



"I do not agree with what you have to say, but I'll defend to the death your right to say it." - Voltaire

ST. ANDREWS RECOGNIZES THREE WRITERS

St. Andrews Sunday

Lyndsey McCall

St. Andrews Presbyterian College welcomed home three writers Thursday, recognizing them with the 21st annual Ethel Fortner Writer and Community Awards.

One of those honored, Theodore Enslin, said it was his sixth time reading at St. Andrews. "I feel it is a home to me and I have felt this way every time." Enslin is widely regarded as one of America's most musical of avant-garde poets.

"I too feel St. Andrews is a home to me," said Howard McCord, distinguished professor of creative writing emeritus at Bowling Green State University in Ohio. "I have always felt joy when seeing the campus. It is an extremely pleasant place. It has good vibes." McCord first visited St. Andrews in 1971.

The third person recognized – Lindsay Thompson, a 1978 St. Andrews graduate – was unable to attend the program due to illness.

The Fortner Awards are given annually to recognize outstanding writing and community contributions. They are named in memory of Ethel Nestell Fortner, the first person to financially support the now renowned St. Andrews Press on its founding in 1970.

"She was the first person to write a check to the St. Andrews Press, and then Sam Ragan (former publisher of *The Pilot*) and followed by others," said Ron Bayes, founding editor of The St. Andrews Press.

The Fortner Awards annually recognize some of the nation's and world's best writers. Others recognized include Rolfe Neill, Roy Park, Martha Gibson, Frank Barrows, and Robert Creeley.

In speaking about Enslin, Dr. Ted Wojtasik, visiting professor in English and writing, said, "Over the course of his lifetime, this man has managed to publish well over 100 publications: books of poetry, chapbooks, collections of poetry, selected poetry, long poems, short poems – you name it and he did it. Ted is one of the last surviving poets associated with the Black Mountain Poets."

The Black Mountain poets came out of Black Mountain College (1933-1956). This college was one of the most famed experimental institutions in art education and practice. It launched a remarkable number of the artists who spearheaded the avant-garde in America during the 1960s.

"There is a distinct musical quality to his poems that cannot be ignored," said Wojtasik. "In a certain sense, Ted treats 'words' as 'notes' on the page to create a song or a sonata or a suite or a symphony depending on the length of the poem:

point/counterpoint, syncopation, harmony, dissonance, pitch and tone and register."



Theodore Enslin gathers with President Deegan and Ted Wojtasik to accept the Fortner Award. Picture Courtesy of Rooney Coffman.

Professor Jean Jones introduced McCord calling him "one of the best essayists I have read – straight and to the point. He has a lot of loyalty from his friends. I have never seen him demand loyalty. A more decent man I have never known."

McCord was instrumental in founding the creative writing programs at Bowling Green State University and at The State University of Washington. His collected poems were published by Bloody Twin Press in 2002.

Although Lindsay Thompson was unable to attend due to illness, Dr. William J. Loftus, professor of French and Spanish at St. Andrews, gave some introductory remarks.

"At the crux point where archeologists and anthropologists speculate that we can speak of human beings, there you will find some evidence of artistic expression, and it appears that it was almost always community-oriented," said Loftus.

"Lindsay Thompson is indeed a writer in community and one of considerable talent."

A 1978 graduate of St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Thompson practices law in Seattle, Wash. He has edited and written in various legal venues over the years and is known for his great wit, fine style, and making legal writing concerns an art form.

"Lin was the kind of student who made the classroom truly exhilarating," said Loftus. "He would have read the material and been ready to engage both it and the professor on a substantive level."

Through the years, Thompson has been a contributing writer to the St. Andrews Review.

"His medium is prose," said Loftus, "and he would probably flinch and object were he to be called a prose poet. But he is nonetheless. He treats words with the respect that they deserve – no matter what the use to which he might be putting them at any given moment."

The awards were presented

by Dr. John Deegan, Jr., president of St. Andrews.

"These awards recognize persons who have been outstanding contributors to the writing community that creates a very real, positive community dynamic," said Bayes. "Our recipients this year could not be more deserving for their work in bringing artistic greatness to the larger community."

The Ethel N. Fortner Writer and Community Awards were instituted in 1986 to honor a friend of writers and frequent contributor to the St. Andrews Review. Ethel Fortner earned a Master of Arts degree from Columbia University in New York. After a career teaching at the Oregon School of the Blind, she and her husband moved to Estacada, Ore. She committed herself to writing and became editor of *Human Voice Quarterly*. A frequent contributor to the St. Andrews Review, she was the earliest benefactor of the St. Andrews Press. She believed that a full community embraced and encouraged the craft of writing.



(Howard McCord reading at the Fortner Writers Forum. Picture Courtesy of Rooney Coffman)

November 5, 2006- St. Andrews Sunday was held at Laurinburg Presbyterian Church.

St. Andrews Sunday is about celebrating the history and connections between Laurinburg Presbyterian Church and St. Andrews Presbyterian College. Each year, Laurinburg Presbyterian Church welcomes new and returning students to participate within the congregational events, such as the choir, handbell choir, Wednesday night Fellowship dinner and Sunday worship. Furthermore, numerous faculty and staff have been longstanding members of Laurinburg Presbyterian church.

The St. Andrews Sunday worship included speakers, Reverend Dr. Daniel Ott, President John Deegan Jr., Lyndsey McCall, Dan Dupree, Janelle Harcus, Ian Gitata and Lydia Brevard. Additionally, the St. Andrews Pipe Band and the St. Andrews Choir performed pieces to the members of the Laurinburg Presbyterian Church and visitors.

As St. Andrews continues to grow, so does the longstanding and dynamic relationship with Laurinburg Presbyterian Church and the community.

*****For more information about Laurinburg Presbyterian Church visit their website at www.laurinburg-presbyterian.org.*****

Live and Learn in Europe

Courtesy of the University of New Orleans

A dream vacation for many travelers is exploring Europe. What better way to experience the heart of Western Civilization than by living and studying there? The University of New Orleans International Summer School in Innsbruck, Austria lets you do it all—travel, live, and learn in the center of alpine Europe. The International Summer School, celebrating its 32nd year, is a unique educational program for students. Headquartered at the 300-year-old University of Innsbruck, Austria, this year's International Summer School will take place July 2–August 11, 2007.

This award-winning six week program offers credit classes that go far beyond ordinary classroom learning. Students enroll in two or three courses, each having three hours of credit. Over 50 undergraduate or graduate courses are offered in Anthropology, Business, Communication, Economics, English, Finance, Fine Arts, Geography, Geology, German, History, Management, Marketing, Music, Philosophy, Psychology, and

Sociology. Courses are taught by 26 excellent American and European faculty from eight universities. There are numerous opportunities for travel, because Innsbruck is centrally located. Innsbruck has outstanding recreational facilities, since it has been the host of two Olympic Games. Students have enjoyed the world-class skiing, tennis, golf and swimming that are available.

This year, we've organized a trip to Munich, Venice, Vienna, and South Tirol. Enrollment in this program is limited to 250 participants. Applicants will be accepted through June 1st or until the program fills, which is usually in early February. Credits earned are transferable to other universities and colleges. For further information please visit <http://unostudyabroad.com> or write to The International Summer School, University of New Orleans, Metropolitan College, New Orleans, LA 70148.