

National Basic Writing Conference

The fourth National Basic Writing Conference will be held at the University of Maryland in College Park, **October 8-10, 1992**, cosponsored by CBW (The Conference on Basic Writing, a special interest group of CCCC) and NCTE. David Bartholomae of the University of Pittsburgh and featured plenary panelists will address the theme **Critical Issues in Basic Writing: 1992**. How are we, our writing programs, and our institutions meeting or failing to meet the needs of at-risk students? The conference will also feature concurrent sessions and workshops on a wide range of topics related to basic writing programs and practices. For details and registration information, contact John Garvey, Education Director, NCTE, 1111 Kenyon Road, Urbana, IL 61801. Phone: 217/328-3870.

Conference Announcement

The Midwest Writing Centers Association will hold its 11th annual conference October 2-3, 1992, in St. Paul, Minnesota. The conference theme is "Talking it Out: Writing Centers as Social Spaces." Steve North of SUNY-Albany will be the keynote speaker. For more information, or to receive a proposal form, contact: Dave Healy, General College, 240 Appleby Hall, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455. The proposal deadline is April 15.

Thomas Hardy's England: July 5 through August 14, 1992

General Description: A 41-day course in the Life and Works of Thomas Hardy, conducted in residence in Dorchester, 120 miles from London. The course includes guided tours of the areas of Southwest England that served as models for Hardy's fictional world, visits to his birthplace and gravesite, and participation in the 10th International Hardy Society's Conference--a week of lectures and seminars presented by major Hardy scholars from around the world.

The course will be taught by Dr. JoAnna S. Mink, Mankato State University, a specialist in Victorian Literature and the novels and poetry of Thomas Hardy. There will be guest lectures and presentations by internationally famous Hardy scholars.

Academic Credit: 4-6 quarter hours undergraduate or graduate credit. Course is open to anyone qualified for upper-level or graduate courses in English.

Course Fee: Approximately \$2350 (which includes lodging, breakfasts and evening meals in Dorchester, and incidental program expenses such as fees for tour guides and lecturers plus registration for the 10th International Thomas Hardy Conference). Additional costs not included are transportation expenses, MSU tuition, course materials, and spending money. MSU tuition for 4 credit hours is estimated at \$146 undergraduate/\$190 graduate credit.

For further information: contact Dr. JoAnna S. Mink, Department of English, MSU Box 53, Mankato State University, Mankato, MN 56002-8400. Phone: (507)389-1525 (office) or (507)387-3091 (home)

Minnesota English Journal Award for Best Articles

Two cash prizes of \$75.00 each will be awarded for the two best articles for 1991-92. These awards will be presented at the annual spring conference. Authors should follow the standard Minnesota English Journal submission rules. All articles published in MEJ will be considered eligible, although the Publications Board reserves the right not to grant an award if, in its judgment, none of the published articles meets the Board's criteria or its standard of excellence.