



*Welcome
to
HeartLa!*



HEARTLA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Mail form to: Jo Templeton, 37653 Rue de Lac, Denham Springs, LA 70706

DUES are payable in January and are \$25 per year regardless of when you join.

Contact Information - Fill in the blanks on your computer before printing.

Name	<input type="text"/>
Street Address	<input type="text"/>
City, State, Zip	<input type="text"/>
Country	<input type="text"/>
Home Phone	<input type="text"/>
Cell Phone	<input type="text"/>
E-Mail Address	<input type="text"/>
Membership - check one	<input type="checkbox"/> General
	<input type="checkbox"/> Long Distance (Unable to attend meetings)

RWA #	<input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Published	<input type="checkbox"/> Unpublished
Newsletter (choose one)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRO	<input type="checkbox"/> Email	<input type="checkbox"/> Snail Mail

ABOUT YOURSELF:

Writing as ... aka	<input type="text"/>	
Recent Books	<input type="text"/>	
URL	<input type="text"/>	
Website URL	<input type="text"/>	
Blog URL	<input type="text"/>	
Genre I am writing	<input type="text"/>	
Interested in volunteering?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes:	<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/> Publicity
	<input type="checkbox"/> Workshops	<input type="checkbox"/> Critiquing
	<input type="checkbox"/> Luncheon	<input type="checkbox"/> Anything else?
Query Contest - we ask all members to judge if they can	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Genre I prefer to Judge	<input type="text"/>	
Genre I prefer NOT to Judge	<input type="text"/>	

Dues are non-refundable and not tax deductible under *charity* expenses.

Mission Statement

Heart of Louisiana, also known as HeartLa, is a professional organization for published and unpublished authors. The group offers support, encouragement and education to aspiring writers of all genres.



ROMANCE WRITERS
OF AMERICA

About RWA®

Romance Writers of America® (RWA) is the national association for published and aspiring romance writers. Through education, networking, and advocacy, RWA® supports the professional interests of its over 9,500 members. With more than 140 local and special-interest chapters, RWA® provides opportunities for members to come together to discuss the industry, build connections and find support. The camaraderie and friendship members find within RWA® are invaluable.

As one of the largest writers' associations, Romance Writers of America® is proud to help its members pursue a career in romance fiction by hosting a national conference each summer which provides the perfect opportunity for authors to grow their knowledge of the business. The annual conference offers more than 100 workshops with topics ranging from beginning writing skills to the business side of being a working writer. Romance fiction editors and literary agents search for new talent in scheduled one-on-one interviews.

RWA® is also the sponsor of the industry's premier awards for published and unpublished romance writers — The RITA® Award and the Golden Heart® Contest. These contests recognize the best in romance fiction.



Interested in HeartLA?

_____ I'd like a membership application.

_____ I'd like someone to contact me to answer additional questions.

_____ I need information on speakers from your group.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Comments:

Mail to:

Heart of Louisiana
37653 Rue de Lac, Denham Springs, LA 70706

HeartLA usually meets the 4th Saturday of every month except November and December at the Bluebonnet Regional Library from 10:00 a.m. until noon.

Visit on the web:

www.heartla.com
www.rwanational.org

Heart of Louisiana

Romance
Writers
of
America®



Baton Rouge Chapter

About HeartLA

Heart of Louisiana, or HeartLA, a professional organization for published and unpublished authors, offers support, encouragement and education to aspiring writers of all genres. Monthly meetings include speakers on diverse topics; workshops to hone writing skills; market information from the publishing industry; and networking with other authors. Our speakers have included authors of all types – romance (Lynn Emery, Erica Spindler); mystery (Dixie Kane, Barbara Colley); mainstream (John Tarlton and TV personality Leo Honeycutt); award winning documentary filmmaker and screen writer Ted Baldwin; literary agents (Pam Ahearn and Jean Price) as well as people from other walks of life – historians, detectives, coroner, psychologist, civil war reenactors, and a Victorian medicine expert, to name a few.



Our members are currently writing romance (contemporary, historical, and paranormal); romantic suspense; mystery; science fiction; young adult and children's literature; short stories; and poetry. Members enjoy an informative monthly newsletter; email loop for up to the minute news and writing chat; and much more!

HeartBeat Contest

Our chapter sponsors an annual query letter contest, HeartBeat. A number of contest winners from our former writing contest, Labor of Love, have gone on to be published. While we don't claim credit for these talented authors' success, we hope our critiques helped in the polishing of that first sale! See website for further details.

Readers Luncheon

Our Fall in Love with Romance Readers Luncheon offers area readers a chance to mix and mingle with some of their favorite romance authors. We're very proud to host this annual event, and strive to provide guests with a memorable afternoon of fun, food, and romance!

