

**Christian Writers Group promotes short-story competition;  
Opens regional office in Chile**

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LAM News Service

**Miami** (LAMNS)—A newly forming association that seeks to develop Christian writers throughout Latin America has announced a short-story competition. In addition, the organization, the Latin American Association of Christian Writers (ALEC) plans on opening a regional office in Temuco, Chile.

These developments follow an initial seminar for Christian writers held last November in Temuco, says Eugenio Orellana, a missionary with Latin America Mission and the Executive Director of Hispanic Literature Ministries. Eighty-five participants attended the week-long seminar which featured workshops on developing a writing style, publishing books and writing for Christian radio.

“The new office will allow members of ALEC to develop their talents as writers,” Orellana says. “There will be computers, an internet connection and other facilities to assist them in that task.” The ALEC office will be housed in the Temuco Theological Seminary, a school of the Christian and Missionary Alliance where last November’s seminar was held.

The short-story competition is designed to introduce Christian writers to Christian fiction and develop their skills as story writers. Participation will be limited to those who are members of ALEC, and Orellana hopes to publish an anthology of the best stories for distribution throughout the Spanish-speaking world.

Each entrant will be recognized and prizes will be offered to the three top entries.

“We have begun working with Letra Viva to develop Hispanic writing talent and interest in publishing,” Orellana comments. Letra Viva is a Costa Rican based cooperative of 34 small Christian publishers throughout the region who have banded together to cooperate in promotion and distribution of Christian literature. The organization recently opened a distribution warehouse in Miami.

Orellana is the founder of ALEC and currently serves as its president. The National Director in Chile is Professor Lilian Avadaño. The organization is planning a conference on Christian broadcasting next year in Santiago, Chile, as well as additional conferences for Christian writers in Miami next year and Buenos Aires, Argentina in 2002.

Information on ALEC can be obtained by writing to Box 52-7900, Miami, FL 33152

The Latin America Mission works in partnership with churches and Christian agencies throughout Latin America and supports missionaries and projects in many Latin countries as well as in Spain. LAM is seeking to place new missionaries throughout the region. The U.S. headquarters can be reached at Latin America Mission, Box 52-7900, Miami Springs, FL 33152, by e-mail at [info@lam.org](mailto:info@lam.org), or by calling 1-800-275-8410. The mission’s web site may be found at <http://www.lam.org>. LAM’s Canadian office is at 3075 Ridgeway Drive, Unit 14, Mississauga, ON L5L 5M6.

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