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For immediate release

AWARD PLANNED FOR OUTSTANDING PACIFIC NORTHWEST WRITER:

Award of a newly instituted literary "Oscar" to the Pacific Northwest author of the most outstanding recent book will be made at the Pacific Northwest International Writers' Conference to be held at the University of Washington July 30 through August 1.

According to conference president Donald H. Clark, the trophy for the region's top author of the year will be designed by the Seattle Municipal Arts Commission and presented by the trustees of the writers conference. The award will be made annually in the future, Clark said.

Selection of the prize-winning writer will be made by a three-member committee, one member representing the art commission, one the writers' conference, and one at large.

Several hundred writers from the western states and Canada are expected to attend the conference, which features practical workshop sessions directed by nationally known authors, editors and publishers.

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