became a best-seller. Karr is also a renowned poet. She has won prizes from Best American Poetry as well as Pushcart Prizes for both poetry and essays. Her four volumes of poetry are “Sinners Welcome,” “Viper Rum,” “The Devil’s Tour” and “Abacus.” Her work appears in such magazines as The New Yorker, The Atlantic, Poetry, and Parnassus. Karr was the weekly poetry editor for the Washington Post Book World’s “Poet’s Choice” column, a position canonized by Bob Hass, Ed Hirsch, and Rita Dove. She lives in Syracuse and New York City.
Mark Bowden

Mastering the narrative art in newspapers, magazines and film

Mark Bowden is a best-selling author, screenwriter, and journalist. His book “Black Hawk Down” was a finalist for the National Book Award, won the Overseas Press Club’s 1997 Hal Boyle Award, and was the basis of the film of the same name. His book “Killing Pablo” won the Overseas Press Club’s 2001 Boyle Award, and was the basis of the film of the same name. His book “Killing Pablo” won the Overseas Press Club’s 2001

Gary Smith

A conversation with Gary Smith

Gary Smith’s narratives have graced the pages of Sports Illustrated for the past two decades. The senior writer for Sports Illustrated has won four National Magazine Awards – the highest honor a magazine writer can earn. His stories have appeared in the annual Best American Sportswriting anthologies 13 times, the most by any writer. The late David Halberstam selected Smith’s Dec. 23, 1996 profile of Tiger Woods, for the Best American Sportswriting of the Century. Slate magazine called Smith “not only the best sportswriter in America, he’s the best magazine writer in America.” A 2006 survey of Associated Press sports editors selected the writer as the country’s top sportswriter. Two books have been published featuring his collected works: “Beyond the Game: The Collected Sportswriting of Gary Smith,” and “Going Deep: 20 Classic Sports Stories.” Smith joined Sports Illustrated in 1982 as a special contributor. Before going to work for Sports Illustrated, he wrote for the Wilmington News-Journal, the Philadelphia Daily News, New York’s Daily News, and Inside Sports. His writing has also appeared in Time, Rolling Stone and Esquire, among other publications. Smith spends about two and a half months on each piece he does for Sports Illustrated. “To do the kind of writing that I like to do, I feel like really understanding the character and being immersed in them is what it takes,” says Smith. Smith lives in Charleston, S.C., with his wife, Sally, a psychiatrist, and their three children.

Cornelius Ryan Award. His most recent books are “Guests of the Ayatollah,” an account of the 1979 Iran hostage crisis, recently listed last year by Newsweek as one of “The 50 Books for Our Times,” and “The Best Game Ever,” the story of the 1958 NFL championship game. He is a columnist for The Philadelphia Inquirer, a contributing editor to Vanity Fair, and a national correspondent for The Atlantic. Mark teaches journalism and creative writing at his alma mater, Loyola University of Maryland. He lives in Oxford, Pa., is married and has five children and a grandchild.
Kael Alford

Kael Alford is a documentary photographer and photojournalist. From 1998 - 2004, she was based in the Balkans and covered southeastern Europe for many European and American newspapers and magazines, including conflicts and culture in the Balkans and the Middle East. Her photography from Iraq is part of the book and exhibition: “Unembedded: Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq.” Since returning to live in the United States in 2005, she has shifted toward working on longer-term projects and teaching photojournalism and documentary photography. She has taught at the American University in Bulgaria and Savannah College of Art and Design. She’s currently working on a commission for the High Museum of Art on the Louisiana Coast about communities facing dislocation due to coastal erosion. She is also working on projects in the southwest, Latin America and the Caribbean. She holds a master’s degree in Journalism from the University of Missouri and was a Nieman Journalism Fellow at Harvard University from 2008-09.
Hannah Allam

