

LOCAL AUTHOR FINALIST FOR PRESTIGIOUS FICTION AWARD

June 26, 2010

Mary E. DeMuth, author of nine books, was a finalist last week for The Christy Award for her book *Daisy Chain* (2009 Zondervan). In addition to writing books, DeMuth mentors writers at The Writing Spa and helps orchestrate the Rockwall Christian Writers Group, which meets monthly at LakePointe Church.

According to ChristyAwards.com, the Christy Award began in the spring of 1999 when nearly a dozen Christian publishers confirmed the need for establishing an award to recognize novelists in several genres of Christian fiction. They launched The Christy Award, named in honor of Catherine Marshall's successful novel, *Christy*, and of her contribution to growth of Christian fiction.

Every year publishers submit novels according to genre that are copyrighted in the year preceding the awards. Each category of novels is then read and evaluated against a ten-point criteria by a panel of seven judges composed of librarians, reviewers, academicians, literary critics, and other qualified readers.

On June 26, the Christy Awards gave medals to all the finalists and announced the winners of each category.

"Although *Daisy Chain* didn't win its category," DeMuth said, "I'm so thankful to be nominated. As a novelist, I spend a lot of time behind a computer screen. Being honored in this way helps me know that what I do is recognized."