

June 2003 Meeting

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MOTIVATION AND THE MUSE . . . WHICH COMES FIRST?

Prolific children's author, **Marisa Montes**, writes picture books, folk tales, poetry, middle-grade and YA novels and especially favors mysteries and ghost stories. Born in Puerto Rico, her Hispanic heritage colors her work, but she adds to the pastiche the breadth and depth of her experience as an Army brat.

Montes credits her traveling life and the fact of being an only child to creating a foundation for becoming a writer. Her active imagination and love of reading led logically to a writing life, but it took time to realize that role. She notes, "I have two quirky traits that helped me realize my role in life. One is that I can't stand the feeling that there is something out there that I might be missing out on, and the second is that I am easily bored. Being a writer, especially a children's author, fits in beautifully with this quirky personality of mine." Having long pondered what she is meant to do in this life, the topic of her talk has great meaning for her. Her latest work, a series for Scholastics, *Get Ready for Gabi*, is in progress, with several books already available.

You can read about her on her [website](#).

A big event scheduled for this meeting is the presentation of awards to the winners of our annual Young Writers Contest. The sixth, seventh and eighth grade contest winners and family members will be our guests for the meeting. Contest director, Joan Brennan, will be the presenter and the winning entries will be on display for you to peruse. You can see more about the winners [here](#) - click your "Back" button to return here.

This is always a fun meeting - don't miss it. Maybe some of that youthful enthusiasm will rub off on you:-)

Oh, yes . . . there's this bit of business to attend to at the June meeting (last one of FY 2002-2003): Voting for officers for next year - this is done by a show of hands and affirmation. Nominations will be accepted from the floor. The selection committee has compiled this slate for your consideration -

Laura Fischer, President (presently Branch VP)

Esther Gordon, Vice President

Danard Emanuelson, Treasurer (presently Branch Treasurer)

Jacque Hall, Secretary

C'mon and vote!

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