Greetings from the New Co-Chairs

We’ve been part of HoCoPoLitSo for several years, but as new co-chairs of the board of directors, we greet you warmly, fellow literati, and thank you.

As engaged as we’ve been with this organization (Tim for three decades and Tara for one), we were struck dumb by a recent summary of achievements. We all know that HoCoPoLitSo represents the highest-quality contemporary literature, but did you know that HoCoPoLitSo has brought us, at affordable prices and to convenient locations,

- five Nobel Prize winners,
- 17 U.S. Poets Laureate,
- 11 National Book Award winners,
- 22 Pulitzer Prize winners,
- 7 Maryland Poets Laureate, and
- a veritable “Who’s Who” of the most distinguished writers from Ireland,

in addition to our annual writer-in-residence, visiting all of the county high schools, and producing almost one hundred episodes of the cable television interview show *The Writing Life*.

The most amazing reality is that all of this is accomplished with very few people and resources. It’s hard work, and we love it, but our tiny staff, board, and volunteers are challenged more every year by the increased competition for funds and for our audience’s attention. You’ll have noticed updated strategies, such as the use of social media, to alert audiences to our events. Once our audience is there, we know our events do not disappoint – they are voyages of discovery, education, and even exaltation.

We are eager to honor this rich legacy of more than 30 years and to work to keep HoCoPoLitSo happening. Please join our efforts as literary ambassadors to fill the seats at our events. Give what you can, knowing that we work hard to make every dollar count towards sustaining and growing this passionate enterprise.

Are you with us? Please let us know. Help us continue to provide unique literary experiences that connect, heal, praise, and enlighten our community.

*Tara Hart and Tim Singleton*
Public Programs

Total Live Attendance: 1933

SEPTEMBER 26, 2010 In partnership with the Maryland Humanities One Maryland One Book project, the Howard County Library and several other local organizations, HoCoPoLitSo welcomed Warren St. John, author of Outcasts United, to a reading and discussion at the East Columbia Library.

OCTOBER 5, 2010 HoCoPoLitSo’s 37th program year opened with a nationally acclaimed poet Mark Doty introduced by Exec-utive Director Carla Du Pree in the Montecabaro Recital Hall on the campus of Howard Community College.

FEBRUARY 18, 2011 HoCoPoLitSo celebrated its 33rd Evening of Irish Music and Poetry at the Jim Rouse Theatre with an encore reading by award winning Colm Tóibín, author of six novels, two short story collections, and a play entitled “Beauty in a Broken Place.” His Excellency Michael Collins, Ambassador of Ireland, the sixth for HoCoPoLitSo, introduced the evening after a prelude by bagpiper Jared Denhard. The reading was followed by a concert of traditional Irish music with musicians from Celtic Thunder and Narrowbacks: Linda Hickman, Brendan Mulvihill, Terence Winch, Jesse Winch, with Eileen Korn Estes, along with stepdancers provided by the Caultin School.

MARCH 27, 2011 Novelist Alice McDermott engaged an audience at a Sunday afternoon reading at the Spear Center in the Howard Hughes Corporation Building, where she read from a short story and participated in an extended question and answer session.

APRIL 28, 2011 In partnership with Howard Community College’s English/World Languages Division’s Blackbird Poetry Festival, HoCoPoLitSo sponsored workshops and readings offered by regional authors Lyubomir Nikolov, Gayle Danley and Sue Ellen Thompson, and a special reading for students by the acclaimed Martín Espada.

APRIL 28, 2011 HoCoPoLitSo and the HCC English & World Languages Division offered an evening reading with Martín Espada, a poet of justice, in the Montecabaro Recital Hall.

JUNE 2011 In conjunction with the Columbia Festival of the Arts and Little Patuxent Review, HoCoPoLitSo staffers a stand at Lake Fest. An appearance by author Francine Prose was cancelled due to an unexpected personal commitment.

Student Programs

SEPTEMBER 3, 2010 HoCoPoLitSo sponsored a Professional Development Day with Sue Ellen Thompson, who spoke to county high school teachers about the importance of re-writing and re-examining one’s work, at Long Reach High School.

APRIL 8, 2011 HoCoPoLitSo and Howard County Public Schools presented Bill’s Buddies, a troupe of Shakespearean actors from the Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, D.C., to middle school students from the Homewood Center, Bonnie Branch, Mayfield Woods, Cradlerock and a class from Marriotts Ridge High School, who hosted the program.

DECEMBER 2010 – MARCH 2011 Poet-in-residence Marion Winik made presentations at 11 county public high schools, the Homewood Center and Howard Community College.

HoCoPoLitSo held its 30th All County Writing Competition for county high school students. The ten creative writing winners were:

- Alison Conca-Cheng (Centennial), Hilary Andrews (Mt. Hebron), and Grace Kuo (Centennial) in the personal essay category;
- Jaclyn Andrews (Howard), Kajii Gomez Wick (Howard) and Allegra Garrett (Mt. Hebron) in the poetry category; and in the short story category, Colton Cincotta (Howard), Rachel Hanon (Marriotts Ridge), Ellyssa Tilles (Marriotts Ridge) and Zachary Santangelo (Marriotts Ridge).

