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## **Writers flood SFU book competition**

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A flood of unpublished Canadian writers are keeping their fingers crossed that they will be among the winning authors in Simon Fraser University's first ever First Book competition. Writers from as far away as Italy and New Zealand submitted entries.

The Writer's Studio, a certificate in creative writing program within SFU Continuing Studies, created the competition—which had a May 31 deadline submission date—to celebrate the Studio's 10th anniversary. The competition is the first in Canada to open up publishing doors for unpublished Canadian writers in three genres: creative non-fiction, fiction and poetry.

Three winners will be announced at the October 2010 Vancouver International Writers Festival. The prize? In 2011, Anvil Press will publish the winning manuscript in each category.

Competition coordinator John Mavin says the competition attracted double the number of manuscripts expected. The judges received 119 fiction, 24 non-fiction and 57 poetry manuscripts.