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Major Updates from the #DisneyMustPay Task Force More Author Groups Join the Task Force

LOS ANGELES (May 11) <u>#DisneyMustPay</u> Joint Task Force is pleased to share news and updates as it works towards its goal that all WritersMustBePaid.org.

- <u>Alan Dean Foster, James Kahn</u>, and <u>Donald F. Glut</u>, the novelization authors of the original *Star Wars* trilogy, have resolved their royalties' issues and will be paid by Disney.
- The International Association of Media Tie-In Writers (<u>IAMTW</u>), the <u>International Thriller Writers</u>, and <u>Mystery Writers of America</u> have joined the Task Force.
- <u>Lee Goldberg</u>, writer and founder of IAMTW, has joined <u>Neil Gaiman</u>, <u>Tess Gerritsen</u>, <u>Mary Robinette Kowal</u>, and <u>Chuck Wendig</u> on the Task Force.
- Authors continue to contact the Task Force looking for help. Writers
 who are missing royalties or royalty statements <u>may fill out this form</u>
 hosted by SFWA. Anonymity is guaranteed.

"Lee Goldberg, IAMTW, International Thriller Writers, and Mystery Writers of America bring valuable experience to the Disney Task Force," said Mary Robinette Kowal, President, SFWA. "Their support demonstrates that writers stand with each other."

John Palisano, President, Horror Writers Association (HWA), said, "The HWA is proud to be part of the Disney Task Force alongside SFWA, RWA, MWA, and many other organizations focused on writers. We believe writers must be paid and should not have to jump through hoops for that to

happen. We're hoping Disney will come to the table and cooperate with author organizations that are providing support to authors and agents so that there is a clear path going forward. We are all wishing for a resolution that will continue the great creative relationships that have been built over many decades."

"Since we launched the Task Force, progress has been made; we are pleased that a few writers have been paid," said Kowal. "However, we do notice the difference in how the lower profile writers are being treated. We should not still be having the discussion about honoring their contracts."

Fans, fellow writers, and the creative community have taken to social media to support the authors being helped by the <u>#DisneyMustPay</u> Joint Task Force. Because of their passion, the message is being delivered.

For writers to be paid, people need to continue to buy their books and watch their movies and programs. The Task Force strongly feels that a boycott will only hurt writers.

There are ways fans and supporters can help.

- Do not boycott, as this will disproportionately affect those authors who *are* being paid.
- Use #DisneyMustPay on social media. Help is needed to bring the task force's five action items to the attention of Disney's decision-makers.
- Visit <u>WritersMustBePaid.org</u>, a new website set up by our new task force, and share it.
- Do purchase the works of affected authors for which they are receiving royalties.

<u>Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America</u> (SFWA) formed the <u>#DisneyMustPay</u> Joint Task Force, which now includes the <u>Authors Guild</u>, <u>Horror Writers Association</u>, International Association of Media Tie-In Writers (<u>IAMTW</u>), <u>International Thriller Writers</u>, <u>Mystery Writers of America</u>, <u>National Writers Union</u>, <u>Novelists</u>, <u>Inc.</u>, <u>Romance Writers of America</u>, and <u>Sisters in Crime</u> to identify and guide authors who might be owed money. Disney is refusing to cooperate with the task force in identifying affected authors.

The **#DisneyMustPay Joint Task Force** is making sure writers' working conditions are fair and safe, but individual negotiations are, rightly, between the authors, their agents, and the rights holder. The Disney Task Force is working to address structural and systemic concerns.

Additional updates and information will be available at www.writersmustbepaid.org.