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LITERARY ARTS is pleased to announce the \$2 Million
BRIAN BOOTH WRITERS' FUND
a permanent endowment in honor of Oregon's visionary community leader and
Oregon Book Awards & Fellowship founder Brian Booth
to ensure that new and exciting literature is written by and for Oregonians.

Years ago now, Brian Booth catalyzed a formal awareness of Oregon's contributions to a national literature and provided Oregon's writers, especially, with a sense of community. Today, Literary Arts represents the apotheosis of Brian's vision to provide state-wide support for writing, reading, and the public presentation of literary ideas and ideals. We can imagine that Brian is touched and pleased that the community he worked so hard to bring to life chose to honor him with this fund.

—Barry Lopez, Oregon Book Awards winner and National Book Award winner for *Arctic Dreams*

A fourth generation Oregonian, Brian was tireless in his determination to preserve and celebrate our state's landscape and cultural heritage. Naming the Writers' Fund after Brian is a natural for one of Oregon's most committed literary boosters.

—Tom Palmer, a long-time partner of Brian Booth's at Tonkon Torp LLP

To celebrate Literary Arts 30th Anniversary year, and honor Brian Booth's life and legacy, Literary Arts, Inc., a Portland-based nonprofit organization created the Brian Booth Writers' Fund. This permanent endowment, managed by the Oregon Community Foundation, supports the creation of new literary work in Oregon. Our initial goal is to raise \$2 million, but the fund will continue to grow over time, creating a nationally recognized incubator of some of the best literature in the world. As of October 16th, 2014 **Literary Arts has secured nearly \$1.2 Million for this Fund from generous early investors, including longtime supporters of Literary Arts, several of Brian Booth's friends and family members, and Brian's law firm, Tonkon Torp LLP.**

Potential new supporters are invited to join this special opportunity to honor Brian Booth's life and legacy, and to support the work of renowned and emerging Oregon writers who enrich our cultural lives, locally and nationally, through their writing and engagement with the community. **To help stimulate giving, the Oregon Community Foundation will match every gift to the Brian Booth Writers' Fund with a gift to Literary Arts' Oregon Book Awards & Fellowships program, up to a total of \$100,000.**

The Brian Booth Writers' Fund will ensure that, every year, Literary Arts has sufficient resources to:

- Grant at least ten Fellowships to help Oregon writers and publishers initiate, develop or complete literary projects;
- Select and recognize at least twenty-five exceptional writers for original works published or produced in Oregon;
- Bring our state's most accomplished writers to at least eight Oregon communities for public readings, free workshops, and book group and school visits;
- Engage our diverse creative community in a public celebration honoring the recipients of the Oregon Book Awards & Fellowships;
- Create opportunities for Oregon writers to connect with the national literary community so as to increase the visibility of Oregon's literature and offer valuable professional development opportunities for writers and publishers

The Oregon Book Awards & Fellowships program supports, promotes, and celebrates Oregon's writers and publishers by providing them with vital financial support. **Since its founding in 1987, the program has supported over 500 writers and 50 publishers with more than \$750,000 in awards.** There is no other such program in Oregon, and ours is one of only a handful in the nation. Each year, Literary Arts receives hundreds of submissions for the Oregon Book Awards & Fellowships from all over the state. To learn more about the campaign and Brian Booth visit:

<http://www.literary-arts.org/who-we-are/brian-booth-writers-fund/>

www.literary-arts.org | 925 SW Washington Street | Portland, Oregon 97205 | t:503.227.2583 f: 503.241.4256

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Jessica Mozeico, Chair; Betsy Amster, Mike Barr, Alice Cuprill-Comas, Rebecca DeCesaro, Amy Donohue, Theo Downes-Le Guin, Marie Eckert, Robert Geddes, Pamela Smith Hill, Susheela Jayapal, Amy Carlsen Kohnstamm, John Meadows, Amy Prosenjak, Jon Raymond, James Reinhart, Barry Sanders, Jacqueline Willingham, Thomas Wood
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To learn more about previous Oregon Book Award & Fellowship recipients, visit:
<http://www.literary-arts.org/what-we-do/oba-home/>

