

## Latinidad – 12/10: Best of 2010

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### BEFORE YOU SEND IT OUT

“Marcela Landres points you in the right direction. She speaks with great knowledge and certainty about the writing process, manuscripts-in-progress, and the publishing industry, which is tremendously valuable for all writers who are finding their way. And her depth and breadth of knowledge regarding All Things Literary are a kind of storehouse from which her sparkling generosity shines. Thank you, Marcela! The lessons I gained from your proposal critique and editorial consultation will last a long time and keep me walking steadily on this literary path.”

--Christopher Mahon, author of *The Ghost of Inish Moore*

Ready to work with a professional editor? Visit

<http://www.marcelalandres.com/services.html>

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### 1. Saludos

While iPads, smartphones, and e-readers may be all the rage, books remain a more affordable--and intimate--present. Check out the Latinidad List below for gift ideas. Double your deposits in the karma bank by doing your holiday shopping at La Casa Azul Bookstore, <http://www.lacasaazulbookstore.com/>; with every book you purchase, you'll not only be supporting authors, you'll also be supporting Latina entrepreneurship.

To nominate a book for next year's list, please e-mail me at [marcelalandres@yahoo.com](mailto:marcelalandres@yahoo.com). Note that I'm seeking nominations only for books to be published in 2011.

Helping Latinos get published,

Marcela Landres

[marcelalandres@yahoo.com](mailto:marcelalandres@yahoo.com)

<http://www.marcelalandres.com/>

### 2. The Latinidad List

Best Debut – Drowning Tucson by Aaron Michael Morales  
Writing so breathtakingly brutal, you feel as if you've been stabbed.

Poetry – Up Jump the Boogie by John Murillo  
R&B licks meet hip-hop beats in this soulful collection.

Chick Lit – Nancy's Theory of Style by Grace Coopersmith (a.k.a. Marta Acosta)  
Frothy perfection for readers who appreciate both substance and style.

Mystery – Blackout in Precinct Puerto Rico, Book Five by Steven Torres  
Beautifully detailed depiction of big crimes in a small town.

Thriller – Freedom by Daniel Suarez  
Scarily plausible story inspired by our growing dependence on technology.

Memoir – The Bread of Angels by Stephanie Saldana  
Elegant and earnest, Saldana's journey is equal parts prayer, poem, and parable.

Self-Help – The Image of Success by Lizandra Vega  
Essential reading for anyone seeking a job or a promotion.

Cookbook – Daisy's Holiday Cooking by Daisy Martinez with Chris Styler  
A godsend for hosts and hostesses who want to entertain with a Latin flair.

Young Adult – The Sweetness of Salt by Cecilia Galante  
Quietly devastating tale of an overachiever and her troubled sister.

Children's Picture Book – The Best Family in the World by Susana Lopez, illustrated by Ulises Wensell  
Imaginative and heartwarming celebration of adoption.

### 3. Upcoming Workshops

#### WHAT: Before You Send It Out Workshop

Agents and editors don't have time to read entire manuscripts. So how do they choose which writers they want to work with? Proposals. Regardless of whether you have a book for adults or children, in fiction or nonfiction, you need a strong proposal. But while many writers invest a significant amount of time, energy and money in crafting their manuscripts, few know how to compose a proper proposal. In this class, you will learn:

- Why 90% of submissions are rejected based on the cover letter alone
- The single most reliable—and free!—resource for finding a good agent
- Three common, yet easily avoidable, mistakes writers make
- A proposal's true purpose (hint: it's not to demonstrate talent)

Note: A limited number of one-on-one sessions are also available.

