

Idaho Writers' Update - Vol. II, Issue VII

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To subscribe, email Betty with "subscribe" in the subject line

April 1, 2008

Greetings.

Have you been fooled today? No foolin' around, here's the latest issue of the Idaho Writers' Update, your resource for literary news around the state.

Take time now to select a poem for April 17, National Poem in Your Pocket Day, and join Boise's Judy Steele, BookPeople in Moscow, and other literary folk around the nation in this grassroots celebration of National Poetry Month.

You are welcome to pass this email on to others. If you are reading The Update for the first time and wish to subscribe, please send me your email address. There is no charge for this service.

Deadlines are the fifteenth and 30th of every month.

(I generally do not edit submissions, and do not guarantee accuracy of content.)

If you are no longer interested in receiving this newsletter, please respond with "unsubscribe" in the subject line.

Thank you,

Betty Rodgers

"Writing is easy. All you do is stare at a blank sheet of paper until drops of blood form on your forehead." --Gene Fowler

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Refer to the Update anytime online at:

http://www.sageecosci.com/Writers/Idaho_Writers_Update.html

Barnes & Noble in Idaho Falls: In an effort to further address the interests of the writers in our community, we will begin holding a writer's group workshop at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, **April 2**, and will continue to hold them at the same time on the first Wednesday of every month. We welcome anyone who would like to participate. Contact Maribeth Ernst, (208) 552-1463, crm2246@bn.com. Also, you can participate in their Poet's Open Mic night on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.

WRITING FOR A LIVING: **Jill Kuraitis**, Idaho editor of NewWest.Net, will share a few secrets and some advice for snaring those paid writing assignments. **Wednesday, April 2, 2008**, 6:30-8:00 pm (but come at 6 to browse books and visit with other aspiring writers), Rediscovered Bookshop, 7079 Overland Rd., Boise, <http://www.rdbooks.org>, 208.376.4229. This event is FREE and open to everyone. For more info: cindysalo@hotmail.com. This event is sponsored by **BOISE NONFICTION WRITERS** - <http://www.sageecosci.com/Writers.html> "Join successful and aspiring nonfiction writers as we learn from guest speakers and from each other through discussion and critique."

From Boise Slam Poets: Hey all y`all! Just wanted to let you know about two upcoming shows by **Mayda del Valle**, "a powder keg of attitude and tenderness in a small package." Mayda will be performing in the Fine Arts Theatre at CSI (College of Southern Idaho) on **Wednesday, April 2nd, at 7:00 p.m.**, and again on **Thursday morning at 9:00 a.m.** The performances are free!

Mayda Del Valle has taken the national spoken word scene by storm. Her Puerto Rican roots influence her art. She began performing her own writing while in high school. She attended Williams College receiving a B.A. in Art. One of Mayda's first stops was the legendary Nuyorican Poets' Café. In spite of never having performed poetry competitively, Mayda won the 2001 Nuyorican Grand Slam Championship. That same year she won the Individual National Poetry Slam Championship and became the first poet from the Nuyorican culture in New York, the youngest poet, and the first Latino person to win the title.

Mayda has been featured on four seasons of the HBO series "Russell Simmons Presents Def Poetry." She has also been featured in various publications including El Diario, Urban Latino, Mass Appeal Magazine, Latina Magazine, Trace, The Source and the New York Times. Mayda was also part of the Declare Yourself Spoken Word Tour, a national, non-profit, non-partisan campaign sponsored by Norman Lear to encourage young voter participation in the 2004 election. In May of 2004 she showcased her one-woman show at NYC's 3rd Annual Downtown Urban Theatre Festival and won an Audience Favorite Award. In October 2007 she was named by the Smithsonian Institute as one of America's Young Innovators.

Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin will be speaking at the **University of Idaho on Thursday, April 3 at 7:30 p.m. at the MEMORIAL GYM** (venue has been changed). The event is free and open to the public. However, **tickets must be reserved in advance.** Reserve your ticket by emailing tickets@uidaho.edu or calling 885-7212. Say the folks at **BookPeople in Moscow**, "Don't delay-tickets are going fast! Some overflow seating will be available. Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin are the authors of **Three Cups of Tea**, a book that I am sure a great many of you are familiar with! We have plenty of copies left in stock, so stop on by and pick one up! For more information about the event, please check the Latah County Library website at <http://www.latahlibrary.org/>."

Rediscovered Bookshop and the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators is sponsoring the first annual Children's Literature Festival in Boise. -

Plan on attending the area's first annual, [two-day Children's Literature Festival](#), featuring children's book and young adult book authors and illustrators. It is an opportunity to meet one-on-one with well-known authors of some of your favorite books, attend a workshop, readings, and book signings.

Featured authors/illustrators: Julie Paschkis, Alma Alexander, Toby Bishop, Judy Cox, Kristina Gregory, Gloria Skurzynski, and a video interview with Newberry author Kate DiCamillo.

Special appearance: Edward Tulane, from The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane. Friday, April 4, 7:30 p.m. - Author Dinner, and activities all day Saturday, April 5. For details, www.rdbooks.org or call (208) 376-4229.

Literature for Lunch - Spring 2008: Book discussions are held at Boise Public Library from 12:10 p.m. to 1 p.m. and facilitated by Boise State University English Professor Carol Martin.

April 4: *The Gathering*, by Anne Enright.

April 30: *Half of a Yellow Sun*, by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie.

For more information contact cmartin@boisestate.edu.

The Flicks - April 5 - Heartland. As part of The Cabin's Big Read, The Flicks will participate by screening *Heartland* at 1:00 on Saturday, April 5. *Heartland*, set in 1910, tells the story of a frontier woman who decides to homestead on her own; it stars **Conchatta Ferrel** and **Rip Torn**.

Mouth & Thistle Reading - April 6 - Ben Tanzer from Chicago will be reading Sunday at Satchel's on April 6th at 6:30 p.m. Ben Tanzer lives in Chicago where he shoots pool, dabbles in social work, compulsively watches High School Musical, and spends all sorts of quality time with his lovely wife and young sons. He has had work published in a variety of magazines and journals including *Rated Rookie*, *Clamor*, *Punk Planet*, *Abroad View*, *Opium*, *THE2NDHAND*, *Thieves Jargon*, *The Truth Magazine*, *Chicago Parent*, *Third Coast Press*, *20dissidents*, and *Caketrain*. More info about Ben is available at: <http://www.bentanzer.blogspot.com/>

Boise Poetry Slam, April: Monday, April 7

What: SMACK!@VAC! All Ages Poetry Slam

When: Monday, April 7. Doors/signups at 6:30, show starts at 7pm.

Where: Visual Arts Collective, 3638 Osage St, Garden City

Cost: \$5

Big Tree Arts presents the first installment of the monthly all-ages poetry slam, SMACK!@VAC!, at Visual Arts Collective on April 7, 2008. Slam Poetry is competitive performance poetry, where poets are judged by members of the audience in an effort to be crowned best poet of the evening and win prizes. Along with the regular poetry competition, this slam will also feature a round of Head-to-Head Haiku and a special combination dance/poetry performance directed by **Kelli Brown**.

Sign-ups will start at 6:30 and the show will begin at 7pm. Cost to attend the slam is \$5 at the door.

Big Tree Arts has been presenting poetry slams for six years, primarily at venues requiring participants and attendees to be 21 and over. SMACK!@VAC! is an effort to provide an arena for poets of all ages, including those under 21.

Monday April 21

Spoken Word Workshop with Jason Bayani

5:00 pm at Boise State University

Cataldo Room

Student Union Building

1910 University Drive.

Starts at 5pm

free! all-ages

Monday April 21

Poetry Slam Delux Team Finals and Fundraiser

featuring Jason Bayani

at The Neurolux

113 N. 11th St.

Signups at 7:30, Show at 8

\$8 cover, 21 and up

-- Finalists battle for a chance to represent Boise at the National Poetry Slam in Madison, WI. All proceeds raise funds to send the team to Nationals.