Hannah Allam was born in Oklahoma to an American mother and an Egyptian father. After graduating from the University of Oklahoma, she had an extended internship at The Washington Post. Allam went to work for The Pioneer Press in St. Paul, Minn., where she was asked to cover the Muslim community after the Sept. 11 attacks. She was Baghdad bureau chief from 2003 to 2006, winning an Overseas Press Club award, a John S. Knight Gold Medal and other honors for her Iraq coverage. She was one of the few Western reporters inside the Imam Ali shrine with Mahdi Army guerrillas when the U.S. military dropped thousand-pound bombs on the compound during the siege of Najaf in 2004. She was also one of the few unembedded reporters to go inside Fallujah during and after the Marines’ offensive there in 2004. Allam now reports on the Middle East and North Africa as bureau chief for McClatchy’s Cairo bureau. She was a 2009 Nieman Fellow at Harvard. Allam maintains a blog called Middle East Diary.

Thorne Anderson

Thorne Anderson has worked internationally as a freelance photojournalist represented by Corbis/Sygma since 1999. His work has appeared regularly in newspapers and magazines including Time, Newsweek, US News & World Report, Stern, People, Playboy, the New York Times, Los Angeles Times, Chicago Tribune, and Boston Globe. He and Kael Alford co-authored Unembedded: “Four Independent Photojournalists on the War in Iraq,” which features his photography. Anderson holds a master’s from the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Journalism. He taught journalism at the American University in Bulgaria, where he also covered the conflict in the Balkans in the 1990s. In 2009, he joined the University of North Texas as assistant professor of photojournalism and multimedia storytelling in the Mayborn School of Journalism.
Robert Blau

Robert Blau is team leader of Bloomberg’s Projects and Investigations Team. Its recent work includes prize-winning coverage of the Fed’s opaque bailout programs and a four-part series about the dissolution of Lehman Brothers. Prior to Bloomberg, Blau was managing editor of the Baltimore Sun. During his tenure, the Sun collected dozens of awards for its work, including the Polk Award, the Meyer Berger Award, the Loeb, and the Investigative Reporters and Editors Prize. Blau started his career at the Chicago Tribune, where his first job was reviewing movies Gene Siskel didn’t want to. He moved on to the crime beat and was one of the lead writers on the newspaper’s acclaimed “Killing Our Children” series. After completing a Nieman Fellowship in 1997, Blau assumed leadership of the Tribune’s Enterprise Team. He oversaw six projects that became Pulitzer prize finalists. A series on the criminal justice system in Illinois was largely responsible for the state moratorium on capital punishment. “Gateway to Gridlock,” about the failures of the airline industry, was awarded the 2001 Pulitzer Prize for Explanatory Journalism. He is the author of “The Cop Shop; True Crime on the Streets of Chicago,” a memoir of his years as a police reporter. Blau is married to Leah Eskin, a food columnist for the Chicago Tribune. They have two children, Hannah and Noah.

Bryan Burrough

Kevin Fedarko

Kevin Fedarko is the ghostwriter of “Stones Into Schools,” the sequel to “Three Cups of Tea,” The New York Times best-seller which chronicles the efforts of a failed American mountain climber to build schools and promote female literacy in the most remote reaches of Pakistan and Afghanistan. After serving as a staff writer at Time magazine from 1991 to 1997 and a senior editor at Outside from 1998 to 2003, Fedarko spent the past seven years completing freelance magazine stories for Esquire, National Geographic Adventure, and other publications. He currently lives in northern New Mexico, works as a part-time river guide on the Colorado River, and is completing his first (non-ghostwritten) book, a narrative about the battle to save the river at the bottom of the Grand Canyon from three hydro-electric dams, which will be published by Scribner in 2011.