WHEN: Saturday, April 9

WHERE: Unicorn Writers' Conference, Saint Clements Castle, Portland, CT

REGISTER: <http://www.unicornwritersconference.com/>

List of upcoming workshops:

<http://www.marcelalandres.com/workshops.html>

#### 4. Resources

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##### HOW EDITORS THINK

"I read How Editors Think in one sitting and was engaged from beginning to end. It is well written, highly informative, and humorous—I found myself laughing out-loud in a few spots! Thanks for sharing the secrets of the trade."  
—Mayra Lazara Dole, author of Down to the Bone

Inspired by my experience as a former Simon & Schuster editor, How Editors Think: The Real Reason They Rejected You reveals what it really takes to get published. For more information, visit:

<http://www.marcelalandres.com/E-book.html>

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##### \$15,000 FELLOWSHIP TO FINISH FIRST BOOK

Deadline: January 31

The Charles Pick Fellowship offers \$15,000 and a six-month fellowship at the University of East Anglia in England to a fiction or a creative nonfiction writer. For more information, visit <http://www.uea.ac.uk/lit/awards>

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##### GET STARTED WRITING YOUR NOVEL SEMINAR

Date: December 11

Cost: \$85, limited to 15 people

Bestselling author Karen E. Quinones Miller offers a 5-hour writing seminar in Philadelphia, PA that discusses: getting started, point of view, character development, story structure, overcoming writer's block, etc. To register, e-mail [authorkeqm@aol.com](mailto:authorkeqm@aol.com)

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#### \$25,000 TRANSLATION FELLOWSHIPS

Deadline: January 6

The National Endowment for the Arts offers grants of \$12,500 to \$25,000 to translators of poetry and prose who are working on specific translations of published works from any language into English. For more information, visit <http://www.nea.gov/Grants/apply/LitTranslation/index.html>

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#### \$5000 ESSAY CONTEST

Deadline: January 10

Creative Nonfiction Journal and The Salt Institute seek essays about "The Night." For more information, visit <https://www.creativenonfiction.org/thejournal/submittocnf.htm#thenight>

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#### LATINO POETRY AWARD

Deadline: January 15

The Andres Montoya Poetry Prize offers \$1000 and publication by the University of Notre Dame Press for a poetry collection by a Latino poet. For more information, visit [http://latinostudies.nd.edu/poetry\\_prize/](http://latinostudies.nd.edu/poetry_prize/)

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#### \$2000 POETRY RESIDENCY

Deadline: January 15

The University of Mississippi offers a summer residency and a \$2000 honorarium to a poet who is working on a manuscript. For more information, visit <http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/english/mfa/SPiR.html>

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#### NOVEL PRIZE

Deadline: January 31

The Big Moose Prize offers \$1000 and publication by Black Lawrence Press for an unpublished novel. For more information, visit <http://blacklawrence.com/BigMoosePrize.html>

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#### WRITERS OF COLOR AWARD

Deadline: February 3

The Pen Open Book Awards offers \$1000 to emerging poets, fiction writers, and creative nonfiction writers of color. For more information, visit <http://www.pen.org/page.php/prmID/280>

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#### \$35,000 FICTION FELLOWSHIP

Deadline: February 3

The PEN/Robert Bingham Fellowship for Writers is for a first novel or collection of short stories. For more information, visit <http://www.pen.org/page.php/prmID/279>

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#### SIMON & SCHUSTER SEEKS EDITOR/ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Simon & Schuster is looking for an Editor/Associate Editor for Aladdin Books. Qualified candidates must have children's book publishing experience. To apply, visit <http://www.simonandschuster.biz/careers>

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#### KNOWLEDGE IS POWER ONLY WHEN SHARED

Please forward Latinidad widely.

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For more resources, visit <http://www.marcelalandres.com/resources.html>

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#### SHARE

Want to see your announcement in an upcoming issue of Latinidad? Just e-mail me at [marcelalandres@yahoo.com](mailto:marcelalandres@yahoo.com)

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Visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/marcelalandres/>

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“A book worth reading is worth buying.”--John Ruskin

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Marcela Landres

Author of the e-book "How Editors Think: The Real Reason They Rejected You"

<http://www.marcelalandres.com/E-book.html>