DROP-IN WRITING WORKSHOP AT THE CABIN--With Norman Weinstein.

All are welcome to attend this informal community workshop for writers at all levels. Mr. Weinstein is a poet and critic writing about poetry, music, architecture and design. He is the author of a book about jazz, another on Gertrude Stein's writing, and six books of poetry. He currently reviews jazz for *The Christian Science Monitor* and the literature of architecture and design for *Architectural Record*. Bring pen and paper and a willingness to explore. **Wednesday, April 9 & 23** at 6:30 p.m. at **The Cabin**. Free.

BSU Spring MFA Reading Series 2008:

Andrew Joron, Poet

Where: The Farnsworth Room, Student Union Building

When: Friday, April 11th, 7:30-9:00 P.M.

Tony Doerr, Novelist

Where: The Lookout Room, Student Union Building

When: Friday, April 18th, 7:30-9:00 P.M.



Kevin Kiely, Irish Poet

Where: The Farnsworth Room, Student Union Building

When: Friday, **May 2nd, 7:30-9:00 P.M.**

Free and open to the public, the Boise State University MFA Reading Series brings nationally recognized authors and poets to the Boise State Campus and surrounding areas. Recent works by the author will be available for purchase through the University Bookstore at each reading

The Flicks - Persepolis - In honor of Marjane Satrapi's appearance at The Cabin's Readings and Conversations series in Boise, The Flicks will be showing *Persepolis*, **April 11 through April 18**. Check their web site for showtimes. www.theflicksboise.com.

Family Reading Series: Join The Cabin's **Carole Whiteleather** and come 'hear a play' with some of Boise's finest actors.

April 13: *Hansel and Gretel* Time: 2 p.m.

Location: Fulton Street Center for the Arts (9th & Fulton)

Single Performance tickets: \$7 Children (12 & under); \$10 Adults; Ages 3 & under FREE (children must be accompanied by an adult). **For more information contact 336-9221.**

Readings and Conversations at the Egyptian Theater, sponsored by The Cabin: Tuesday, April 15, 2008

Born on the edge of the Caspian Sea and educated in Tehran, Vienna, and Strasburg, Marjane Satrapi lives in Paris, where she is one of France's "new wave" comic book artists. Her acclaimed *Persepolis* and *Persepolis 2* tell the story of a young girl trying to understand the difficult world around her. The books are based on Ms. Satrapi's youth in Iran during the Islamic Revolution and the war with Iraq. Most recently, she has completed an animated film adaptation of the two-volume graphic novel, to be released in 2008. "You've never seen anything like *Persepolis*," Gloria Steinem says, "the intimacy

of a memoir, the irresistibility of a comic book, and the political depth of the conflict between fundamentalism and democracy." Ms. Satrapi's illustrations appear regularly in French newspapers and magazines. For ticket information, www.thecabinidaho.org.

BOISE NONFICTION WRITERS' **CRITIQUE GROUP** meets to share critiques and ideas in a supportive and helpful atmosphere. **Wednesday, April 16, 2008**, 7-8:30 pm, Log Cabin Literary Center, 801 S. Capitol. This event is FREE and open to all. For more info: jancarpenter12@hotmail.com

Poetry Workshop in Downtown Eagle - Beginning April 28. The Conjunction of Sense and Sound...The Cognitive Joins the Energy of Noise. Six-session workshop and lecture with **Ken Rodgers**, MFA, www.kennethrodgers.com, at True North Creative Learning Center, 150 E Aikens, Eagle. Monday nights from 7 to 9 p.m. Discover and explore phanopoeia, melopoeia, logopoeia, rhythmic patterns and sensual details meeting sound properties, the alphabet--hither T and whence C, and onomatopoeia. \$110.00. www.truenorthclc.com, or call 939-0385 for information or to register.

