

**Oregon Book Awards Author Tour
Visits Enterprise and La Grande
Authors give readings August 20th and 21st**

Portland, Oregon - Literary Arts is pleased to announce the next events of the 2008 Oregon Book Awards Author Tour, featuring Oregon Book Awards authors. Readings will take place in these cities:

Enterprise on Wednesday, August 20th at 7:00 p.m. at Stage One (117 1/2 Main Street)

La Grande on Thursday, August 21st at 7:00 p.m. at La Grande Public Library (2006 Fourth Street)

Conversation, book sales and a signing follow each reading. The events are free and open to the public. The reading in Enterprise will be followed by a concert featuring music by Carolyn Lochert.

Authors appearing will be:

Alison Clement of Corvallis, winner of the Ken Kesey Award for the Novel for her book, *Twenty Questions*. She lives in Corvallis, and her first book, *Pretty Is As Pretty Does*, was a Discover Great New Writers book and a BookSense selection.

Monica Drake of Portland, finalist in the novel for her first book, *Clown Girl*. Drake teaches at the Pacific Northwest College of Art. Her short stories have been published in literary journals including *The Beloit Fiction Review* and *The Three Penny Review*.

Elizabeth Rusch of Portland, finalist in children's literature for her book, *Will It Blow: Become a Volcano Detective at Mt. St. Helens*. Rusch lives in Portland and is the author of five books for children.

For complete author biographies or event information, please contact Susan Denning at 503.227.2583.

The Oregon Book Awards, a program of Literary Arts, are presented annually for the finest accomplishments by Oregon writers who work in genres of poetry, fiction, literary nonfiction, drama and young readers literature. The Oregon Book Awards Author Tour brings finalists to public libraries and independent bookstores around the state.

The Oregon Book Awards Author Tour is sponsored by the Oregon Cultural Trust and the National Endowment for the Arts. Additional support is provided by Brian & Gwyneth Booth, Betty Bradshaw, Leslie Bradshaw Endowment, The Collins Foundation, Rocky & Julie Dixon, Gard Communications, 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, Keller Foundation, Maybelle

Clark Macdonald Fund, Mancini Family, Walt Morey Endowment Fund, Multnomah County Library, Oregon Arts Commission, Oregon Center for the Book at the Oregon State Library, Oregon Writers' Endowment, Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association, Regional Arts & Culture Council, Rick & Halle Sadle, Rose E. Tucker Charitable Trust and U.S. Bank.

Local support for this tour comes from Local support for this tour comes from the Bookloft, Fishtrap , The La Grande Public Library, Libraries of Eastern Oregon (LEO) and Stage One.