

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Photos and cover art available

## 2006 Oregon Book Awards Finalists Announced

PORTLAND, Ore. – Literary Arts is pleased to announce the finalists for the 2006 Oregon Book Awards. Winners will be announced at the 20th Annual Oregon Book Awards ceremony, which will take place on **Friday, December 1** at **7:30 p.m.** at the **Portland Art Museum** (1119 SW Park Avenue). National Book Award winner Barry Lopez will serve as Master of Ceremonies. Tickets are \$15 at [www.literary-arts.org](http://www.literary-arts.org) or by calling 503.227.2583.

### Stafford/Hall Award for Poetry

Judge: Ai

- David Axelrod of La Grande, *The Cartographer's Melancholy* (Eastern Washington University Press)
- Dorianne Laux of Eugene, *Facts About the Moon* (Norton)
- Paulann Petersen of Portland, *A Bride of Narrow Escape* (Cloudbank Books)
- Vern Rutsala of Portland, *How We Spent Our Time* (The University of Akron Press)
- Floyd Skloot of Portland, *Approximately Paradise* (Tupelo Press)
- Matt Yurdana of Portland, *Public Gestures* (University of Tampa Press)

### Ken Kesey Award for the Novel

Judge: Francine Prose

- Laila Lalami of Portland, *Hope and Other Dangerous Pursuits* (Algonquin Books)
- Peter Rock of Portland, *The Bewildered* (MacAdam Cage)
- Justin Tussing of Portland, *The Best People in the World* (Harper Collins)

### H.L. Davis Award for Short Fiction

Judge: Francine Prose

- Tracy Daugherty of Corvallis, *Late in the Standoff* (Southern Methodist University Press)
- Scott Nadelson of Portland, *The Cantor's Daughter* (Hawthorne Books)
- Gina Ochsner of Keizer, *People I Wanted to Be* (Houghton Mifflin/Mariner Books)
- Geronimo G. Tagatac of Salem, *The Weight of the Sun* (Ooligan Press)

### Frances Fuller Victor Award for General Nonfiction

Judge: Shirley Geok-lin Lim

- Edwin L. Battistella of Ashland, *Bad Language: Are Some Words Better than Others?* (Oxford University Press)
- Andrew Bernstein of Portland, *Modern Passings: Death Rites, Politics, and Social Change in Imperial Japan* (University of Hawaii Press)

- Judy Blankenship of Portland, *Cañar: A Year in the Highlands of Ecuador* (University of Texas Press)
- William G. Robbins of Corvallis, *Oregon: This Storied Land* (Oregon Historical Society Press)
- Dick Weissman of Portland, *Which Side Are You On? An Inside History of the Folk Music Revival in America* (Continuum)

#### **Sarah Winnemucca Award for Creative Nonfiction**

Judge: Jonathan Yardley

- George W. Aguilar, Sr. of Warm Springs, *When the River Ran Wild! Indian Traditions on the Mid-Columbia and the Warm Springs Reservation* (Oregon Historical Society/University of Washington Press)
- Brian Doyle of Portland, *The Grail: A Year Ambling & Shambling Through an Oregon Vineyard in Pursuit of the Best Pinot Noir in the Whole Wild World* (Oregon State University Press)
- Kristin Kaye of Portland, *Iron Maidens: The Celebration of the Most Awesome Female Muscle in the World* (Thunder's Mouth Press)

#### **Eloise Jarvis McGraw Award for Children's Literature**

Judge: Louise Borden

- Susan Hill of Portland, *Ruby Paints a Picture* (Harper Collins)
- Deborah Hopkinson of Corvallis, *Sky Boys* (Schwartz and Wade Books)
- Allen Say of Portland, *Kamishibai Man* (Houghton Mifflin/Walter Lorraine Books)
- Diane Siebert of Culver, *Tour America* (Chronicle Books)

#### **Leslie Bradshaw Award for Young Adult Literature**

Judge: Louise Borden

- Heather Vogel Frederick of Portland, *Spy Mice: For Your Paws Only* (Simon and Schuster)
- Graham Salisbury of Portland, *Eyes of the Emperor* (Wendy Lamb Books)

#### **Angus L. Bowmer Award for Drama**

Judge: Lawrence Bommer

- Doug Baldwin of Portland, *Wrestling with Charlotte*
- Shelly Lipkin of Lake Oswego, *Sylver Beach's*
- Richard Moeschl of Ashland, *Arthur's Dreams*
- Keith J. Scales of Portland, *What Mad Pursuit*
- Molly Best Tinsley of Ashland, *Fission*

This year, Literary Arts celebrates the 20th anniversary of the **Oregon Book Awards**. Since 1987, the Oregon Book Awards have been presented annually for the finest accomplishments by Oregon writers in genres of poetry, fiction, literary nonfiction, drama and young readers literature. Out-of-state judges choose finalists in each category, including a winner, using literary merit as the sole criterion. All finalists are promoted in libraries and bookstores across the state, and invited to take part in the **Oregon Book Awards Author Tour**, which

brings finalists to public libraries and independent bookstores in towns including La Grande, Klamath Falls, Roseburg and Astoria.

Important dates for the 20th Annual Oregon Book Awards include:

**November 8** Readings by Oregon Book Awards Finalists  
6:30 p.m., Japanese Garden  
(611 SW Kingston Avenue, Portland)  
Hosted by *Portland Monthly*  
and author Chelsea Cain  
Tickets: \$10 at 503.222.5144 x133

**November 15** Readings by Oregon Book Awards Finalists  
6:30 p.m., Japanese Garden  
(611 SW Kingston Avenue, Portland)  
Hosted by *Portland Monthly*  
and author Marc Acito  
Tickets: \$10 at 503.222.5144 x133

**December 1** 20th Annual Oregon Book Awards  
7:30 p.m., Portland Art Museum  
(1119 SW Park Avenue, Portland)  
Tickets: \$15 at [www.literary-arts.org](http://www.literary-arts.org)

The Oregon Book Awards is sponsored by the Oregon Cultural Trust, investing in Oregon's arts, humanities and heritage. Additional support is provided by Betty Bradshaw, Leslie Bradshaw Endowment Fund, The Collins Foundation, Gray Family Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation, The Heathman Hotel, Robert H. and Cecelia Huntington, The Ruth Manary Fund of The Samuel S. Johnson Foundation, Walt Morey Endowment Fund, Multnomah County Library, Oregon Arts Commission, Oregon Center for the Book at the Oregon State Library, Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association, Regional Arts & Culture Council, Rose E. Tucker Charitable Trust, U.S. Bank and Viviano Design.

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The Oregon Book Awards is a program of Literary Arts, a statewide, nonprofit organization dedicated to enriching the lives of Oregonians through language and literature. Other programs of Literary Arts are Oregon Literary Fellowships, Portland Arts & Lectures, Poetry Downtown, 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](http://www.literary-arts.org).