LITERARY AGENTS COME TO BOISE TO MEET AUTHORS-IN-WAITING

Do you dream of becoming the next John Grisham, Michael Connelly, or Mary Higgins Clark? Plan to write a mystery or thriller and make enough money to live off your royalties? Wonder how to go about it? All well known, best-selling authors have an agent to negotiate those killer deals for them. But how do you pique an agent's interest in you and your writing? Three top agents will be coming to Boise in June to meet aspiring novelists during this year's Murder in the Grove:

Alice Volpe has held the positions of book publicist, staff writer, editor and publisher. She opened the Northwest Literary Agency in the 1980's to help bridge the chasm between lone author and remote, corporate publisher. Her clients include J.A. Jance, Carola Dunn, Judith Smith-Levin, J. Carson Black, Lee Lofland, Jeffrey Layton among others.

Sorche Fairbank established the Fairbank Literary Representation in 2002, and represents best-selling authors, Pulitzer Prize finalists and winner, Edgar recipients, award-winning journalists, and her favorite kind of client: the first-time author. She is seeking select new fiction voices.

Spencer Ellsworth is a new agent, and searching for clients. He works for the well-established Lori Perkins Agency, and attends Western Washington University as a graduate student in English. Along with mysteries and thrillers, especially those set in an historical period, he is looking for fantasy of all types, "soft" science fiction, history of any period, satire, and travel stories.

If you have a novel, either completed or in progress, and you'd like to meet face-to-face with one of these agents to get their opinion on your work, you'll need to register for the Murder in the Grove "writer's package". The writer's package includes not only an appointment with an agent but also the Master Class "Writing the Thriller" taught by acclaimed writing instructor and bestselling author, David Morrell as well as all conference activities.

By May 1st, you'll need to submit the pages of your manuscript for an agent's evaluation. The appointments, which will take place during the conference on June 7, are limited and will be given on a first-registered, first-served basis. For more information, please go to www.murderinthegrove.com,

or call
208-409-8805.

SELF PUBLISHING YOUR BOOK: **Kate Riley**, writing coach and author of *The Green Velvet Journals*, *A Mother and Daughter Journey*, will share information on self publishing. **Wednesday May 7th, 2008**, 6:30-8:00 pm (but come at 6 to browse books and visit with other aspiring writers), Rediscovered Bookshop, 7079 Overland Rd., Boise, <http://www.rdbooks.org>, 208.376.4229. This event is FREE and open to everyone. For more info: cindysalo@hotmail.com.

Sponsored by Boise Nonfiction Writers.

<http://www.sagecosci.com/Writers.html> "Join successful and aspiring nonfiction writers as we learn from guest speakers and from each other through discussion and critique."

Lost Horse Press is now taking submissions for **The Idaho Prize for Poetry 2008**, a national competition offering \$1000 plus publication by Lost Horse Press for a book-length poetry manuscript. All U.S. poets are eligible. Entries must be postmarked by **15 May 2008**. The winner and finalists will be announced on 15 August 2008. The final judge for the fifth annual poetry book contest sponsored by Lost Horse Press will be announced at a later date. A reading fee of \$25-check or money order only, please-and a SASE (for notification of winners only; manuscripts will be recycled) must be included with the manuscript. For guidelines or additional information about the Idaho Prize for poetry, please contact Lost Horse Press at 208.255.4410, email losthorsepress@mindspring.com or check online at www.losthorsepress.org

Lost Horse Press also proudly announces the publication of 4 new poetry titles for 2008:

Lost Horse Press New Poets Series: New Poets | Short Books Volume II
poems by Tim Krcmarik, Patricia Staton & Victor Camillo | edited by Marvin Bell

FRIENDLY FIRE | poems by Katrina Roberts

THE BASEBALL FIELD AT NIGHT | last poems by Patricia Goedicke
Edited by Christopher Howell

THE RADIUM WATCH DIAL PAINTERS | poems by D.S. Butterworth
See www.losthorsepress.org for details.

