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Laurier Edna Staebler writer-in-residence call for applicants

WATERLOO – Wilfrid Laurier University’s Faculty of Arts is seeking submissions from Canadian writers for the Edna Staebler Laurier Writer-in-Residence position. The writer-in-residence will receive \$25,000 for a three-month residency from January 13 to April 11, 2014 on Laurier’s Waterloo campus.

Staebler (1906–2006) was a member of the Order of Canada, an award-winning journalist and author of 21 books, including the bestselling *Schmecks* series. She was a regular contributor to *Maclean’s*, *Saturday Night*, *The Toronto Star*, *Chatelaine* and many other newspapers and magazines. Staebler achieved writing success later in life, much of which she attributed to the mentoring of a passionate teacher. She was determined to provide that same encouragement to developing writers.

This year’s inaugural Edna Staebler Writer-in-Residence was Andrew Westoll, author of *The Riverbones* and *The Chimps of Fauna Sanctuary*.

“The Laurier community greatly benefitted from Westoll’s contributions to our academic life,” said Ute Lischke, chair of the Edna Staebler Laurier Writer-in-Residence search committee. “During his visits to classes, writing workshops and public readings in both Waterloo and Brantford, Westoll’s enthusiasm and passion was infectious and he has become a mentor to many members of our community. No doubt, Edna Staebler would have approved of our choice for the inaugural residency.”

All Canadian writers of established literary reputation in fiction, poetry, creative non-fiction or drama are encouraged to apply. The full-time position (40 hours/week) requires 40 per cent of the author’s time to be spent on community programs, leaving 60 per cent of the work week available for the writer’s own creative projects. Community programs include: reading manuscripts and consulting with students and the public, visiting classrooms, giving readings and lectures or leading workshops. For the duration of the residency, the author will live in Lucinda House, a century home close to Laurier’s Waterloo campus.

Applicants should be in the midst of a new writing project intended for book-length publication, and active participants in the writing community. Applications must be received by 4 p.m., May 31, 2013.

To see a full list of requirements or to apply for the Edna Staebler Laurier Writer-in-Residence position, visit www.wlu.ca/homepage.php?grp_id=13110 or contact Lischke at ulischke@wlu.ca.

Wilfrid Laurier University’s Faculty of Arts is the proud administrator of Staebler’s legacy in the forms of the Edna Staebler Award in Creative Non-Fiction (established 1991) and the Edna Staebler Laurier Writer-in-Residence program.