Paula Butturini

Paula Butturini has lived and worked as a foreign correspondent in London, Madrid, Rome, Warsaw, Berlin and Paris, which may be why her first memoir, “Keeping the Feast,” is about food. But for Butturini, food isn’t about fancy ingredients or complicated recipes. It’s about hunger and nourishment, love and support. Food literally saved her life. Working in Eastern Europe for the Chicago Tribune during the “Velvet Revolution,” she was beaten senseless by Czech police. She recovered in time for her wedding to fellow reporter John Tagliabue of The New York Times, then he got shot in the back during the revolution in Romania. A decade of depression and piecing their lives back together followed, with food playing a role in their survival as a couple. These days, she’s “booking” it, mastering the art of selling one’s masterpiece in the new media age (for free, of course).
David Grann


S.C. “Sam” Gwynne

S.C. “Sam” Gwynne is a special correspondent for Texas Monthly magazine. Since 2000, Gwynne’s written cover stories on White House advisor Karl Rove, NASA, Texas House Speaker Tom Craddick, the King Ranch, Dell Computer, Dick Cheney and Halliburton, and a week-long solo camping trip in Big Bend. His 2005 story on lethal Houston surgeon Eric Scheffey was published in “The Best American Crime Writing, 2006” by Harper Perennial Press. In 2008, he won the National City and Regional Magazine Award for “Writer of the Year.” Prior to joining Texas Monthly, Gwynne worked for Time magazine as correspondent, bureau chief, national correspondent and senior editor, traveling throughout the United States, England, Austria, France, Belgium, Spain and Russia to report stories. He won a number of awards for his work at Time, including a National Headliners Award for his work on the Columbine High School shootings. He also won the Gerald Loeb Award, the country’s most prestigious award for business writing, the Jack Anderson Award as the best investigative reporter, and the John Hancock Award for Distinguished Financial Writing. He has also written for The New York Times, Harper’s, the Los Angeles Times, the San Francisco Chronicle and The Boston Globe. He is the former editor-in-chief of California Business magazine. Gwynne is the author of “Selling Money,” about his years as an international banker, and, most recently “Empire of the Summer Moon,” a history of the Comanche Indians that was published by Scribner in May 2010. Gwynne lives in Austin.
Sonya N. Hebert, a staff photographer for The Dallas Morning News, was a 2009 Pulitzer Prize finalist for feature photography for the project “At the Edge of Life,” an empathetic look at dying patients navigating the end of life. Among other awards, Sonya also received the 2009 ASNE Community Service Photojournalism Award and the 2009 Casey Medal for Meritorious Journalism. Sonya’s photography and multimedia storytelling has been recognized in national contests such as Pictures of the Year International, the National Press Photographers Association: Best of Photojournalism. Hebert worked as an assistant director at the U.S. Senate Press Photographers’ Gallery, served as a special assistant to the director of communications in the Clinton White House and worked as a program officer at the President’s Interagency Council on Women in Washington D.C.

Colin Harrison

Colin Harrison is a senior editor at Scribner, where he edits both fiction and nonfiction. His own nonfiction has appeared in The New York Times, New York Magazine, The Washington Post, The Chicago Tribune, Vogue, Salon, Worth, and other publications and anthologies. He is the author of seven novels, including “The Finder,” “The Havana Room,” “Afterburn,” “Manhattan Nocturne,” “Bodies Electric,” and “Break and Enter.” Harrison was an editor at Harper’s Magazine from 1989 until 2001, working with nationally-known writers such as Jonathan Franzen, Jane Smiley, Russell Banks, Michael Paternite, Lucy Grealy, Thom Jones, Scott Anderson, Sebastian Junger, Ken Kalfus, Barbara Ehrenreich, Charles Bowden, Joy Williams, David Quammen, William Gass, Joe Conason, David Guterson, Bob Shacochis, Joyce Carol Oates, Lewis Lapham, the late David Foster Wallace and many others. At Scribner since 2001, he has worked with such writers as Chuck Hogan, Anthony Swofford, Ted Fishman, Kem Nunn, John Dalton, Mariane Pearl, Greg Iles, Bruce Weber, Craig Unger, Steven Johnson, Alexandra Horowitz, Rick Perlstein, Carol Sklenicka, Linda Fairstein, Robert Ferrigno, Daniel Okrent, Doug Stanton and S.C. “Sam” Gwynne. He and his wife, the writer Kathryn Harrison, live in Brooklyn, N.Y., with their three children.
Kristen Hinman

