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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### WRITING PAD LAUNCHES

*A Fabulous Writer's Space in the Silver Lake Hills Hosts "Free Writing 101," "Erotic Free Writing," "Free Writing for Screenwriters" Taught by Poet and Essayist, Marilyn Friedman*

Los Angeles, CA (February 3, 2006)—Published poet and essayist, Marilyn Friedman announces the launch of Writing Pad, a fabulous, modern writer's space in the Silver Lake Hills. Courses currently offered at Writing Pad include "Free Writing 101," "Erotic Free Writing" and "Free Writing for Screenwriters." All workshops are designed to jump-start creativity in beginning and experienced screenwriters, playwrights, poets, memoirists, essayists and novelists. Each two-and-a-half-hour class includes tasting plates and desserts, two to three in-class writes, and the opportunity to socialize with young, hip writers and professionals. To register, or to view a schedule of upcoming classes, visit [www.writingpad.com](http://www.writingpad.com) or call (323) 644-0779. Five-week sessions cost \$185 and one-day workshops cost \$40.

Marilyn Friedman, who recently moved to LA, got the idea for Writing Pad after spending three years facilitating free writing workshops in the vibrant literary community of San Francisco. She wanted to give the traditional writing class a twist however, by serving gourmet food in spa-like surroundings. "This is my vision of the ideal writing school," said Friedman. "I believe that a comfortable, aesthetic environment is essential for inspiring creativity. I added the tasting plates and desserts to help students get into that happy and relaxed buzz good food produces."

### Writing Pad Spring 2006 Schedule

**Free Writing 101** (5 Thurs., Feb. 16 – March 16, 2006, 7:30 – 10:00 p.m.)

This course is for anyone who likes to write, has always wanted to write, or who is struggling from writer's block. In each class, students will write from prompts based on the five senses such as smelling different vials of scents. Menus range from empanadas and orange infused flan to butternut squash soup with blue cheese crème fraiche and chocolate pot-de-crème.

**Erotic Free Writing Workshop** (Sat., March 25, 2006, 1:00-3:30 p.m.)

This class is designed to stimulate sensual writing in a safe, pampering environment. Students will write from erotic prompts such as listening to erotic literature to reveal sexy memories and create taboo, titillating descriptions. Menu: fig, goat cheese and prosciutto bruschetta, baby artichokes with vanilla jalapeno aioli, chocolate dipped strawberries, molten chocolate cake.

**Free Writing For Screenwriters (5 Thurs., Apr. 6 - May 4, 2006, 7:30 - 10:00 p.m.)**

This course helps writers access story ideas in new ways and sharpen their screenwriting craft. Students will create authentic dialogue, well-rounded characters and vivid settings by writing from evocative phrases and participating in guided visualizations. Menus range from homemade dolmas and poached pears over ice cream to cucumber mint tea sandwiches and miniature cheesecakes. This class focuses on the elements of craft most relevant to screenwriting, but writers of any genre are welcome.

**About Free Writing**

Marilyn's free writing classes are based on the Amherst Writers and Artists (AWA) method in which students participate in spontaneous, free writing exercises (e.g., writing without letting your pen leave the page for timed exercises triggered by a writing prompt). If a student decides to read what he's written, the class and instructor only respond with what they like and remember. This method was developed in response to the traditional writing seminar in which manuscripts are subjected to harsh critique, and students often leave class feeling blocked and discouraged. In contrast, the AWA method blends improvisational writing with a safe, supportive environment to produce richer, more innovative writing.

**About Marilyn Friedman**

Marilyn is a published poet, she has written articles on love and dating for Match.com, and she is currently working on a memoir about her experiences as a swing dancer.

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\*\*For press interviews or hi-res jpg images of Writing Pad, please contact Marilyn Friedman at (323) 644-0779 or marilynfriedman@yahoo.com or Natasha Wang at (213) 804-9851 or Natasha@razpr.com.