Writing arts festival at Oswego

Alumni of SUNY Oswego's Writing Arts Program who have forged careers out of their skill with the written word will share both their creative work and practical career advice in journalism, publications, children's theatre and teaching at this year's Writing Arts Festival, beginning Monday, Oct. 11.

Celebrating the 25th anniversary of Oswego's Writing Arts Program, the festival will be open to all free of charge.

A writing career panel of Oswego alumni will field questions from students about their career choices and speak about how they have achieved their positions at 7:15 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 13, in the formal lounge of Hewitt Union.

Panelists Marc Fisher, Crissy Clancy, Denise Jochem-Robertson, and Linda Loomis have varied careers and experiences. Each received a bachelor's degree in English with a writing arts emphasis from Oswego.

Fisher went on to earn a master's degree in journalism from Columbia University last year. He is currently a general assignment and agriculture reporter at the *Watertown Daily Times*.

Ms. Clancy works through town recreation departments, running children's theatre classes in which she writes the plays to fit the cast.

Ms. Jochem-Robertson has served as communications coordinator and manager of creative services at Crouse Irving Memorial Hospital in Syracuse. She was formerly director of publications at LeMoyne College and managing editor at Creative Medical Publications. She is president-elect of the Central New York Chapter of Women in Communications.

Ms. Loomis is editor of the *Liverpool Review*. In 1993, she won first place for feature story writing and second place for creative writing from the New York Press Association. She took first place for feature writing from the Syracuse Press Club. She teaches writing as an adjunct through SUNY Oswego and Onondaga County Community College.

Ms. Loomis will also read from her non-fiction at 4:15 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 12, in the formal lounge of Hewitt Union. She says the essays she has selected will share memories of growing up in Oswego and will look at life from a child's point of view.

Steven Smith, a 1962 graduate of Oswego and now a member of the English department faculty, will open the festival Monday, Oct. 11, with a reading from his book of poems "Beyond My Father's Shadow" at 4:15 p.m. in the formal lounge of Hewitt Union.

Smith received his master's degree in English and creative writing from SUNY Binghamton in 1984. His poetry has appeared in such literary journals as Akros Review, Lake Effect, New College Magazine and Archer.

The writing programs will continue Oct. 14 and 15 with two more Oswego alumni—writer and professor Stephen Murabito and acclaimed novelist Diana Abu-Jaber, author of the recent "Arabian Jazz."

Oswego's Writing Arts Festival is made possible by a grant from Poets & Writers with funds from the literature program of the New York State Council on the Arts.

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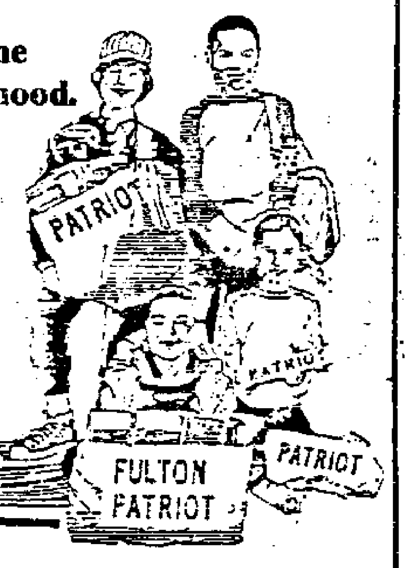

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