Kristen Hinman hopes she never has to get a real job. She has lingered in the kitchens of Parisian pastry chefs, nosed over Missouri caviar houses, and taken pigs to slaughter – all on the clock. Her love of cooking and feeding have inspired some interesting reporting adventures, and netted her a humbling helping of accolades. But most of Hinman’s work consists of pounding the pavement in search of fascinating personalities to profile. She blames her non-eventful, Northeastern upbringing – and Gay Talese’s “Frank Sinatra Has a Cold.” A graduate of Dartmouth College, Middlebury College Language Schools and the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, Hinman got her start as a stringer in Paris. While there her work appeared in Women’s Wear Daily, Time Out and The New York Times. Later, she started writing deadline stories for The Anniston Star in Alabama before joining the boys at St. Louis’ Riverfront Times (Village Voice Media), where she was for a long time the only female staff writer. Hinman blushes whenever anyone drops “award-winning” alongside her name, but feels fortunate to have scooped up honors from numerous press associations, including the National Education Writers Association and the James Beard Foundation.

Bill Marvel

Bill Marvel’s career as a professional writer began on the day in 1961 when the city editor of The Rocky Mountain News sent him to interview the resident dog at the city dump. He went on to cover cops, courts, statehouse, politics, and the arts for daily newspapers. He was an art critic for the weekly National Observer, and arts and feature writer for both Dallas dailies. His freelance work has appeared in Smithsonian, Horizon, American Way, American Heritage, D Magazine, 5280, Southwest Spirit, TWA’s Ambassador and other publications. He is the author of four coffee-table books on railroads and a narrative history of the 1913-14 Colorado coal strike, the most violent labor conflict in U.S. history. Marvel also has written a book-length history of the Rock Island Railroad, and ghostwrote a memoir, “Islands of the Damned,” about Valton Burgin’s combat experiences in the Pacific War. Burgin was interviewed by filmmaker Stephen Spielberg and actor Tom Hanks for an upcoming TV mini-series expected for release about the same time as “Islands of the Damned.”
James McGrath Morris

James McGrath Morris is the author of “Pulitzer: A Life in Politics, Print, and Power,” which the Wall Street Journal deemed as one of the five best books on American moguls and Booklist placed on its 2010 list of the 10 best biographies. His previous book, “The Rose Man of Sing Sing: A True Tale of Life, Murder, and Redemption,” was selected as a Washington Post Best Book of the Year for 2004 and was optioned as a film and released as an audio book. Morris is also the author of “Jailhouse Journalism: The Fourth Estate Behind Bars,” which told the story of inmates in American prisons who published their own newspapers. Aside from books, his writing has appeared in numerous newspapers and magazines including, among others, The Washington Post, The New York Observer, The Progressive, Civilization, and The Wilson Quarterly. He is also the editor of the monthly Biographer’s Craft and the executive director of Biographers International Organization. Morris earned his bachelor’s degree from American University and his master’s from George Washington University. He spent a decade as a journalist, a decade working in the book and magazine business, and a decade as a high school teacher. Morris lives in Santa Fe, N.M. with his wife Patty.

Michael Merschel

Michael Merschel is an assistant arts and features editor at The Dallas Morning News, where he manages coverage of books and health. A graduate of the University of Kansas, he joined the News in 1993 and has served as a copy editor, assistant national editor and editor of the Sunday Life section, which emphasized long-form narrative writing. He also was a regular contributor to public radio’s “A Prairie Home Companion,” wrote two short plays that were produced by Dallas’ Ground Zero Theater Company and was a 2009 fellow at the National Endowment for the Arts’ Arts Journalism Institute in Theater and Musical Theater at the University of Southern California. He has also served regularly as a Mayborn writing contest judge.
Jeff Prince

