Scottish Book Trust Young Writers Conference

■ Budding writers from across Scotland are being offered a rare opportunity to access the expertise and knowledge of published writers and experts from within the industry.

Scottish Book Trust's first Young Writers Conference will take place on 13th November 2010 and is open to all young people based in Scotland, aged between 14 and 17.

Attendees will receive advice some of the most exciting names in Scottish Writing, including Jason Donald, Ella Hickson and Ryan Van Winkle, as well as a performance and creative writing workshops. Industry insiders, including Francis Bickmore from Edinburgh based Canongate Books and Lucy Juckes from the Jenny Brown Agency, will also be on hand to offer an insight into the world of publishing.

Caitrin Armstrong, Writer Development Manager at Scottish Book Trust, said:

"When we launched the Young Writers Awards earlier this year, which included an opportunity for three teenage writers to work with author Catherine Forde for six months, we were inundated with applications. This enthusiastic response inspired us to create a conference for young people where we could condense the Young Writers Awards programme into one day of reading, writing and literature industry knowledge.

"This conference is a fantastic opportunity for young people to meet like minded writers and to discover how to get their work noticed by the people who matter."

The event will be held at Scottish Book Trust, Sandeman House, Trunk's Close, 55 High Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1SR on Saturday 13th November 10.30am- 4.00pm. The cost of the event is £5 (including lunch) and the deadline for applications is Friday 29th October.

More information is available at www.scottishbooktrust.com/youngwritersconference.