

GENERATIONS

Summer Fishtrap

Gathering of Writers
July 10-16, 2023
Wallowa Lake, Oregon

From the Director

"They had learned to speak, and so had won their first great victory over Time. Now the knowledge of one generation could be handed on to the next, so that each age could profit from those that had gone before."

- Arthur Charles Clarke, 2001: A Space Odyssey

Dear Friends,

What do you think of when you hear the word generations? What does it evoke? Family stories and traditions? Genealogy research? History and its trauma and triumphs? Do you think of your own generation and how it does — or doesn't —relate to the ones that come before or after? What about generation as an act, a verb? Does it bring up ideas of creativity, growth, and connection?

What are the stories, images, and words that rise up for you?

Since the first Summer Fishtrap in 1988 (West Coast Writers/East Coast Publishers), we've chosen a theme to help inspire conversations and fuel writing. I hope this year's theme, Generations, gives you a starting point for the work you create in your workshops and the conversations you have with your fellow writers. I challenge you to learn from the stories and experiences you explore on your own and together with this creative community.

"We need to remember across generations that there is as much to learn as there is to teach." - Gloria Steinem

Finally, I deeply encourage you to take the time to learn some of the generational stories of this remarkable place. Listen to the stories of this land, the Niimipuu people who have called it home for thousands of years, and the Wallowa County community who welcome you here today.

Welcome to the 36th Summer Fishtrap Gathering of Writers!

Shannon McNerney Executive Director



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Fishtrap History

It was in the mid 1980s when Wallowa County bookstore owner Rich Wandschneider attended a Western writers conference in Portland, Oregon, but something didn't feel quite right. Rich told conference organizer Kim Stafford that it seemed the event wasn't really a gathering of writers of the West, but of Willamette Valley "I-5 writers." Kim agreed, then issued a challenge: "Why don't you host the next one in Wallowa County?" In 1988, Wandschneider, Stafford, and the award-winning journalist and historian, Alvin Josephy organized a gathering at Wallowa Lake with the theme "West Coast Writers and East Coast Publishers."



Fishtrap's founding director, Rich Wandschneider with Alvin M. Josephy, Jr.

The Summer Fishtrap Gathering of Writers was born.

So began an annual tradition. Every July, readers, writers, journalists, historians, publishers, and lovers of the arts from all over the world gather at Wallowa Lake to write, to explore issues important to people of the West, and to make connections. The weeklong conference has provided thousands of writers the opportunity to work with some of the best authors and teachers in the West, including Ursula K. LeGuin, Luis Alberto Urrea, Bill Kittredge, Laura Pritchett, Anis Mojgani, Kathleen Dean Moore, Beth Piatote, and many, many others.

Over the years Fishtrap grew to add new programs like Winter Fishtrap, The Big Read, and the Outpost wilderness writing program. More recently, Fishtrap has expanded to include youth programming, the Fishtrap Fireside reading series, and and a growing partnership with Eastern Oregon University's MFA in Creative and Environmental Writing program. Fishtrap founders Rich Wandschneider and Kim Stafford continue to be closely associated with Fishtrap as Advisors, and since 2015, Shannon McNerney has led the organization as Executive Director, building on Fishtrap's mission to "promote clear thinking and good writing in and about the West."



2023 Summer Fishtrap Schedule

The 36th Summer Fishtrap Gathering of Writers offers a variety of daily activities throughout the week. All events take place at Wallowa Lake Lodge unless otherwise noted.