Jeff Prince is a lifelong musician and songwriter who stumbled sideways into journalism in his 20s and has worked for newspapers off-and-on ever since. Stints at Lufkin Daily News and Fort Worth Star-Telegram led to his becoming staff writer in 2001 at Fort Worth Weekly, an alternative weekly. Prince has covered corruption at the city and county levels, environmental issues, eminent domain abuses, and assorted nonfeasance, misfeasance, and malfeasance. In addition, he gets to crank out CD, concert, book, and art reviews, and express random and incendiary thoughts via blog posts. It’s a curious loudmouth’s dream job. Sprinkling musical meters, rhythms and rhymes into the mix is part of the fun. Prince has won awards for his writing from the Press Club of Dallas, Associated Press, Association of Women Journalists, Association of Alternative Newsweeklies, State Bar of Texas, and the Society of Professional Journalists. The Houston Press Club named him Print Journalist of the Year in 2003 and 2006. Prince lives on a two-acre hill outside Fort Worth with his dog, Hazel. He sings original roots music on Reload Records.

Ken Raymond

Ken Raymond is a senior writer at The Oklahoman, based in Oklahoma City. The lead writer on the paper’s multimedia content team, Raymond has won numerous state and regional journalism awards and has twice been named Oklahoma’s overall best writer by the Society of Professional Journalists. A native Pennsylvanian, Raymond has lived in New York, Oklahoma, Texas, the Dominican Republic and Iceland, where he was a Fulbright scholar. He completed his undergraduate work at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania and studied medieval literature at the University of North Texas. He lives in Edmond with his wife, Amy, and three dogs.
Bob Shacochis is one of America’s most acclaimed storytellers. He’s a novelist, a short story writer and a literary journalist. A contributing editor at *Outside*, Shacochis played an influential role in transforming the publication from a rather pedestrian outdoor magazine into a breathtaking literary periodical. Shacochis, Jon Krakauer, Tim Cahill, Mark Bryant and Hampton Sides were part of the early vanguard of young writers and editors at *Outside* who became giants in the world of adventure writing. A longtime culinary aficionado, Shacochis served as a cooking columnist for *Gentleman’s Quarterly* magazine, writing the “Dining In” column. The column included food recipes ranging from grilled stuffed turkey for dysfunctional family holidays to lobster-asparagus sushi rolls. The “Dining In” columns are collected in “Domesticity,” an innovative cookbook/essay collection. Shacochis is also a renowned war correspondent. He was sent by *Harper’s* magazine to tell the story of the uprising against Jean-Bertrand-Aristide and Operation Uphold Democracy, the U.S. government’s official name for its 1994 occupation of the tiny Caribbean Island of Haiti. Shacochis traveled for nearly a year covering the invasion, living with a Special Forces team, which resulted in “The Immaculate Invasion,” Shacochis’ first full-length book of nonfiction. Shacochis also wrote the introduction to this year’s *Ten Spurs*.

John Phillip Santos

John Phillip Santos is a widely published author and media producer who has produced documentaries and news programs in 16 countries for CBS and PBS. He was a program officer in the Media, Arts and Culture unit of the Ford Foundation. During the Clinton administration, Santos served on the White House Commission for Educational Excellence for Latino Americans. Prior to joining the foundation, Santos was producer of more than 40 broadcast documentaries on culture, religion, politics and spirituality for CBS News. In 2006, Santos launched the San Antonio-based Liceo Mestizo, an international interdisciplinary roundtable exploring mestizo identity and consciousness. Santos served as judge on the 2009 nonfiction panel for the National Book Award, and is currently a Visiting Fellow at the Watson Institute for International Studies at Brown University, where he is co-director of the Global Media Project. He is producing a new documentary, “Terror’s Telling Tales,” chronicling the history of terrorist uses of media. Santos’s memoir, “Places Left Unfinished at the Time of Creation,” was a finalist for the National Book Award in 1999, and the inaugural selection of the 1 Book 1 San Antonio project in 2006. His first book of poems, “Songs Older than Any Known Singer (Selected and New Poems)” was published in 2007, and the sequel to his memoir, “The Farthest Home is in an Empire of Fire” was published in April. Santos recently returned to his hometown of San Antonio, after 22 years in New York City, where he lives with his wife, the poet Frances Treviño Santos, and their daughter.
Hampton Sides

