

7th Annual Key West Writers Guild Award

The Florida Keys Council of the Arts announces the 7th Annual Key West Writers Guild Award. An annual prize of \$2,000 is available to a writer of a work in progress. The award is an opportunity for talented writers of fiction and non-fiction prose.

To be eligible, an applicant must join the Key West Writers Guild and read from the manuscript during at least two Writers Guild meetings. Meetings are held at 10 a.m. on the second and fourth Saturdays at Kelly's Caribbean Restaurant, 303 Whitehead Street, in Key West.

The writer must also complete a brief application and submit a 30-50 page manuscript excerpt. The application is posted at www.keysarts.com and is also available in the Arts Council office in the Gato Building at 1100 Simonton Street.

The deadline for applications is **April 10, 2010**. Applications may be delivered during a regular meeting at Kelly's Caribbean Restaurant or mailed to: **Key West Writers Guild, Post Office Box 4983, Key West FL 33041**.

The Key West Writers Guild Award is supported by private funds and is administered by the Florida Keys Council of the Arts. The winner will be announced in June 2010.

For more information about this and other grants and opportunities for artists, visit the Florida Keys Council of the Arts website at www.keysarts.com or call the Arts Council at 305-295-4369.

What happens when:

- 1) have nothing to do
- 2) own a sharp knife
- 3) have a large lime
- 4) own a patient cat
- 5) drink too much tequila
- 6) and it's football season?

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Some Dance To Forget

Some Don't Remember Dancing

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\$ 20 entry fee for Pierre's
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Kristi L. Peterson

4/6/59-10/14/09

A beloved mother, wife, and friend lost her nearly two year battle with cancer. Kristi Peterson was born in Chicago in 1959 and moved to the Florida Keys with her parents Levi and Doris, in 1976. She along with her parents and brother Cliff owned and ran the Crack'd Conch Restaurant for 25 years. Kristi also met the love of her life, Ken Burton, at the 1985 Fantasy Fest in Key West. They have been devoted to each other ever since.



Kristi was a beautiful and loving person who was creative, intelligent, and generous beyond her means. She was strong willed, independent and loved to laugh! She was a lover of animals and has been known to have adopted many stray animals, too numerous to count over the years.

She was a loving and doting grandmother who loved watching her grandson Adrian play, laugh and learn. He was definitely Grandma's favorite!

Kristi and her husband Ken loved to go boating and snorkeling together. They loved to travel and it gave Kristi a reason to use her camera and she became an excellent photographer. She thrived on spending time with her family and friends and loved to cook for them as well. It was just another of her many talents.

She will be extraordinarily missed by all who were blessed to know and love her. Kristi is survived by her husband Ken Burton, daughter Jessyne Peterson, grandson Adrian, brother Clifford Peterson, sister-in-law Julie Stone and her husband Gary, brother-in-law Bill Burton and wife Marie, brother-in-law Rory Burton, mother-in-law Anna Burton, and long time family friends Caryn Wiersma and Judy and Jay Farnum.

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Accepting Loss The Cycle of Grief

When we experience any kind of devastating loss, whether it is the loss of a loved one, a dream, or a relationship, feelings may arise within us that are overwhelming or difficult to cope with. This sense of grief can also come up when we are separated from anyone or anything we have welcomed into our lives. And while it may feel like we are caught up in a never-ending spiral of sadness and emptiness, it is important to remember that the grief we are feeling is not a permanent state of being. Rather, grief is part of the process of letting go that in many ways can be a gift, allowing us to go deeper within ourselves to rediscover the light amidst the seeming darkness.

The emotions that accompany any kind of loss can be intense and varied. A sense of shock or denial is often the first reaction, to be replaced by anger. Sometimes this anger can be directed at your loved one for "abandoning" you; at other times you may feel outrage toward the universe for what you are enduring. And while there are stages of grief that people go through - moving from denial to anger to bargaining to depression

to acceptance - the cycles of grief often move in spirals, sometimes circling forward and then back again. You may even experience moments of strength, faith, and laughter in between. While these emotions seem to come and go sporadically, it is important to feel them, accept them, and allow them to flow. With time, patience, and compassion, you will eventually find your center again.

As we move through our grief, we may find ourselves reluctant to release our pain, fearing we are letting go of who or what we have lost. We may even regard our movement toward healing as an act of disloyalty or giving up. Know that while the hurt may fade, the essence of what you had and who you loved will have already transformed you and forever stay with you. If anything, once you are ready for the pain of your loss to subside, their memories can then live more fully within you. Remember, that healing is a part of the spiraling cycles of grief, and that in letting yourself feel restored again, you are surrendering to a natural movement that is part of the dance of life.

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