Monday, July 10

2:00-4:00pm Check-In

4:00pm Welcome to Summer Fishtrap 4:30-5:30pm Workshop Orientation

5:30-7:00pm Dinner

7:30pm Opening Day Kickoff with Fishtrap's Shannon McNerney and a reading from

Fishtrap co-founder, Kim Stafford

9:00pm Book Signing

Tuesday, July 11

6:00am Sunrise with Craig Childs at Wallowa Lake

7:00-9:00am Breakfast

9:00am-Noon Morning Writing Workshops in your instructor's cabin

Noon-2:00pm Lunch

I:00-3:00pm Youth Activities

1:30-3:00pm Poet Laureate Panel Moderated by Robert Stubblefield

Panelists: Anis Mojgani - Rena Priest - Kim Stafford

4:00-5:00pm Open Mic Readings

5:00-7:00pm Dinner

7:30pm Faculty Readings: JaNay Brown-Wood - Debra Magpie Earling - Jamie Ford

9:00pm Book Signing

Wednesday, July 12

6:00am Sunrise with Craig Childs at Wallowa Lake

7:00-9:00am Breakfast

9:00am-Noon Morning Writing Workshops in your instructor's cabin

Noon-2:00pm Lunch

1:00-3:00pm Youth Activities

1:30pm Craft Talk with Karen Auvinen

Living Memory: Techniques for Making the Dim Past a Vivid Present

Whether it is in fiction, creative nonfiction, or poetry, so many of us write to connect to family, people, or the past, or we use memory to write vividly about the present. This craft talk explores how the raw footage of our own memories can provide fertile ground for writing. We'll explore how to recover memories, how to evoke them, and how to write movingly and in

moving pictures. Bring a notebook or computer for a little writing practice.

3:00-4:00pm Maxville Heritage Interpretive Center - I 00th Anniversary

Join Maxville Heritage Interpretive Center's founder and executive Director **Gwen Trice** to discuss the work of storytelling and place making. Maxville, Oregon was a segregated logging community between 1923 and 1933, existing when state laws prevented Black people from living, working, and owning land in Oregon. Gwen will discuss how Maxville Heritage

Interpretive Center is working to reimagine Maxville as a generational space which recalls the history of the site and seeks to make an inclusive space for continued historical process.

4:00-5:00pm Open Mic Readings

5:00-7:00pm Dinner

7:30pm Faculty Readings: Roberto Ascalon - Karen Auvinen - Craig Childs

9:00pm Book Signing

Thursday, July 13

6:00am Sunrise with **Craig Childs** at Wallowa Lake

7:00-9:00am Breakfast

9:00am-Noon Morning Writing Workshops in your instructor's cabin

Noon-2:00pm Lunch

I:00-3:00pm Youth Activities

1:30 - 3:00pm Generations Panel moderated by Shannon McNerney. Panelists: Roberto Ascalon -

JaNay Brown-Wood - Jamie Ford - Luis Alberto Urrea

3:00-4:00pm A discussion on **Debra Magpie Earling's** new book, *The Lost Journals of Sacajewea* with

the Josephy Center for Arts and Culture's Library Director and Fishtrap co-founder,

Rich Wandschneider

4:00-5:00pm Open Mic Readings

5:00-7:00pm Dinner

7:30pm Faculty Readings: Perrin Kerns - Rena Priest - Robert Stubblefield

9:00pm Book Signing

Friday, July 14

6:00am Sunrise with **Craig Childs** at Wallowa Lake

7:00-9:00am Breakfast

9:00am-Noon Morning Writing Workshops in your instructor's cabin

Noon-2:00pm Lunch

1:30-3:00pm Youth Showcase

3:00-4:00pm Fishtrap Fellows Reading

4:00-5:00pm Open Mic Readings

5:00-7:00pm Dinner

7:30pm Generations: Keynote Address with Jamie Ford and reading from Anis Mojgani

9:00pm Book Signing

Saturday, July 15

6:00am Sunrise with **Craig Childs** at Wallowa Lake

7:00-9:00am Breakfast

9:00am-Noon Morning Writing Workshops in your instructor's cabin

Noon-2:00pm Lunch

1:30 - 3:00pm Craft Talk with Perrin Kerns: Make a Tiny Film on Your iPhone Using Your Writing

from the Week—a generative workshop where you will record your own audio of a short poem or prose piece you wrote at Fishtrap this week (max. 100 words), and then create a short film with this audio soundtrack. Never fear--we will create and have fun with easy technology. Leave with a short film! (Bring headset or earbuds if you have them.)

3:00-4:00pm Yearlong Writers Workshop Readings

4:00-5:00pm Open Mic Readings

5:00-7:00pm Dinner

7:30pm Reading by Luis Alberto Urrea, Music by Beth Wood, Kate Power & Steve Einhorn

Sunday, July 16

7:00-9:00am Breakfast

10:00-11:00am **EOU Readings** - Wrap up your Summer Fishtrap experience with the next generation of

creative writers. Enjoy readings from students entering their second year in Eastern Oregon

University's low-residency Master of Fine Arts Program in Creative Writing.

11:00-Noon Hellos and Goodbyes - This is your chance to connect with the Summer Fishtrap community

at large. Socialize and make connections. Exchange your writing with old friends and new.

Make plans for all of us to meet again next year at Wallowa Lake.

Steps to a Successful Open Mic Reading

Be brave! Got some writing done? If it resonates with you, it will with someone else.