Hampton Sides, editor-at-large of Outside magazine, is one of the nation’s leading literary journalists. His most recent historical narrative is “Hellihound On His Trail,” a book about the assassination of Martin Luther King and the international manhunt for fugitive James Earl Ray. Sides is the author of several non-fiction best-sellers, including “Blood and Thunder,” an historical narrative about the controversial frontier hero Kit Carson and his role in the conquest of the West, and “Ghost Soldiers,” which won the 2002 PEN USA award for non-fiction and the 2002 Discover Award from Barnes & Noble. “Ghost Soldiers” has been published in nine foreign languages, was the basis for an award-winning documentary produced by WGBH for “The American Experience” on PBS, and was the inspiration for the Miramax film, “The Great Raid.” “Blood and Thunder” was voted one of Time magazine’s Ten Best Books of 2006. Side’s stories have been twice nominated for National Magazine Awards for feature writing, and have appeared in Outside, Esquire, The New Yorker, Men’s Journal, Preservation, and on NPR’s All Things Considered.

Sides is a member of the Author’s Guild and a fellow of the Japan Society of New York, through which he was awarded a 1999 media fellowship in Tokyo. A Memphis native and Yale graduate with a bachelor’s in American history, he lives in New Mexico with his wife, Anne, and their three sons.
Denise Short Smith, a member of the Mayborn tribe, died of cardiac arrest March 19 in her Denton home. She was a University of North Texas graduate and her article, “Horseplay” was published in the 2009 edition of Ten Spurs.

Short grew up in southern Louisiana and called herself a nomad until she settled in North Texas, where she worked as a journalist and public relations professional. Short’s best friend told Mayborn writer-in-residence George Getschow that winning the third-place research and reporting prize and getting published in Ten Spurs was the highlight of her life. “The Mayborn Literary Nonfiction Conference is not just an event, but a place of transformation for those who love writing and words with the fierceness and intensity of a warrior-spirit,” Short wrote in the literary journal.

Memories
I’ll never forget the beautiful glow on her face watching her sign copies of Ten Spurs along with our other writers. Her winning entry was a feature story she did for my feature writing class. I’ll always be proud of that girl. ~ George Getschow

Denise Short was simply one of the hardest-working students in the (UNT) PR program, and she graduated with a 4.0 in her journalism classes–and that’s why she was named Outstanding PR Student several years ago. Mostly, I remember her as a strong writer, who doggedly researched a topic from as many angles as she could. One of her senior-level ethics projects in our capstone PR course involved a historical investigation of the Exxon Valdez spill. Her research illustrated very well the difficulty of communicating during such a disaster and the shortcomings of corporate leadership and government response. Beyond her school work, she was extremely curious about a variety of issues, and I’ll miss getting her emails or phone calls about astronomy, an interest that we shared.
~ Jacqueline Lambiase, former professor

Steve Weinberg
Steve Weinberg likes to say that his writing career has been dictated by word count. As a newspaper reporter during the 1970s, he moved from beat stories to investigative projects so he could write more words, because depth + time = Truth. He switched from newspapers to magazine staff so he could obtain more words still to tell stories. In 1978, Weinberg published his first of eight nonfiction books. Today, he’s a full-time freelance magazine writer, book reviewer and book author. Weinberg also teaches feature writing part-time at the University of Missouri Journalism School, and works part-time training journalists as a staff member at Investigative Reporters & Editors.
Join a thriving community of writers to hone your craft and creativity. You’ll also make connections and have access to resources that can help you succeed in becoming a professional writer.

Upcoming Writing Conferences & Events

Fall Master Class Writing Conference
In conjunction with the Texas Book Festival
October 15/Austin

Secrets of the Agents Workshops
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WLT Young Adult Writing Conference
April 15-16, 2011 / Austin

WLT 30th Anniversary Gala
April 16, 2011 / Austin

2011 WLT Agents Conference
June 10-12, 2011 / Austin
Pencil us in

Join the tribe next year for the seventh Mayborn conference.

