

## **Seventh Annual Writing Contest Winners Are Announced, 2010-2011**

The English Department wishes to congratulate the following students whose writing is being recognized in the Seventh Annual Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School Writing Contest, sponsored jointly by the Bethesda-Chevy Chase English Department, *Chips* (B-CC HS's literary-art magazine), the Writer's Center, and the Bethesda-Chevy Chase HS Educational Foundation.

First-place winners' work will be published in May 2011 *Chips*, Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School's award-winning literary and creative arts magazine, in May 2011.

All students will receive their awards at a special ceremony at which they will read their work from 4:00 to 5:00 PM on Thursday, May 19, 2011, at the Writer's Center, 4508 Walsh Street, Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815. Also reading at this ceremony will be writers whose work is being published in *Chips 2011*. Past editors, staff members, and sponsors of *Chips* will be invited to join us during this special ceremony.

The entire B-CC community is invited to attend the awards ceremony and reading, along with the students, their families, teachers, and friends. We feel this contest showcases the many literary talents of our students, and we encourage everyone to begin putting together their submissions for the contest next fall!

### **Poetry (Contest Judge: Reuben Jackson)**

First Place: "The Theory of Homo Modernus" by Sutton Chiorini

Second Place: "Lost Vignettes" by Abigail Roberts

Honorable Mention: "Masks" by Laila Shehata

### **Short Story (Contest Judge: Susan Coll)**

First Place: "Thoughts on a Hero" by Irene Burski

Second Place: "Warm Welcome" by Sophie Rubashkin

Honorable Mention: "Dex" by Yasmeen Mughal

### **Personal Essay (Contest Judge: William O'Sullivan)**

First Place: "Footsteps and Walking Sticks Are Identity's Muses" by  
Benjamin Houde-Hostland

Second Place: "Blank Pages" by Sophia Wu

Honorable Mention: "New York City" by Cameron Lynn

### **Play (Contest Judge: Martin Blank)**

First Place: "The Five Letters" by Irene Burski

Second Place: "Post-Milgram" by Jessie Klueter

Honorable Mention: "When Jules Met Cleo" by Valeria Rotella

Selections were screened at the school level and then sent to the Writer's Center for judging.

Biographical information about the judges from the Writer's Center appears below:

Reuben Jackson (Poetry)

Reuben Jackson is a poet, radio commentator, and music critic living in Washington, D.C. He was curator of the Smithsonian Institution's Duke Ellington Collection from 1989 until December 2009. His poems have been published in 28 anthologies, journals, and magazines such as *Gargoyle*, *Beltway Poetry Quarterly*, and *Indiana Review*, and he is the author of a volume of poetry entitled [\*fingering the keys\*](#), which won the 1992 Columbia Book Award. His radio essays have aired on National Public Radio and WAMU FM.

Susan Coll (Short Story)

Susan Coll is the author of four novels, including [\*Rockville Pike: A Suburban Comedy of Manners\*](#), [\*Acceptance\*](#), and [\*Beach Week\*](#).

William O'Sullivan (Personal Essay)

William O'Sullivan, M.F.A., essayist, editor, Virginia Center for the Creative Arts fellow. His personal essays have appeared in *The New York Times*, *Newsday*, *National Geographic Traveler*, *The Washingtonian*, and *North American Review*, among others. He has received two Artist Fellowships from the D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities, and his work has been listed three times among the notable essays of the year in *The Best American Essays*.

Martin Blank (Playwriting)

Martin Blank has written ten plays that have been produced in the U.S. and abroad. He has directed dozens of readings and workshops to develop new plays in Washington, D.C. and New York City. He has also written, produced, or directed, over 100 professional productions. He has served as artistic associate for the American Jewish Theatre and American Place Theatre, New York City, as well as literary manager, Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, and founding artistic director, Theater J. He is currently artistic director for American Ensemble Theater.

**Please join us on May 19<sup>th</sup>! See you at the Writer's Center.**