Edit, edit. Open mic readings are no more than five minutes, including any introductory remarks. A good rule of thumb is to plan on 125-150 words per minute, or no more than 600 words total with an introduction.

Time yourself: Know how long five minutes feels.

Practice, practice, practice: Read it out loud to a friend. Read it out loud to your dog. Read it out loud to your dog's friend.

Bring a legible copy to read: Double-spaced print outs with 12-14 pt font sizes are great. If you're reading from a digital device, check your display settings.

Have fun: You made the list! Breathe deep. You're prepared, and most importantly, you're among friends.

Stop on time: We'll help you out if you start to go over time. Respect your audience, the other readers, and leave them wanting more.

Take a break: If you've already read at open mic this week, please refrain from signing up multiple times. We have lots of writers wanting to share their work. Relax, listen, and be inspired to...

Get some (more) writing done!

Surround Yourself with Tranquility

Situated among some of Oregon's most remote undeveloped areas—a million acres of which is designated wilderness—EOU lies in a valley surrounded by the Wallowa, Elkhorn, and Blue Mountain Ranges.

Low Residency Mentorship

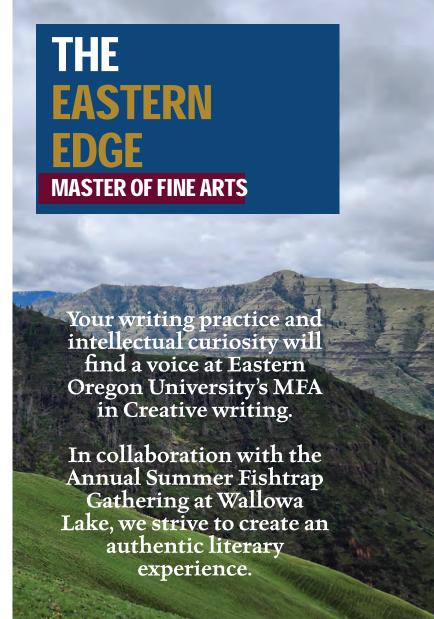
A two-week summer residency in Joseph and La Grande, Oregon connects you with award-winning faculty who mentor you online and one-on-one.

Affordable Experience

Estimated tuition and fees are \$29,310 compared to the average tuition and fees on the West Coast of \$38,400.



800.452.8639 | 541.962.3859 eou.edu/mfa



Summer Fishtrap Open Mic

Tuesday-Saturday from 3-4pm Sign-up opens at 8am in the Lodge

2023 Fishtrap Fellows

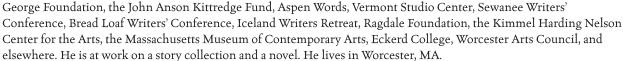
Since 1990, Fishtrap has awarded more than 140 Fellowships to new and emerging writers, many of whom have gone on to publish and succeed in full-time careers as writers and teachers. A Fishtrap Fellowship includes full registration to the Summer Fishtrap Gathering of Writers, lodging, meals, and a featured reading during the week. Fishtrap is able to provide Fellowships through generous support from individuals and foundations. We are pleased to announce the 2023 Summer Fishtrap Fellowship recipients:



Francesca Jimenez is an essayist and fiction writer based in San Gabriel Valley, northeast of Los Angeles. She is pursuing an MFA in the University of California, Riverside Palm Desert Low-Residency Program. Her work explores belonging and rejection through a lens of collective and intergenerational stories. She is also a rock climber, hiker, and classically trained violist. Learn more: francescajimenez.com

Tochukwu Okafor is an MFA Fiction candidate at Emerson College and holds a master's degree from Carnegie Mellon University. He is a 2021-2023 Book Project Fellow at Lighthouse Writers' Workshop, a 2022 Ucross Foundation Fellow, a 2022 Kurt Brown Prize for Fiction winner, a 2021 PEN America Emerging Voices Fellow, a 2021-2022 GrubStreet

Emerging Writer Fellow, a 2021 Gish Jen Fiction Fellow, an alumnus of the 2021 Tin House Workshop, and a 2018 Rhodes Scholar finalist. His work has appeared in the 2019 Best Small Fictions, the 2018 Best of the Net, and elsewhere, and he reads for Ploughshares and copy-edits for Redivider. He has received scholarships, fellowships, grants, and residencies from the Elizabeth





Lillian Emerick Valentine is a poet and farmer from western Oregon. She currently lives in Missoula, Montana where she is an MFA candidate, recipient of the Hugo scholarship and instructor of composition. Her work can be found in Black Fox, Call Me [Brackets], K'in and other literary magazines. She spends as much time as possible outside. Her favorite bird is a kingfisher.

