



**Janine Benyus: Science Writer,
Innovator, Biomimicry Guru**

**Thursday, May 27, 2010
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Ground floor, 215 Spadina Ave.,
Toronto (between Dundas and Queen)**

Janine Benyus' concept of biomimicry has galvanized scientists, architects, designers and engineers into exploring new ways in which nature's successes can inspire humanity.

In the world envisioned by science author Janine Benyus, a locust's ability to avoid collision within a roiling cloud of its brethren informs the design of a crash-resistant car; a self-cleaning leaf inspires a new kind of paint, one that dries in a pattern that enables simple rainwater to wash away dirt; and organisms capable of living without water open the way for vaccines that maintain potency even without refrigeration -- a hurdle that can prevent life-saving drugs from reaching disease-torn communities. Most important, these cool tools from nature pull off their tricks while still managing to preserve the environment that sustains them, a life-or-death lesson that humankind is in need of learning.

As a champion of biomimicry, Benyus has become one of the most important voices in a new wave of designers and engineers inspired by nature.

Ms. Benyus will be interviewed by Alternatives' Executive Editor Nicola Ross. Nicola is an award winning writer and author who teaches freelance writing at Humber College and the University of Toronto.

Admission is \$20. Please register online at <http://sustainabilitynetwork.ca>