In addition, 24 students were chosen by their English Departments to receive HoCoPoLitSo’s “Promise and Achievement Awards.” The honorees were:

- Kevin Judd, Grace Kuo (Centennial), Hannah Athey, Faith Walter (Glenelg), Eric Bricker, Laurel Rotter (Hammond), Erika Blakely, Tiandre Williams (Homewood Center), Rebeka Gomez-Wick, Natalie Tomlin (Howard), Shaun Harrison, Jasmine Hickman (Long Reach), Bria Muse-Spears, Devin Trim (Marriotts Ridge), Ryan Greene, Hilary Andrews (Mt. Hebron), Maxen Jack-Monroe, Vivian Steyert (Oakland Mills), Kelly Langford, Ryley Mayer (Reservoir), Molly Snapp, Nuriya Gadiwalla (River Hill), Dara Crawley, Stephon Powell (Wilde Lake).
ENDOWMENT GIFTS

Ensure HoCoPoLitSo’s FUTURE. Gifts and pledges to the HoCoPoLitSo Fund at the Columbia Foundation from February 1996 to November 2011. In FY 2011, close to $7,000 in operational funds were provided.

NOBEL CIRCLE
$20,000 and up
Padraic & Ellen Kennedy
Jean & Bob Moon
In memory of Besie Hurns
Hamaguchi
Patty Roosu

LITERARY LIONS
$10,000 – $19,999
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LAUREATE CIRCLE
$1,000 – $9,999
Alpha Phi Alpha
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Harry “Chip” Lundy
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Lanny Morrison & Lynn Nemeth
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$250-$999
Barbara Lawson
Johns Hopkins Medicine Hospital: A Member of Johns Hopkins Medicine
Monica Gallivan Lisk
In honor of Irish Evening
Laura & Frank Yoo

PLATINUM BENEFACORS ($10,000 and up)
Howard County Arts Council through a grant from Howard County Government

GOLD BENEFACORS ($5,000 & over)
MD State Arts Council through the state of MD and the DEED
Padraic & Ellen Conway Kennedy

SILVER BENEFACORS ($2,500 & up)
The Columbia Film Society
In honor of Ellen C. Kennedy
The Columbia Foundation
Howard Community College
HCC-TV
Howard County Public Schools
Patuxent Publishing Company
The Jim & Patty Roosue Charitable Foundation
The Rouse Company Foundation

BRONZE BENEFACORS ($1,000 & up)
J. Edward & Fern Hamel
In honor of Irish Evening
Pat Kennedy
In honor of Edward Hamel
Howard Research & Development Corporation

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To honor Pearl Tobin
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Crusade Birdsong
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Eileen Clegg
Daphne D. Conegyes
Richard Dowling
Naomy Hayman
Joseph Knowles
Jack Knox
Kathleen B. Larson

Joan Greenberg & Barbara Lawson
In memory of Fredericka Clifton
Thomas & Mary Lorsung
Virgie Mason
Sylvia Padov
Russell (Joan) Phillips
Michael & Louise Rieter
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Rodbell
Nora Scanlan
Lawrence & Patricia Taubman
Margot Treitel
In memory of Raphael Treitel
Bayard Waterbury
Terecse Winch

GIFTS IN HONOR OF ELLEN CONROY KENEDY
Judith Adams
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HoCoPoLitSo is grateful to all who support our programs and mission.

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Molly Baller
Brandon Barrett
Andrea Barrett
Eugene Beckley
Sam Bernard
Jodie Biechele
Ann Bimmel
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Veronica Clarke
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HoCoPoLitSo is grateful to everyone for their generous cash and in-kind gifts that help to defray each year’s operating expenses. Please consider making a donation to HoCoPoLitSo on-line at www.HoCoPoLitSo.org

ANNUAL CONTRIBUTORS

This list includes cash and major in-kind contributions. Serial gifts by the same contributor are merged.

Every effort has been made to include all names and to spell them correctly. Please let us know if there are errors or omissions.
THE WRITING LIFE

Throughout the year, five times a week in Howard County, HoCoPoLitSo’s writer-to-writer talk show The Writing Life airs editions on Maryland educational cable channels, accessible to more than two million viewers. Editions can be seen any time at www.howardcc.edu/TWL or heard at www.howardcc.edu/Visitors/hccRadio/index.html.

Three new editions were produced: Mark Doty hosted by Sue Ellen Thompson (2011); Colm Tóibín hosted by Belinda McKeon (2011); Martin Espada hosted by Naomi Ayala (2011). Three editions debuted: Claire Keegan hosted by Terence Winch (2010); Sheila Kohler hosted by Ron Charles (2010); Mark Doty hosted by Sue Ellen Thompson (2011).

TWL ON-AIR SCHEDULE

In July 2010 Roland Flint hosted Lucille Clifton (1991); in August Mark Strand hosted W. S. Merwin on his translations (1995); in September Terence Winch hosted Claire Keegan (2010); in October Ron Charles hosted Sheila Kohler (2010); in November Elizabeth Spires hosted Philip Levine (1998); in December Michael Collier hosted Rita Dove (1999); in January 2011 Colum McCann hosted Colm Tóibín (1999); in February Colm Tóibín hosted Paul Durcan (2001); in March Charles Guggenheim hosted Reynolds Price (1933-2011) (1998); in April, Sue Ellen Thompson hosted Mark Doty (2011); in May E. Ethelbert Miller hosted Amiri Baraka (1998); and in June Michael Collier hosted Madison Smartt Bell (2002).

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, February 17, 2012
The 34th Irish Evening with Hugo Hamilton and music by Narrowbacks. Tickets available at www.brownpapertickets.com/event/211558.

Thursday, April 26, 2012
The Blackbird Poetry Festival

HoCoPoLitSo is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization – donations to which are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. A copy of our current financial statement is available upon request by contacting HoCoPoLitSo at DH 239, 10901 Little Patuxent Parkway, Columbia, MD 21044 or calling 443-518-4568. Documents and information submitted to the State of Maryland under the Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act are available from the Office of the Secretary of State for the cost of copying and postage.