2023 Fellowship Judge – Sharma Shields

Sharma Shields is the author of a short story collection Favorite Monster and two novels, The Sasquatch Hunter's Almanac and The Cassandra. Sharma's short stories and essays have appeared in The New York Times,

Electric Lit, Catapult, Slice, Slate, Fairy Tale Review, Kenyon Review, Iowa Review, Fugue, and have garnered such prizes as the 2020 PNBA Award, 2016 Washington State Book Award, the Autumn House Fiction Prize, the Tim McGinnis Award for Humor, a Grant for Artist Projects from Artist Trust, and the A.B. Guthrie Award for Outstanding Prose. She received her B.A. in English Literature from the University of Washington and her MFA from the University of Montana. Sharma runs a small press, Scablands Books, and is a contributing editor for Moss. A current employee of Wishing Tree Books in Spokane, Sharma has worked in independent



bookstores and public libraries throughout Washington State. She lives with her husband (writer and graphic novelist Simeon Mills) and their two children.

2023 Summer Fishtrap Faculty

CRAIG CHILDS - Nonfiction

The Story as it Emerges

Craig Childs writes about cultural history, science, climate, nature, and the visceral experience of living on Earth. With more than a dozen published books, his subjects range from water in deserts to pre-Columbian migrations across the Southwest. His narrative nonfiction and journalism has appeared in The Atlantic, Men's Journal, The Sun, The New York Times, NPR, and RadioLab. He lives in southwest Colorado. Learn more: houseofrain.com





DEBRA MAGPIE EARLING - Fiction

The Ghost Story: A Guide to Writing Compelling Prose

Debra Magpie Earling is the author of Perma Red and The Lost Journals of Sacajewea. She is the Director of the Creative Writing Program at the University of Montana. She has won numerous awards for her work including an American Book Award and Guggenheim Fellowship.

JAMIE FORD - Fiction

Opening Gambits

Jamie Ford is the great-grandson of Nevada mining pioneer, Min Chung, who emigrated from Hoiping, China to San Francisco in 1865, where he adopted the western name "Ford," thus confusing countless generations. His debut novel, Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet, spent two years on The New York Times bestseller list and went on to win the 2010 Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature. Jamie's latest novel, The Many Daughters of Afong Moy, was an instant The NYTimes bestseller. His work has been translated into 35 languages. (He's still holding out for Klingon, because that's when you know you've made it).





ANIS MOJGANI - Poetry

Letting the Poem Be Found, Letting Us Be the Poem Too

Anis Mojgani is the current Poet Laureate of Oregon. A two-time individual champion of the National Poetry Slam and winner of the International World Cup Poetry Slam, Anis has done commissions for the Getty Museum, the Peabody Essex Museum, the Oregon Parks Department, and the Portland Timbers. His work has appeared on HBO, National Public Radio, in the pages of the NYTimes, and in such journals as Rattle, Platypus, Winter Tangerine, Forklift Ohio, and Bat City Review. The author of five books of poetry and the libretto for the opera Sanctuaries, his first children's book is forthcoming from Holiday House/Neal Porter Books, and his latest poetry collection comes out in 2023, The Tigers, They Let Me. Originally from New Orleans, Anis currently lives in Portland Oregon. Learn more: thepianofarm.com.

RENA PRIEST - Poetry

Tracing our Poetic Family Tree

Rena Priest is a member of the Lhaq'temish (Lummi) Nation. She is the incumbent Washington State Poet Laureate and Maxine Cushing Gray Distinguished Writing Fellow. Priest is also the recipient of an Allied Arts Foundation Professional Poets Award and fellowships from the Academy of American Poets and Indigenous Nations Poets. She is the author of three books. Her work can be found in Poetry Magazine, Yellow Medicine Review, Poem-a-day at poets.org, and elsewhere. She holds an MFA from Sarah Lawrence College. Learn more: renapriest.com,





KIM STAFFORD - Cross Genre

Personal Geology

Kim Stafford is the founding director of the Northwest Writing Institute, and a co-founder of Fishtrap. He is the author of many books of poetry and prose, and a former Poet Laureate of Oregon. Learn more: kimstaffordpoet.com



ROBERT STUBBLEFIELD - Cross-Genre (Virtual Workshop)