Ten Spurs Winners

Marissa Alanis  Sarah Perry
Brantley Hargrove  Mary Pfeiffer
Richard Hudson  Iris Podolsky
Raul B. Moreno  Tony Schwalm
Randee Paur  David Wallis

Selected at the 2009 Mayborn Conference and published in the Best of the Best Ten Spurs journal

WINNERS OF 2009 WRITING CONTEST

BOOK AWARDS

Sally Pringle
Village Voice Media, $3,000 First Place Award
Kalena Cook
Mayborn Literary Second Place Award
Jack Schwartzwald
Mayborn Literary Third Place Award

RESEARCHED & REPORTED NARRATIVES

Marissa Alanis
The Dallas Morning News, $3,000 First Place Award
Sarah Perry
Ann and Nick Ricco, $2,000 Second Place Award
Raul B. Moreno
The Oklahoman, $1,000 Third Place Award

PERSONAL ESSAY

Tony Schwalm
The Dallas Morning News, $3,000 First Place Award
Brantley Hargrove
Nick and Ann Ricco, $2,000 Second Place Award
David Wallis
Mayborn Literary, $1,000 Third Place Award
Hilton DFW Lakes
Executive Conference Center

First Level
Workshop sessions for select participants

Second Level
Lobby – Registration desk
Meritage (close to hotel lobby) – Conference bookstore
Val Verde Amphitheatre

Third Level
International Ballroom
FAQs

When do I need to wear my nametag?
Please wear your nametag to all events during the weekend. Your nametag will be your ticket for all lunch and dinner functions.

Where should I sit during the lectures?
All seating is general admission. You have a better chance of snagging one of our rolling chairs if you arrive early to the Val Verde amphitheater. To accommodate more people, we have armless chairs in the last two rows.

Where is the bookstore located?
The bookstore is located in Meritage, close to the main hotel lobby. Look for our signs!

Where do I get breakfast?
We will have continental breakfast refreshments Saturday and Sunday in the break area outside the Val Verde amphitheater. This is included in your registration fee. If you prefer to pay for a hot breakfast, please visit the Vineyard Restaurant located on the second level of the conference center.

Whom do I contact if I have a special need or request?
Please see a conference staff member at the registration table. Look for the ribbons on their nametags.

What do I do with my conference evaluation?
Please be sure to turn your evaluation in to the registration desk before leaving the conference. It is important for us to have your feedback in order to make the 2011 summer conference even better than this year.

Where is Austin Ranch?
It’s behind the hotel. Follow the signs. See map on Page 35.

Is there free wireless?
The hotel offers wireless connections for your room for $10.95 a day. Just notify the front desk. There will be no service in Val Verde. You may also use the computers in the conference center.

Mayborn Graduate Institute
Jo Ann Ballantine or Julie Scharnberg

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E-mail: MaybornConferenceInfo@unt.edu
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Winner!

TEXAS MONTHLY wins the 2010 National Magazine Award for Feature Writing!

TEXAS MONTHLY received the National Magazine Award in the category of Feature Writing for Skip Hollandsworth’s May 2009 story, “Still Life.” The Feature Writing Award honors the stylishness and originality with which the writer treats his subject. Other magazines nominated in this category were Vanity Fair, the New York Times Magazine, Esquire, and Wired.

Since its first issue, in February 1973, TEXAS MONTHLY has been nominated 58 times (22 times over the past ten years) as a National Magazine Award finalist. This is TEXAS MONTHLY’s 11th National Magazine Award.

“The Oscars of the publishing industry,” the National Magazine Awards are presented annually by the American Society of Magazine Editors. Recipients are awarded with the coveted “Ellie,” which is named after the Alexander Calder stabile “Elephant.”

More than 2.4 million readers.
MRI Doublebase 2009