



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Poetry Downtown Presents Carolyn Forché

Portland, Ore. – Literary Arts is pleased to present Carolyn Forché reading and discussing her work in the third event of the 2007 Poetry Downtown series. Forché will appear on **Tuesday, March 27, 2007, at 7:30 p.m.** at the **First Congregational Church** (1126 SW Park). Tickets are \$18 at www.literary-arts.org.

Known for her work as a “poet of witness,” Carolyn Forché combines the personal and the political to create poems that are powerful sites of resistance. She is the author of four books of poetry, including *Blue Hour* (2003) and *The Angel of History* (1994), which received the Los Angeles Times Book Award.

Her translations of exiled poet Claribel Alegria led Forché to El Salvador to work as a human rights advocate. *The Country Between Us* (1982), based on these experiences, won awards from The Poetry Society of America and the Academy of American Poets. She has also edited *Against Forgetting: Twentieth-Century Poets of Witness* (1993), a collection of work from poets who have experienced war firsthand.

In 1998, the Edita and Ira Morris Foundation for Peace and Culture honored Forché for her work on behalf of human rights. She lives in Maryland and teaches at Skidmore College.

This evening with Carolyn Forché is underwritten by **Reed College**. The 2007 Poetry Downtown series is sponsored by Stoel Rives Litigation Group, Umpqua Bank and Willamette Week. Poetry Downtown concludes on Monday, April 9, with Pulitzer Prize winner Charles Simic.

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Poetry Downtown is a program of Literary Arts, a statewide, nonprofit organization that enriches the lives of Oregonians through language and literature. Other programs of Literary Arts are Oregon Book Awards, Oregon Literary Fellowships, Portland Arts & Lectures, Poetry in Motion®, Writers in the Schools and Delve: Readers’ Seminars. For more information about Literary Arts, please contact Barbara Verchot at 503.227.2583 or visit www.literary-arts.org.