Roots and Reunions

Robert Stubblefield has published fiction and personal essays in Dreamers and Desperadoes: Contemporary Short Fiction of the American West, Best Stories of the American West, Hayden's Ferry Review, Left Bank, The Clackamas Literary Review, Cascadia Times, Oregon Humanities, Oregon Salmon: Essays on the State of the Fish at the Turn of the Millennium, Open Spaces, basalt, Southern Humanities Review, Whitefish Review, and High Desert Journal among others. Awards include a Georges and Anne Borchardt scholarship from the Sewanee Writers' Conference, A Fishtrap Fellowship, and an Imhaha Writers' Retreat Fellowship. Robert grew up in Eastern Oregon and now lives in Missoula, Montana and teaches at the University of Montana.

LUIS ALBERTO URREA - Cross Genre

Mining for Treasure

A Pulitzer Prize finalist, **Luis Alberto Urrea** is the bestselling author of seventeen books and is a member of the Latino Literature Hall of Fame. His latest novel, The House of Broken Angels, was named one of the best books of 2018 by NPR, the American Library Association, Newsday, Kirkus Reviews, and the San Francisco Chronicle, among others. He is a Guggenheim Fellow and the recipient of an American Academy of Arts and Letters Literature award. His collection of short stories, The Water Museum, was a finalist for the PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction and Into the Beautiful North, his 2009 novel, was selected as a National Endowment of the Arts Big Read and has been chosen by more than fifty cities and colleges as a community read. Urrea's nonfiction book, The Devil's Highway: A True Story, was a finalist for both the Pulitzer Prize and the Kiriyama Prize and won the Lannan Literary Award for Nonfiction. Urrea's most recent novel, Goodnight, Irene, was released May 2023 by Little, Brown. Learn more: luisurrea.com





JANAY BROWN-WOOD - Youth

Exploring Story Genre Through Writing (Grades 5-8)

JaNay Brown-Wood, PhD, is an award-winning children's author, poet, educator, and scholar. Her first children's book Imani's Moon won the NAESP Children's Book of the Year Award and was featured on Stephen Colbert's The Late Show and Storytime with the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Her second book, Grandma's Tiny House: A Counting Story! received a starred review from Publisher's Weekly and won the CELI Read Aloud Book Award, and her third book SHHH! The Baby's Asleep received a starred review from School Library Journal. JaNay loves to write, bake, teach, and spend time with her husband, Catrayel, and her daughter, Vivian. She has more than 15 books coming out soon!

ROBERTO ASCALON - Youth

The Writing Circle at the Edge of the World (Grades 9-12)

NYC-born poet, **Roberto Ascalon** teaches across the Northwest. He is a Kundiman, Jack Straw, and Artist Trust fellow, a two-time Seattle Slam Team member, and the winner of the 2013 Rattle Poetry Prize for the poem "The Fire This Time, or, How Come Some Brown Boys Get Blazed Right Before Class And Other Questions Without Marks" which earned him a Pushcart nomination. His residencies have led to multimedia exhibitions at the Frye Art Museum, the Seattle Art Museum, and The Museum of History and Industry and earned him a trip to the White House where had the honor of shaking hands with President Obama. He graduated in 2016 from Western Washington University with a degree in Creative Writing.



Yearlong Workshops



KAREN AUVENIN - The Year of Writing Generously: Your Book From Inception to Full First Draft Yearlong 2022-23

Karen Auvinen is an award-winning poet, mountain woman, life-long westerner, writer, and the author of the memoir Rough Beauty, finalist for the Colorado Book Award and the Willa Award. Her work has appeared in The New York Times, LitHub, Real Simple, Westword, and The Colorado Sun, as well as numerous literary journals. She earned an MA in poetry from the University of Colorado under the mentorship of Lucia Berlin and a Ph.D in fiction from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee. Karen teaches writing workshops at Lighthouse Writers Workshops and film, pop culture, and storytelling to first-years at CU – Boulder. Past gigs include Writer-in-Residence for the State of Colorado, editor, book-buyer, rural postal route driver, caterer, clinic assistant, landscaper, summer camp director, and guest chef. She lives in

the Colorado mountains with the artist Greg Marquez, their dog River, and Dottie the Cat. More at karen.auvinen.com. Follow Karen on Twitter @karenjamestown or Instagram @awomansplaceisinthewild and on Facebook: KarenAuvinenAuthor.