IDAHO CENTER FOR THE BOOK TOURS 'BOOKER'S DOZEN' BIENNIAL EXHIBITION THROUGHOUT IDAHO -The Idaho Center for the Book, housed at Boise State University, is presenting its biennial "Booker's Dozen" exhibition in libraries throughout the state. "Booker's Dozen" is a juried exhibition featuring books that have been designed, written, illustrated and bound by Idahoans. The books were selected by Idaho artists, bookmakers, gallery owners, writers and publishers. www.lili.org/icb

The tour schedule includes:

April: Coeur d'Alene Public Library

May: East Bonner County/Sandpoint Library

June: Boise Public Library

July: Ada Community Library (Boise)
August: Marshall Public Library (Pocatello)
September: College of Southern Idaho Library (Twin Falls)
October: Eli Oboler Library/Idaho State University (Pocatello)
November: Idaho Falls Public Library
December: David O'McKay Library/BYU-Idaho (Rexburg)

Readings and Conversations at the Egyptian Theater, sponsored by The Cabin: Tuesday, September 23, 2008



"Poetry isn't a profession; it's a way of life. It's an empty basket; you put your life into it and make something out of that," says Mary Oliver. Her first volume, *No Voyage*, was published in 1963. Her third book, *American Primitive*, won the Pulitzer Prize, and her *New and Selected Poems* (1992) won the National Book Award. Mary Oliver is among our very finest poets. Her work, celebrated for its precise imagery and evocation, conveys a deep connection with the natural world. Her poems are

"...an excellent antidote for the excesses of civilization, for too much flurry and inattention. She is a poet of wisdom and generosity whose vision allows us to look intimately at a world not of our making" (*Harvard Review*). For tickets, www.thecabinidaho.org.

Shakespeare on Sundays: Join Boise State University English Professor **Matthew Hansen**, students, and community members in collaborative read-throughs of Shakespeare's most famous plays. Bring a copy of the play and be ready to take part in a fun, fast table-reading of the play. These events are free and open to the public. For dates and times contact MatthewHansen@boisestate.edu.

IDAHO Magazine www.idahomagazine.com is interested in your non-fiction stories on Idaho topics. They offer one-time rights to buy those stories. Send queries with specific details in the "Subject" line to Kitty Fleischman, publisher/editor at kfleisch@idahomagazine.com. Then be sure to let me know when your story is published so we can announce it here.

IDAHO HUMANITIES COUNCIL - Read the latest "What I've Been Reading" book reviews on the Council's website:

http://www.idahohumanities.org/news/what_read_08_01.php.

Boise Public Library invites avid readers to sign up for their e-mail book review service at www.boisepubliclibrary.org This free monthly newsletter reviews the latest books in a variety of categories. Check out the new library card designs on the Web site, too. They put the "!" in Library!

The Scene in Moscow as reported by BookPeople:

Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin will be speaking at the **University of Idaho on Thursday, April 3 at 7:30 p.m. at the MEMORIAL GYM** (venue has been changed). The event is free and open to the public. However, **tickets must be reserved in advance**. Reserve your ticket by emailing tickets@uidaho.edu or calling 885-7212. Don't delay-tickets are going fast! Some overflow seating will be available. Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin are the authors of *Three Cups of Tea*, a book that I am sure a great many of you are familiar with! We have plenty of copies left in stock, so stop on by and pick one up! For more information about the event, please check the Latah County Library website at <http://www.latahlibrary.org/>

Readers Theater - Participants wanted, for staged readings of short comedies by David Ives. Each role is for part of a 10-15 minute comedy. All the roles are short-term projects; there are only six rehearsals, two performances, no Sundays, and *no memorizing!* All performances are at the Kenworthy Performing Arts Center. Anyone aged 16 or older may participate, and no auditions are necessary. To find out more, come to an informational meeting. There are two, one on **April 11th at 7:00pm**, and the other on **April 12th at 3:00pm**. Locations are to be determined, check the website at www.kenworthy.org/mct.htm for further details.