Writing is a solitary activity, but its ultimate goal is always communication and community. Literary Arts has worked tirelessly to build and maintain Oregon's literary community, to help us all feel less alone, to help us communicate across valleys, mountains, rivers, and deserts, up the coast and through the woods. —**Tracy Daugherty**, Oregon Book Award winner

Literary Arts' grants have made things possible—writing time, a workspace, a new computer, a research trip—filling essential needs and offering Oregon writers the invaluable knowledge that their community supports and honors their work.
—**Ursula K. Le Guin**, Oregon Book Awards & Fellowships winner

About LITERARY ARTS

Established in 1984, Literary Arts is a nonprofit organization founded, inspired, and sustained by the likes of Ursula K. Le Guin and William Stafford and has helped make Oregon more than a place with a bookish reputation. They are a comprehensive, nationally recognized cultural center for writers, publishers, readers, and lovers of thoughtful conversations.

Literary Arts is home to the country's largest literary lecture series, **Portland Arts & Lectures**, where speakers don't read from their published works; instead, they share lectures and presentations that they've written specifically for Literary Arts or engage in unscripted on-stage conversations with up to 2,700 people in a concert hall and thousands more public radio listeners across the state through a partnership with Oregon Public Broadcasting.

Literary Arts keeps literature democratic with more than 100 free community programs and events every year, connecting multiple generations and skill levels with renowned authors in public schools and spaces. Their **Writers in the Schools** program hires working writers of today to teach and inspire local high school students. They award \$30,000 a year to transform Oregon Book Awards winners and fellows into literary ambassadors who engage Oregonians at workshops and readings across the state. In 2014/2015, Literary Arts will award an additional \$19,000 in honor of their 30th Anniversary and the **Oregon Book Awards & Fellowships** founder, Brian Booth. Under the steady hand of an experienced scholar, readers explore demanding books in the discussion-based **Delve Readers Seminars**. And, with some coaching and encouragement, budding young poets court their muses, haul them on stage, and bring them to life at **Verselandia!**, Portland's citywide teen poetry slam.

LITERARY ARTS' 30th Anniversary Highlights Include:

- **Sept. 8th Birthday Celebration** with Elizabeth Gilbert, Calvin Trillin (Portland Arts & Lectures 1st speaker in 1984), Colin Meloy of The Decemberists, Verselandia! 2014 winner Bella Trent, poet Zachary Schomburg, and additional special guests
- Literary Arts acquires the **Wordstock Festival**, Portland's annual book festival. Wordstock re-launches Nov. 7, 2015 at the Portland Art Museum
- Literary Arts partners with **TriMet** and the **Poetry Society of America** to bring poetry back to Portland's public transit this fall with the Poetry in Motion program
- *The World Split Open*, a Literary Arts Reader, will be published by **Tin House Books** on Nov. 11, 2014 and will be available at bookstores and e-retailers across the US and Canada
- Portland Arts & Lectures presents: **James McBride** (Oct. 16), **Elizabeth Kolbert** (Nov. 13), **Michael Chabon** (Jan. 15), **Ruth Ozeki** (Feb. 19), **Katherine Boo** (Apr. 23)
- Literary Arts will share 30 years of presentations by great writers and thinkers through an audio archive partnership with **Oregon Public Broadcasting** and a retrospective exhibit at **Multnomah County Library**
- This year, Literary Arts is doubling the amount they will award for the **Oregon Book Awards & Fellowships** program, giving an additional \$30,000 (**\$59,000 total**) to Oregon writers and publishers this year on top of their annual \$29,000
- Literary Arts is establishing the **Brian Booth Writers' Fund** a **\$2 million endowment campaign** to support **Oregon writers** for many years to come:
<http://www.literary-arts.org/who-we-are/brian-booth-writers-fund/>
- Literary Arts co-hosts **The Moth Mainstage** one of the nation's most popular radio shows (Dec. 15)
- Literary Arts re-launches the Poetry Downtown program with poets **Terrance Hayes** (Feb. 17), **Mark Doty** (Apr. 27), and **Anne Carson** (May 16)

Media Contact: Alyson Sinclair at aly@alysonsinclairpr.com or 612.201.3867 for requests and queries related to Literary Arts' 30th Anniversary events & initiatives.

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