

Latest Fellowship Recipient Signs With Literary Agency

The 1997 James Jones First Novel Fellowship was awarded to Leslie Schwartz of Los Angeles for her unpublished novel, "Jumping the Green."

More than 500 manuscripts were submitted for the sixth annual competition, which is administered by the Wilkes University English Department on behalf of the Society.

Schwartz graduated with honors from the University of California-Berkeley in 1985. She free-lances as a health reporter for several women's magazines such as *Shape*, *Self* and *Good Housekeeping*. In addition to writing features for the *Los Angeles Times*, she is the writer of a health newsletter published by Clement Communications.

Her short fiction has been published in several literary magazines, including *Sonora Review*, *Yellow Silk* and *Jacaranda Review*. Schwartz also was awarded a residency at the Ucross Foundation in Clearmont, Wyo., where she will live for eight weeks in a converted train depot and work on completing her second novel.

As a result of winning the \$2,500 Jones Fellowship, Schwartz recently signed a contract with the Elaine Markson Literary Agency in New York, where she will be represented by Elizabeth Sheinkman.

As an update on the Society's 1995 co-winner Rick Bass, *The New Yorker* reported that his award-winning novel, *Where the Sea Used to Be*, will be published in 1998. Bass also had received a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1997.

The deadline for the 1998 James Jones First Novel Fellowship is March 1, 1998. The competition is open to all writers who have not previously published a novel.