Did You Know...

- ♥ Romance fiction generated \$1.2 billion in sales in 2004.
- ♥ 54.9% of paperback sales in 2004 were romance fiction — almost half of all paperback fiction sold!
- ♥ 39.3% of all fiction sold is romance.

No doubt about it...the romance industry is thriving! If you're interested in learning more about this exciting field, please see the back of this brochure for chapter meeting times and membership information.

Published Authors of HeartLA

HeartLA boasts an extensive roster of multi-published, award-winning authors.. Published in a variety of genres, this list is growing in leaps and bounds! We are proud to include in our membership authors such as:

Nancy Brandt
(also published as Honor Cummings)

Cherie Claire

Eleanor Cocreham

Elaine Grant

Rhonda Leah

Connie Rachal

Tammy Riviere

Sylvia Rochester

Lynn Shurr

Josephine Templeton

Please visit
www.heartla.com for a
complete list of our
author's works, as well as
links to their websites!



Romance Writers of America[®] Membership Application

Member Information

Check here if renewing/reinstating RWA membership

Name: _____ Company: _____

Address: _____ Country: _____
Street City State Zip/postal code

Phone number: _____ E-mail address: _____

Pseudonym: _____ Chapter: _____

Membership Classification

General Membership

General membership shall be open to all persons *seriously pursuing a romance fiction-writing career*. Only General members shall have all rights of membership and only General members shall have the right to vote and the right to hold office in RWA. *General membership is not available to:* non-writers who work in the publishing industry, writers pursuing a writing career in something other than romance fiction, or writers who are seriously pursuing a career in romance fiction but also work as an editor or reader for a publisher or agent, and whose responsibilities *in any way* affect whether or not a submitting writer's work is accepted or rejected by that publisher or agent. These individuals must apply for Associate membership within the association.

Associate Membership

Associate membership shall be open to *all other individuals*, including employees of RWA and its contractors, who support the organization and its purposes but who do not meet the requirements for General membership or who are not permitted to participate on RWA's general discussion listservs by reason of being publishers, acquiring editors, or agents who actively acquire* romance fiction or actively offer representation to writers of romance fiction, as further described in RWA policy. Associate members shall not have any voting rights or the right to hold office in RWA.

*"Acquisition process" means the process by which manuscripts are reviewed and evaluated by any individual who is employed or contracted by a publisher that actively acquires romance fiction or by a literary agency that represents authors of romance fiction, for the purpose of either recommending that a manuscript be considered for acquisition or representation, or be rejected and removed from consideration by that publisher or literary agency.

By checking either General or Associate membership, you affirm you qualify for that membership classification.

Dues & Fees

RWA membership dues are \$85 annually. New/reinstating members pay a \$25 one-time processing fee (unless membership lapses). Note: Non-U.S. RWA members must pay additional postage for RWR delivery.

\$110: Members—U.S. Includes delivery of the RWR at the periodicals rate within the United States.

\$138: Members—Western Hemisphere. Includes \$28 postage for delivery of the RWR to the Western Hemisphere.

\$125: Members—U.S. w/first-class RWR delivery. Includes \$15 postage for first-class delivery of the RWR within the United States.

\$140: Members—Pacific Rim (Australia, etc.). Includes \$30 postage for delivery of the RWR to the Pacific Rim.

\$120: Members—Canada. Includes \$10 postage for delivery of the RWR to Canada.

\$146: Members—Europe. Includes \$36 postage for delivery of the RWR to Europe.

\$127: Members—Mexico. Includes \$17 postage for delivery of the RWR to Mexico.

\$152: Members—Asia/Africa. Includes \$42 postage for delivery of the RWR to Asia/Africa.

Payment

Total Payment Enclosed: _____

Please allow up to 1 week for processing. Make check or money order [U.S. funds] payable to "Romance Writers of America." Mail payment and application to: Romance Writers of America, 14615 Benfer Rd., Houston, TX 77069. Applications with credit card payments may be faxed to: 832-717-5201. *Non-U.S. members must send payment by credit card or International Money Order, in U.S. funds, drawn on a bank with a branch in the U.S. through which the transaction can be made.* Dues are not deductible as a charitable contribution but may qualify as a business expense.

Type of Card: American Express VISA MasterCard Discover

Credit Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

By submitting this application, you acknowledge that you have attained the age of majority in the state in which you reside, will embrace the purpose of RWA, agree to be bound by its Bylaws, and observe faithfully the provisions thereof.

Administrative use only: Date received _____ RWA membership # _____