A Thousand Miles of Dreams sounds like a long way, but you won't have to go far to come to the booksigning! *A Thousand Miles of Dreams*, by Sasha Su-Ling Welland, tells the story of two Chinese sisters, and has been wildly well-received. Come see what it's all about, at the 1912 Center in Moscow, on Sunday April 13th at 2:30pm. Sponsored by the Palouse Asian-American Association.

April 17th is Poem In Your Pocket Day. Have a favorite poem? Carry it around with you on April 17th of this year, and share it with others you may meet. Poetry is a vital part of any culture, and to be perfectly honest, Americans need to appreciate it more! Help them out by helping them to appreciate a favorite verse of yours.
Share the love - spread Poetry!

The Mirror Theater presents **Shakespeare Sundays!** You, the audience, will do the acting for these performances. Come sign in at 1:15 for the part you're dying to play. No preference is given for race, gender, or age, and scripts are provided! If you're musically inclined, then come accompany the acts on your instrument of

choice! The last remaining play is **The Tempest** which will be performed on **May 4th and 18th**.

A two-dollar contribution is required to participate. The plays will be based on the Oxford Shakespeare, second edition, but as noted above, scripts will be provided! For more information, visit www.MirrorTheater.org!

Do you like books? Ever wanted to make one the old-fashioned way? The way the professionals of yesteryear did? Then we have some *great* news for you! **Jim Croft** of **Oldways** is hosting some classes on bookmaking! And let us tell you, Jim Croft knows his bookmaking; he's one of the very best! The classes:

Wooden Boards and Clasps - June 6th through 16th - Wherein you make two books, 9 days total.

Tool Intensive - June 24th through 25th - Wherein you learn all about making tools, knives, bones, awls, scrapers and more.

Or, for those of you who want to know everything there is to know:

Oldways of Making Books from Raw Materials - June 26th through July 11th. This gets you everything: tool making and sharpening, lessons on fibers hempen and flaxen, traditional hand papermaking and loft-drying, gelatin sizing and burnishing, and making a book with wooden boards and clasps.

Space is limited, so inquire today! For more information, for dates and times, or to register, contact Jim Croft and Melody Eckroth at oldway@imbris.com, or call 208-245-3043, or visit www.geocities.com/oldways_id

WRITERS GUILD OF EASTERN OREGON - There's a lot of literary life just across the border. Click on www.wgeo.org to learn more.

Literary Links:

General--

<http://www.americanlifeinpoetry.org/>

<http://www.boisepoetry.com/>

<http://www.cowboypoetry.com/>

<http://www.fishtrap.org/>

<http://www.arts.idaho.gov/> Idaho Commission on the Arts>Literature

<http://www.idahostatesman.com/>

<http://www.idahowritersleague.com/index.html>

<http://www.thecabinidaho.org/>

<http://www.loc.gov/poetry/>

<http://www.poetryfoundation.org/>

<http://www.copyright.gov/>

<http://www.pw.org/>

<http://www.awpwriter.org>

<http://www.poets.org/audio.php>

<http://www.partnersincrimeboise.com/>

<http://www.murderinthegrove.com>

<http://www.wgeo.org/> Writers Guild of Eastern Oregon

<http://www.paleomedia.org/> Reporting on the West and the World

<http://www.idahohumanities.org> Idaho Humanities Council

Idaho Authors--

<http://www.anthonydoerr.com/>

<http://www.humanophone.com/>

<http://www.joannepence.com>

<http://www.kennethrodgers.com/>

<http://www.lanceolsen.com/>

<http://www.dianeraptosh.com/>

Idaho Publishers--

<http://ahsahtapress.boisestate.edu/>

<http://www.caxtonpress.com/>

<http://cold.drill.googlepages.com/home>

<http://www.idahomagazine.com>

<http://www.limberlostpress.com/>

<http://www.losthorsepress.org/>

<http://www.NewWest.Net/Boise>

Idaho Booksellers--

<http://www.bookpeople.net/>

<http://www.rediscoveredbookshop.com>