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## **The Cat Writers' Association 23rd Annual Conference & Awards Banquet Joins BlogPaws Again**

*Winners Will Be Announced at May 19th Awards Banquet*

(New York – April 27, 2017) – The #CatWriters Association ([CWA](#)) has announced its 23rd Annual Conference will once again be held in conjunction with the BlogPaws 2017 Conference. This year the event will be held at the Sheraton Myrtle Beach Convention Center Hotel, May 18-20, 2017. As in previous years, hundreds of writers will come together for networking, education and mingling with the top pet industry representatives. All conference registrants can attend any combination of CWA and BlogPaws seminars, sessions and events. Don't miss this PAW-some opportunity, register [here!](#)

Here is a sampling of what will be offered in the special [CWA Feline track](#):

- Listen to a Winn Feline Health Foundation panel of experts speak on the latest research in feline health, including diabetes and new parasite control.
- Explore the American Association of Feline Practitioner "Cat Friendly Practice Begins at Home" tips.
- Learn how to reinvent your writing to recover from "Overworked and Overwhelmed" by someone who has lived through it.
- Discover "Fear Free" living for your indoor cats through home enrichment.
- Take notes on how to "Attract, Engage and Keep Your Audience Coming Back for More" taught by an award-winning blogger.

Recently announced, Kate Benjamin, a brand-new CWA member and owner of Hauspanther, invited CWA to have their booth and book-signing table within the Cat Lounge at the 2017 BlogPaws/CWA Conference.

“We are thrilled to partner with BlogPaws once again to collaborate and bring together topnotch programming and networking for seasoned journalists, writers, artists, and bloggers. We have something for everyone who loves and champions cats,” said Marci Kladnik, CWA president.

The 23rd annual CWA Awards Banquet on Friday night will honor the best of the best, bestowing the coveted MUSE Medallion on 42 talented recipients presented in writing, photography and graphic arts categories. In addition, \$14,000 in prize money will be given away for 20 special awards.

Join us in extending “paws and applause” to the 2016 Certificate of Excellence Winners:

### **I.1 Magazine – National Circulation**

Cat Talk, editor Teresa Keiger

### **I.2 Magazine Article – Health and General Care**

Dusty Rainbolt, Litter Box Basics

Denise Fleck, Torn Nails, Limping and High-Rise Syndrome

Denise Fleck, Water: A Cat’s Best Friend

### **I.3 Magazine Article –Behavior and Training**

Sally Mullen, Training An Aggressive Kitten

Phillip Mlynar, Ooh, It’s a Box!

Susan Logan-McCracken, Kitty Quirks

### **I.4 Magazine Article – Rescue/Advocacy**

Phillip Mlynar, Adventures in Giving Back

### **I.5 Magazine Article – Any Other Topic**

Deborah Barnes, Kitten Introduction

Ramona Marek, One Health and The Human-Animal Bond

Ramona Marek, The Human-Animal Bond: A Biological Imperative

Shery Clark, Holidays and Heartbreak

### **I.6 Magazine Column**

Mollie Shutt, Su-PURR-Stitions

Anthony Nichols, Showtime

JaneA Kelley, Keep It Clean

### **II.4 Newspaper Article – Any Other Topic**

Jen Reeder, Back in Black

### **II.5 Newspaper Column**

Deborah Camp, The Best of the Pet World

Amy Shojai, PETiQuette

### **III.2 Newsletter – National Circulation**

Alley Cat Mews, editor Louise Holton

### **III. 4 Newsletter Article – Health and General Care**

Ramona Marek, Cancer Treatments for Cats

Ramona Marek, Hospice Care for Our Pets

Kim Thornton, When Compounding IS Right for Your Cat

Kim Thornton, Fewer Heartworm Cases, More Severe Signs

### **III.5 Newsletter Article – Behavior and Training**

Kim Thornton, They Climb Curtains, Scratch the Sofa

### **III.8 Newsletter Column**

Lyn T. Garson, Technically Speaking

### **IV.2 Poem**

Susan Willett, Haiku by Cat: Attraction

Susan Willett, Haiku by Cat: Yoga

### **IV.3 Humor**

Heather Marcoux, 5 Father's Day Gifts from My Unemployed, Moneyless Cats

Jeremy Greenberg, Sorry I Slept on Your Face

### **IV.4 Brochure, Pamphlet or Short Publication**

Amy Shojai, My Cat Hates My Vet!

Matt Carl of Alley Cat Mews, Saving Cats' Lives Through Trap-Neuter-Return

### **IV.5 Annual or Long Publication**

Dusty Rainbolt, The Healthy Cat 2017 Calendar

### **IV.6 Opinion Piece, Essay or Editorial**

Amy Shojai, Eight Common Aging Cat Conditions and What to Do

Deborah Barnes, Break Out of Your Blogging Niche to Make Strides in Cat Welfare

### **IV.7 PR/Humane Education/Press Kits**

Bernadette Kazmarski, Making Life Better for Every Day of the Year

### **V.1 Books – Fiction**

Clea Simon, The Ninth Life

Shirley Rousseau Murphy, Cat Shout for Joy

Stephen Chensue, The Nine Lives of Ichiban

Carole Nelson Douglas, Cat In An Alphabet Endgame

### **V.3 Books – Health and General Care**

Ramona Marek, Cats for the Genius

### **V.4 Books – Behavior and Training**

Dusty Rainbolt, Cat Scene Investigator

### **V.5 Books – Gift**

Tamar Arslanian, Shop Cats of New York

### **V.7 Books – Other**

Lonnie Hull DuPont, Kit Kat & Lucy

Deborah Barnes, Makin' Biscuits

Lauren Darr, CatDala Coloring Book

### **VI.1 Video, CD, DVD or Television Production**

Matt Carl, TNR Video

Susan Willett, Elsa Clair's Gold-Medal Purr-formance

### **VI.2 Broadcast – Audio**

Denise Fleck, Pet Safety Crusader Radio

### **VII.2 Online Article – Health and General Care**

JaneA Kelley, When a Horse is Really a Zebra

Kim Thornton, Lethal Lillies

Kim Thornton, Survival Guide to Traveling Cross-Country with Cats

Kim Thornton, Travels with Felix

Kim Thornton, Fat Cats

Kim Thornton, Feline Mammary Cancer

Jen Reeder, Kidney Transplants for Cats

Lisa Richman, Kidney Transplants for Cats? Yes!

