**Creative Retreats**

A spring Writers’ Retreat and the first Art Workshop were added to the list of Creative Retreats at HPMEC.

The first spring Creative Writers’ Retreat was April 7-9 with Roland Mann of Oxford, Miss. serving as professional mentor. The first Creative Art Workshop was August 1-3 with Carolyn Caldwell, art teacher at Rector High School, serving as instructor. Rob Lamm, Ph.D., Arkansas State University-Jonesboro, served as professional mentor for the annual summer retreat June 20-24.

**Fall Creative Writer’s Retreat**

The fall 2011 Creative Writers’ Retreat is scheduled November 14-18. Roland Mann of Oxford, Miss. will serve as professional mentor for the retreat. Roland is teaching in the Creative Writing for Entertainment Master’s Program at Full Sail University in Orlando, Florida. He is a former editor of Marvel Comics, journalist, newspaper editor, talented author and creative writing instructor, and he is a terrific encourager. Mann says, “A retreat is different than a workshop or conference. In general, a retreat allows writers to get away from the daily grind at home and focus solely on whatever it is they wish to write. The Hemingway-Pfeiffer Writing Retreats are, I think, the model for retreats — just get away from all of life’s day-to-day worries and write.”

Registration is $150 by October 31 and $175 thereafter. Lunch and breaks are included. Call the museum or email drsanders@astate.edu for a registration brochure or a need-based scholarship application.

Retreats are structured to accommodate the beginner and the accomplished writer with in-class writing activities and private writing time. Writers contribute to a souvenir anthology for each participant.
Young Authors 2011
Piggott Elementary School 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students completed Young Authors 2011 at the HP Educational Center. Students recommended by their teachers participated in a four week program after school on Wednesdays and received a spiral-bound collection of their original stories upon completion of the program. Special thank you to Deanna Dismukes, volunteer instructor. The 6th grade met in January and February, 5th grade met in February and March, and the 4th grade program met in March and April.

Creative Art Workshop, August 1-3
L-R: Front — Evelyn Ellington, Cardwell, MO; Marie Hillyer and Linda Wyss, Piggott; Back — Johnna Redman, Piggott; Judy Jones, Warren/Rector; Phyllis Rhodes, Everton, MO; Carolyn Caldwell, Rector, art teacher at Rector High School and workshop instructor; Nancy Benson and Monica Moore, Piggott, and Diana Sanders, HP Assistant Director.

Celebration of Quilting, May 21
Visitors’ Choice ribbons and certificates were awarded in multiple categories at the twelfth annual Celebration of Quilting. This annual event is in honor of Mr. Paul M. Pfeiffer and his practice of buying quilts from ladies of the Piggott community in the 1930s.

Young Authors, 4th-Grade

Young Authors, 5th Grade

Young Authors, 6th Grade

Dr. Ruth Hawkins
Named 2011 Tourism Hall of Fame
Dr. Ruth A. Hawkins, Director Arkansas State University Heritage Sites, was inducted into the Arkansas Tourism Hall of Fame during Henry Awards ceremonies at the 37th Annual Governor’s Conference on Tourism. The Hall of Fame honor is presented annually to individuals who have been actively involved in tourism for many years and who have made substantial contributions to the betterment of the industry as a whole.

In addition to the HPMEC, Ruth is responsible for the effort that created Crowley’s Ridge Parkway, Arkansas’ first National Scenic Byway, and for National Scenic Byway status for the Arkansas portion of the Great River Road. She obtained grant monies to research, stabilize and restore Lakeport Plantation, one of southeast Arkansas’ prime tourist attractions, and buildings in Tyronza to establish the Southern Tenant Farmers Museum. She has been responsible for over nineteen million dollars in grants to improve Arkansas’ tourism products that provide additional reasons for tourists to experience eastern Arkansas and contribute to the region’s economic development.

In 2005 Ruth was named Arkansas’ Tourism Person of the Year. She has also been recognized by the Arkansas Museum Association and the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas for her many accomplishments.

Congratulations Dr. Ruth!!!

Young at Art IX
Winners of Young at Art IX were announced in a May 10 awards reception. This annual event is to celebrate the Paris wedding of Ernest Hemingway and Pauline Pfeiffer, May 10, 1927. The April 30-May 10 exhibit featured 52 works by students, grades 7-12, selected by school districts within a 30-mile radius of Piggott. An Arkansas State University-Jonesboro art faculty member served as judge for the competition. Awards, sponsored by D & G Plumbing and Heating, Inc. of Piggott, included First Place-$35, Second place-$25 and Third Place-$15. Pictured is Third Place winner, Charles Gage, a senior at Kennett High School.