Contests:

∙ **Narrative Winter 2016 Short Story Contest**: Short shorts, short stories, essays, memoirs, photo essays, graphic stories, all forms of literary nonfiction, and excerpts from longer works of both fiction and nonfiction, all less than 15,000 words. [http://www.narrativemagazine.com/winter-2016-story-contest](http://www.narrativemagazine.com/winter-2016-story-contest)

∙ **Stony Brook Shorty Story Fiction Prize**: Short stories of less than 7500 words, submitted by April 15th, for the chance to win $1000. [http://www.stonybrook.edu/southampton/mfa/special_programs/fiction.html](http://www.stonybrook.edu/southampton/mfa/special_programs/fiction.html)

Open Submission Calls:

∙ **Fredericksburg Literary and Art Review** is now accepting submissions for its May 2016 edition. They want the freshest writing and art from both emerging and established authors. **Deadline**: March 18; [http://www.fredericksburgwriters.com/submissions/](http://www.fredericksburgwriters.com/submissions/)

∙ **Rabbit Catastrophe Review** is a literary journal “dedicated to publishing writers marginalized from mainstream literary communities. If you are queer, of color, trans, differently abled, or otherwise commonly excluded, we encourage you to apply.” **Rolling Submissions**; [http://rabbitcatastrophepress.com/rabbit-catastrophe-review/](http://rabbitcatastrophepress.com/rabbit-catastrophe-review/)

Upcoming Events:

- **The Write Club**: “Host Ian Belknap pits local writers against one another in a composition competition: two players have seven minutes to write about two opposing ideas, and the audience picks each round’s winner.” **Tuesday 2/16; 7 pm, $10**. *Hideout* 1354 W. Wabansia Ave, Chicago, IL.

- **Gumbo Fiction Mardi Gras Salon**: An open-mic for readers “with work related in any way to Mardi Gras, Carnival, New Orleans, Alligators, Swamps, Jazz, Blues, or other related themes should notify the MC, and will receive priority slots in the readers' list. Free admission to anyone in costume or masks! And that's not all. [Writer and host] Tina-just back from her first Mardi Gras in New Orleans--will have wild tales and a new supply of fresh beads. As always, the open mic slots are 10 minutes: about five double-spaced pages.” **Wednesday 2/17; 7 pm, $2 for students**. *The Galway Arms*. 2442 N. Clark, Chicago, IL.

- **The Indie City Writers**: “The Indie City Writers present a night of poetry, fiction and nonfiction. Featured writers include: Samantha Clark, Melanie Holmes, Marissa McCants, Daniel DeLeon, Kayla Gordon, Jennifer Bisbing and K.B. Jensen. Meet emerging authors, snag signed books and enjoy refreshments.” **Thursday 2/18, 7:30 pm**. *Women and Children First*; 5233 N. Clark St, Chicago, IL.