Dawn White, Stressed by the Vet?

Julie McAlee, Anal Glands and Happy Cats

Jacqueline Munera, Behavior Consulting and Declawed Cats

Susan Willett, My Cat Suddenly Started Drooling

### **VII.3 Online Article – Behavior and Training**

Janiss Garza, Cat Tricks

Janiss Garza, A Step-by-Step Guide for Harness and Leash Training for Your Cat

Janiss Garza, 10 Tips to Trounce Kitty Troublemaking

#### **VII.4 Online Article – Rescue/Advocacy**

Jen Reeder, Oskar the Blind Cat Rallies for Special-Needs Pets

Dawn White: Tabby's Place

Jonathon Scott Payne, To Sterling with Love

Susan Willett, A #ClearTheShelters Cat Adoption Story

#### **VII.5 Online Article – Any Other Topic**

Deborah Barnes, Living in Comfort with Cats

Janiss Garza, Driving Miss Kitty

Janiss Garza, Five of the Biggest Cat Show Misconceptions

Heather Marcoux, Senior Rescued Cat Saved Her Diabetic Human

JaneA Kelley, Give Me the Old, Creaky Cats

Tracy Ahrens, Whiskers Stir Up Senses, Luck and Memories

Bernadette Kazmarski, Buddy Gets A Miracle

#### **VII.6 Online Column**

Phillip Mlynar, Monday Miracles

Phillip Mlynar, Social Cat of the Week

Kim Thornton, Dr, Marty Becker and Mikkel Becker, Pet Connections

#### **VIII.1 Blog – Health and General Care**

Mollie Hunt, Life Stages

Marc-Andre Runcie-Unger, Katzenworld Blog

BJ Bangs, Paws for Reflection

#### **VIII.2 Blog – Behavior and Training**

Amy Shojai, The Paw Print Blog

Amy Shojai, Amy Shojai's Bling, Bitches and Blood Blog

#### **VIII.4 Blog – Entertainment**

Lisa Richman, A Tonk's Tail

Bernadette Kazmarski, The Creative Cat

#### **VIII.5 Blog – Any Other Topic**

JaneA Kelley, Paws and Effect

#### **IX.3 Color Photograph – Single**

Andrew Mattila, Catster Cover Photo

Susan Willett, Double Trouble: Cat Reflection

Janiss Garza, Vancouver Portrait

Weems Hutto, Cat Scene Investigator

## **IX.5 Photographic Art**

Teresa Keiger, Cat Talk October Cover

## **IX.6 Cartoon**

Stephanie Piro, Cat Woman

Stephanie Piro, Great Outdoors

## **IX.7 Illustration – Single**

Stephanie Piro, Makin' Biscuits Cover

## **IX.8 Illustrations – Series**

Stephanie Piro, Cat Scene Investigator

Bernadette Kazmarski, Klepto Cat Mysteries

“We are delighted to receive entries from some of the best pet journalists and artists from all over the world for this year’s contest,” says Arden Moore, CWA communications contest chair. “Through various forms of media, they delivered the latest on feline health, behavior and the human-animal bond.”

CWA is grateful to the following sponsors: Emerald Level: Purina and Fear Free; Platinum Level: GoodNewsForPets, Germinder & Associates, Inc. and PetSafe; Gold Level: CEVA Animal Health, CFA, Petco, Pioneer Pet, TICA, Hartz Mountain, Perrigo Animal Health; Silver Level: Catalyst Council, Precious Cat, Pet Sitters International, World’s Best Cat Litter, Barn Cats, Inc., Amy Shojai, Sleepypod, AAFP, Cornell Feline Health; Bronze Level: Cats Rule. For sponsorships for next year’s program, contact Marci Kladnik at [mkauthor@verizon.net](mailto:mkauthor@verizon.net)

### **About the Cat Writers’ Association**

The Cat Writers’ Association, Inc. (CWA) is an international journalism organization founded in 1992 to promote the interests of cats; to provide a medium for exchange of ideas, methods and professional courtesies; and to promote a high standard of ethics in the collection, creation, and dissemination of cat information. CWA is a dynamic professional group of passionate cat advocates composed of writers, bloggers, photographers, artists, and broadcasters. The Association promotes mentorship for new writers, provides writing/publishing educational opportunities, and seeks to improve the quality of cat information by recognizing and rewarding outstanding published work. See [www.catwriters.com](http://www.catwriters.com) for further information. Follow CWA on Twitter at [@CatWriters](https://twitter.com/CatWriters) and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/CatWriters>.

### **About BlogPaws**

BlogPaws is a Social Media Company focused on teaching pet enthusiasts, pet bloggers and all pet parents how to use social media effectively and responsibly. Our dedicated team of professionals works year-round to connect our bloggers and micro-bloggers to the brands they buy every day. Following our first amazing conference in 2010, we launched an online community site for pet bloggers, pet enthusiasts, pet people on Twitter and Facebook and brands eager to tap into a vibrant, vocal community of serious writers, bloggers, tweeters. BlogPaws is a proud member of the Pet360 family of sites, dedicated to Pet Parenting. Simplified.