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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ALABAMA WRITERS  
BRYN CHANCELLOR AND HARRY MOORE  
WIN MAUREEN EGEN WRITERS EXCHANGE AWARD**

*Prize Includes All-Expenses-Paid Trip to New York City,  
Meetings with Publishing Professionals,  
Month-Long Residency*

New York, NY—April 23, 2014—Poets & Writers announced today that fiction writer **Bryn Chancellor** and poet **Harry Moore** are the winners of the 2014 Maureen Egen Writers Exchange Award. The prestigious award, which aims to provide promising writers a network for professional advancement, has helped to launch the careers of **Sue Monk Kidd** (*The Secret Life of Bees*), **Elaine Beale** (*Another Life Altogether*), **Sandra Beasley** (*Don't Kill the Birthday Girl*), **David Mura** (*Turning Japanese: Memoirs of a Sansei*), **Fae Myenne Ng** (*Bone*), **Mona Simpson** (*My Hollywood*), and others.

Each year, Poets & Writers selects one state (or Washington, D.C.), and invites writers from that jurisdiction to apply for the Writers Exchange Award (WEX). For 2014, the state of Alabama was chosen. This year's judges were **Victor LaValle** for fiction and **Evie Shockley** for poetry. Excerpts from the winning manuscripts can be found at [at.pw.org/wexaward](http://at.pw.org/wexaward).

The Writers Exchange Award offers winners an unusual opportunity. Poets & Writers will ask Ms. Chancellor and Mr. Moore to identify agents, editors, authors, and others in the literary field that they would like to meet. Then, over the next several months, staff will work to arrange appointments with as many of these individuals as possible. In October, the two winners will travel to New York City, all expenses paid, and representatives of Poets & Writers will accompany them on a round of visits to gain insight and advice and establish professional contacts. As a direct result of these meetings, past WEX winners have had their books published, received fellowships, secured teaching positions, and laid the groundwork for their professional lives as writers. To date, more than eighty writers from thirty-four states have participated.



**Bryn Chancellor's** short fiction has appeared in *Gulf Coast*, *Blackbird*, *Colorado Review*, *Crazyhorse*, *Phoebe*, and elsewhere. Her honors include a fellowship and a project grant from the Arizona Commission on the Arts and scholarships from the Bread Loaf and Sewanee Writers' Conferences. A graduate of Vanderbilt University's M.F.A. program in fiction, she lives and works in Montevallo, Alabama, where she is an assistant professor of creative writing and English at the University of Montevallo. Her current projects include a short-story collection, "When

Are You Coming Home?,” which has been a finalist for the Mary McCarthy, Bakeless, and Katherine Anne Porter prizes, and a novel tentatively titled “The Magnificent Wilds.”



**Harry Moore** grew up on a small farm in East Central Alabama after World War II. With degrees in English from Auburn University, Rice University, and Middle Tennessee State University, he taught freshman and sophomore English in community college for four decades. Now retired, he lives with his wife, Cassandra, in Decatur, Alabama. His poems have appeared in the *Distillery*, *Teaching English in the Two-Year College*, *English Journal*, *Alabama Literary Review*, *POEM*, the *Cape Rock*, the *South Carolina Review*, *Avocet*, *Ship of Fools*, the *Penwood Review*, and other journals. He has poems forthcoming in the *Anglican Theological Review*, *Main Street Rag*, and the *Sow’s Ear Poetry Review*. Moore has two chapbooks: *What He Would Call Them* (Finishing Line Press, 2013) and *Time’s Fool* (Mule on a Ferris Wheel Press, 2014). He serves as assistant editor of the literary magazine *POEM*.

The judges also cited first runners-up **Georgia Pearle** from Mobile (in poetry) **Kaye Park Hinckley** from Dothan (in fiction), and second runners-up **Ashley M. Jones** from Birmingham (in poetry) and **Peg Tilley** from Fairhope (in fiction).

As part of the winners’ visit to New York, Poets & Writers will sponsor a reading and reception for them. In addition, they are offered a one-month residency at the Jentel Artist Residency Program in Wyoming. A complete list of past winners can be found at [at.pw.org/wexaward](http://at.pw.org/wexaward). The Writers Exchange Award is generously supported by Maureen Mahon Egen.

## ABOUT POETS & WRITERS

Founded in 1970, Poets & Writers is the nation’s largest nonprofit literary organization serving poets, fiction writers, and creative nonfiction writers. Our work is rooted in the belief that literature is vital to sustaining a vibrant culture. We focus on nurturing literature’s source: creative writers. Our mission is to foster the professional development of poets and writers, to promote communication throughout the literary community, and to help create an environment in which literature can be appreciated by the widest possible public.

We accomplish this through *Poets & Writers Magazine*, an award-winning bimonthly publication; [pw.org](http://pw.org), a website that provides trustworthy advice, information, and a lively online community for writers; the Readings & Workshops Program, which pays writers fees for giving readings and leading workshops throughout New York and California, as well as in eight cities outside these states; Poets & Writers Live, a new series of live events; and awards for writers including the \$50,000 Jackson Poetry Prize, the Maureen Egen Writers Exchange Award, and the Amy Award. Learn more at [pw.org](http://pw.org).

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