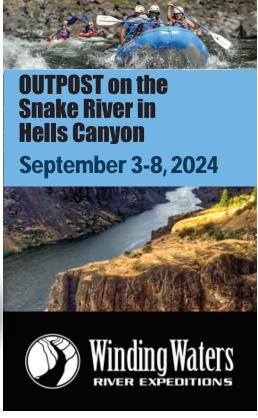
PERRIN KERNS - Generate: A Year of Creative Nonfiction Practice and Production Yearlong 2023-24

Perrin Kerns has been teaching creative writing for over 30 years. For many of those years, she served as the Director of Writing at Marylhurst University. More recently she has been teaching literature, creative nonfiction, and digital storytelling at Duke University's Center for Documentary Studies, Prescott College, PNCA's MFA, Portland State University, Literary Arts, and Fishtrap. Her own creative work has taken her from the lyric essay to digital storytelling to personal narrative documentaries based on her lyric essays. She is excited to teach a sustained yearlong creative nonfiction workshop at Fishtrap and can't wait to work with you!



Spread the word about our evening readings open to the public this week!

7:30 M-TH, Sat, FREE Friday Keynote Tickets: \$25/\$20 for Fishtrappers at fishtrap.org



Be a Fishtrapper!

Make a difference in Fishtrap's future today!

Your monthly donation helps us continue to:

- Provide writers with high quality workshops
- Provide readers, writers, and thinkers with forums for expression and conversation
- Provide teachers and students with literary resources
- Provide opportunities for connection in Wallowa County and beyond



Fishtrappers support programs like:

- Summer Fishtrap Gathering
- Outpost
- Winter Fishtrap
- The Big Read
- Online Writing Workshops
- Community Theater
- Fishtrap Fireside
- Writer-in-Residence

ALL Fishtrappers--and ONLY
Fishtrappers--will be entered in our
July 15 drawing for a free registration to
the 2024 Summer Fishtrap Gathering!
Jump in!

We thank our Fishtrappers with:

- Fishtrap Stickers
- Fishtrap Journal
- 10% off Fishtrap workshops (excluding Outpost and Yearlong) and merchandise
- Special Fishtrapper-only mailings and online/in-person events

Sign up to be a Fishtrapper today at www.fishtrap.org/fishtrapper. Click the option for a Monthly gift.

Memberships start at just \$5.

























New & used books, local art & gifts

The Bookloft

107 East Main Street Enterprise, Oregon 97828 541-426-3351

Books will be available to purchase every afternoon and evening at Summer Fishtrap













Don't miss our Saturday night FUNdraiser!



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MERCANTILE .





DIANE DAGGETT Broker at Ruby Peak Realty





LOSTINE, OREGON





SCRATCH MADE

BEER

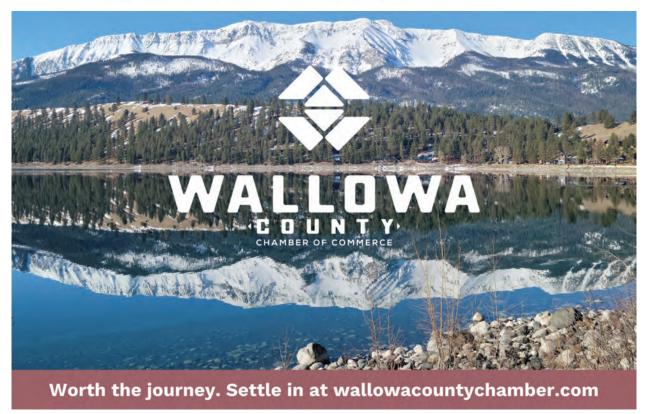
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AND MORE

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Summer Fishtrap is possible thanks to generous support from the following:

The Bookloft
Eastern Oregon University
The James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation
The Kinsman Foundation
The National Endowment for the Arts
Oregon Arts Commission
Roundhouse Foundation
The Silver Family Foundation
Wallowa Valley Center for Wellness

Finally, Summer Fishtrap continues to thrive because of the love and support of our Wallowa County Community. To the many local volunteers, writers, businesses, family, and friends who help us throughout the year, we send our heartfelt thanks!



PO Box 38, Enterprise, OR 97828 541.426.3623 fishtrap.org

Fishtrap Programs 2024

Winter Fishtrap
January

The Big Read February-March

Outpost on the Zumwalt June 24-29

Summer Fishtrap July 8-14

Outpost in Hells Canyon September 3-8

Fishtrap Fireside First Fridays, October-April