

National Writers' Conference announced

The Salvation Army's National Headquarters (USA) has announced that it will host a writer's conference October 8-13, 2013 at the Sheraton St. Louis City Center in St. Louis, Missouri. The goal is to advance the Army's publishing ministry in the fields of fiction and nonfiction writing. Salvationists of all skill levels are invited to attend, from beginners to published writers. Extensive workshops will offer something for everyone, with an emphasis on learning, sharing and inspiration.

Award-winning novelist Patricia Hickman, author of *The Pirate Queen* and *Painted Dresses*, is slated to be the Army's guest speaker. Also participating will be best-selling Christian author Bob Hostetler, whose unorthodox titles include *How to Survive the End of the World* and *Quit Going to Church* and award winning writer, editor, humorist and minister of communications James Watkins. Commissioner William Roberts, National Commander for The Salvation Army, will deliver the keynote address.

The screenshot shows the website for National Publications, featuring a prominent banner for the 2013 National Writers Conference. The banner includes the text: "JOIN US for The Salvation Army Writers Conference October 8-13 2013 SHERATON ST. LOUIS CITY CENTER 402 S. 14TH STREET ST. LOUIS, MO 63102". It also contains a call to action: "An opportunity for writers, photographers, publishers, editors, and anyone wanting to advance the Salvation Army's publications ministry to come together for five days of presentations by special guests, learning, sharing, recreation, and inspiration." and provides contact information for registration and hotel reservations. The website header includes a search bar, a donate button, and navigation links for Home, Writers Conference, Writers Submissions, Submission Guidelines, and Contact Us. A sidebar on the right lists various sections: Writers Conference, Writers Contest, Writers Submissions, Submission Guidelines, and News.

The screenshot shows the homepage of National Publications. At the top left is the Salvation Army logo. The main header reads "National Publications". To the right is a search bar and a "DONATE NOW" button. Below the header is a navigation menu with links for HOME, WRITERS CONFERENCE, WRITERS SUBMISSIONS, SUBMISSION GUIDELINES, and CONTACT US. The main content area features a large banner for the "2013 National Writers Conference" held from October 8-13 at the Sheraton St. Louis City Center. The banner includes an image of a woman at a computer and text describing the conference as an opportunity for writers, photographers, publishers, editors, and anyone wanting to advance the Salvation Army's publications ministry. It provides details on registration, hotel reservations, and a link to a conference information sheet. To the right of the banner is a sidebar with several smaller sections: "WRITERS CONFERENCE" with a cityscape image, "WRITERS CONTEST" with a pen image, "WRITERS SUBMISSIONS" with a person's face, "SUBMISSION GUIDELINES" with a hand writing, and "NEWS" with two short news items. A small disclaimer at the bottom left of the banner states: "Delegates are responsible for making their hotel reservations. There are 75 rooms available at the conference rates; once these rooms are booked, conference rates are no longer guaranteed."

The cost of the conference is \$650, including all meals. Lodging and transportation are additional. To register, go to publications.salvationarmyusa.org/writers-conference/, download an application form and submit it through your territory.

Full and partial scholarships will be awarded to the top three winners of fiction and non-fiction writing contests. Manuscripts are due March 31 and should not exceed 1,200 words. Entries will be rated on creativity, plot and character development, message, structure, style and substance. To participate, go to publications.salvationarmyusa.org and submit your manuscript electronically.

Through special arrangements, all delegates will be treated to a riverboat dinner cruise on the Mississippi River.

“The National Publications Department has hosted national and international literary conferences periodically,” says Editor-in-Chief Major Allen Satterlee. “Each time delegates come away with a renewed commitment to write for God’s glory. This conference promises to help Salvationists further develop their abilities, while bonding with like-minded writers, authors and special guests.”

The Sheraton St. Louis City Center is located at 400 S. 14th St., St. Louis, MO 63103.

For information on special group hotel rates, visit <https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/savarmy>. Room options range from singles to suites. Delegates are responsible for booking their accommodations directly.

<https://caringmagazine.org>

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