

CONTEST: Rachel Carson and her Legacy, 50 Years after Silent Spring
Presented by the School of Sustainability and the Environment,
The Rachel Carson Institute, and Chatham's MFA Program in Creative Writing



ALL-GENRE WRITING CONTEST

Deadline: Midnight, Dec. 14, 2011

Open to all Chatham students, alumni, faculty and staff.

CONTEST GUIDELINES:

Entrants may submit once. Choose one theme below.

Nonfiction (creative or research-based): Max=2,500 words

Fiction: Max = 2,500 words

Poetry: Max = 5 pages

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION ONLY! Submit in Word or PDF format.

Cover Letter = Name, Affiliation with Chatham, Theme, Genre, Title & Word Count.

Body = Title & theme: bottom left of each page. Page number, beginning with 1, bottom right of each page.

Entrant's name to appear on COVER LETTER ONLY.

Entries or questions to Marla Druzgal: mdruzgal@chatham.edu

FOUR THEMES TO CHOOSE FROM.

Four 1st Prizes of \$50 + PUBLICATION!

Additional entries to be chosen for publication.

THEME OPTION: **BALANCE**

Writers to create from idea of interrelatedness / inter-connectedness within systems of nature and between nature and society.

THEME OPTION: **INHERITANCE**

Entrants can choose to approach the theme of inheritance. Possibilities include: Carson's legacy (social, environmental etc.); what future generations inherit based on today's social and environmental actions.

THEME OPTION: **SILENCE AND SOUND**

Writers entering in this category would create a piece about either speaking out or keeping silent. Examples may include: speaking out on behalf of those who can't (animals, plants, earth, etc.); the non-impact of silent citizens on environmental issues; how to give voice to Rachel's legacy in a culture skeptical of science.

THEME OPTION: **DEBUNKING MYTHS**

Tackle current anti-Carson rhetoric. Find the anti-Carson myths (e.g. that she was the cause of "more deaths than Hitler, Stalin, Mao and Genghis Khan combined") and debunk them. This category does not require but would benefit from incorporation of scientific data.

RESOURCES FOR INSPIRATION:



SILENT SPRING

Author: RACHEL CARSON



LOST WOODS: The Discovered Writing of Rachel Carson

Author: Rachel Carson, ed. Linda Lear



THE SEA AROUND US

Author: RACHEL CARSON

WINNERS TO BE ANNOUNCED AT KICK-OFF CELEBRATION OF 50TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR:

Date: Friday, January 20, 2012 6:30pm – 9:00pm

Location: Mellon Board Room

Who to contact: Marla Druzgal:

mdruzgal@chatham.edu

