Pilgrim at Home

by Kim Stafford

RACC Fellowship Winner

in Literature, 2008

(The Regional Arts & Culture Council is thrilled to award this year’s Individual Arts Fellowship in Literature to Kim Stafford. RACC selected Kim through a rigorous and competitive application and panel review process, and he will receive $20,000 for his work. Given his mastery of the written, spoken and sung word it seems fitting to let Kim tell us about what he has planned.

--Eloise Damrosch)

Something mysterious happens when you get a call from the Regional Arts & Culture Council that begins, “Are you sitting down…?” The news that lightning has struck, that you have been chosen to receive a creative Fellowship for a year of focused work in art, leaves a scorch mark on the heart, and quickens the pulse to danger level. Many tributaries from your life now come rushing into one. It’s time to work in service to the culture of our region.

But couldn’t this happen without the fellowship? Couldn’t an act of will swell the river of your creative attention? Yes, and this is what I tell my writing students every day: Choose your calling. Recognize what is at stake. Establish your creative practice. Find friends who can help you seek your most authentic imperative to create….

Strangely, though, I have found it hard to be selfish like that. Is that the right word—selfish? To focus one’s attention on writing, painting, photography, dance or some other semi-self-indulgent discovery process can run against the grain of a work ethic that has kept me at a college for 25 one-year contracts, that urges me to turn aside from at least some of that clamor in favor of pure creative time requires a high-torque psychic shift. Now I must turn to art first,

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From the Executive Director

Let’s Celebrate and Pull Together

In its October 3rd issue the Portland Business Journal named this year’s top 25 business donors to the arts, celebrating Portland General Electric at #1, followed by Bank of America/US Trust, Key Bank, Standard Insurance and Wells Fargo. In an accompanying column, PGE Vice President Carol Dillin said, “Arts and culture contribute tremendous value to our region’s economic development and quality of life.” RACC salutes our community’s generous businesses for their contributions to the arts, and for offering workplace giving campaigns for their employees, all to help ensure a vital arts and culture community.

History and experience have taught us that in the face of disaster people naturally turn to the arts for solace, strength, inspiration, and hope. Many remember the free concert spontaneously offered to the public by the Oregon Symphony right after 9/11. Today we face a new challenge – that of serious financial uncertainty – and during this time it is essential that arts and culture not only survive, but thrive.

National economist Jeremy Nowak has called for our country’s most creative people to now lead efforts to help get us through these difficult times, and to keep the public’s hope and strength alive. It will take the financial wizards, the best of our electeds, and our strongest business leaders to find smart solutions to the tough problems. The rest of us must work together to support and lift up the creative community as they keep our spirits high and hopeful.

Join us on November 13th as we celebrate business giving to the arts at the NW/BCA Breakfast of Champions, and please do what you can to support the arts this fall. The arts need us, and we need the arts now more than ever.

Eloise Damrosch, Regional Arts & Culture Council
and fit my obedient life of labor around that kindled flame.

Can you tell I’m giddy? I’m babbling. But I do want to witness for this mystery: We say we love art. We say we want to experience cumulative practice toward haunting structures of discovery, to be carpenters in the brash crew for making a City of Art. But we defer—or at least I have long deferred—total attention to creative discovery. I work part time at Lewis & Clark College, and part time at the Pacific Northwest College of Art…and I respond to several dozen requests each year for additional small jobs in writing and teaching here and there.

My project for the RACC fellowship—“Pilgrim at Home: Local Encounters Beyond the Epoch of the Car”—is to wander. My project is to venture on foot or by bike or bus to Powell Butte, to the deepest shadows of Forest Park, to neighborhoods and river banks, to the source of stream, path, intuitive whim—and there to report in writing on the people I meet, what I learn from resonant places, what wants to be said through me, and to consider what our local experience might be like after the era of the automobile.

Somebody has to do it. How might we tune our culture in a new way to find pleasures and be citizens without this beloved machine we live for?

A friend once took a sabbatical in the French Quarter of New Orleans. He wandered the streets with his notebook, trying to be like Faulkner, he thought, to be a writer of stories that would hold up to the master’s way. But in the wee hours on Decatur Street one night he encountered the street musician they call Bucket Man—the one with drum sticks and five-gallon plastic pail for wild syncopation every day at Jackson Square. Without warning, rapid fire, Bucket man demanded of my friend: "Why are you here? What have you learned? Have you put yourself in danger?" Then Bucket Man disappeared, and my friend wandered on with a new agenda for his seeking. These three questions from a familiar stranger became an assignment for the writer in service to his city.

My plan is to open my attention to what the Spanish philosopher José Ortega y Gassett calls "meditations," or "exercises in intellectual love," or "salvations"—short evocative reports that strive to save places that speak, people who witness, ideas that beg to be considered as we all seek kinship with each other and the earth.

All it takes, really, is a notebook, and the freedom to turn aside.

To read more about Kim Stafford’s Fellowship Award visit www.racc.org/fellowshipstafford. Also visit Kim’s site at www.lclark.edu/~krs.
AROUND TOWN
All events funded in part by the Regional Arts & Culture Council

11/6-30 New work by Hilary Pfeifer, Museum of Contemporary Craft, 503.223.2654, www.museumofcontemporarycraft.org

11/6-30 Photographs by Bobby Neel Adams, Marrigje de Maar and Jennifer Cheek Pantaléon, Blue Sky Gallery, 503.225.0210, www.blueskygallery.org

11/6-30 Flock & Tumble, a concert by Seth Nehil, 503.320.7512, www.sethnehil.blogspot.com


11/6-30 Fidelio, Portland Opera, 503.241.1802, www.portlandopera.org

11/7 Triton Trio, Chamber Music Northwest, 503.294.6400, www.cmnw.org

11/9 22nd Annual Oregon Book Awards, Literary Arts, 503.227.2583, www.literary-arts.org


11/13-15 Grub, a contemporary dance by Angelle Hebert, 971.221.2518, www.rubberteeth.com


11/20-23 Lost in Yonkers, a staged reading, Profile Theatre, 503.242.0080, www.profiletheatre.org


12/5 Winter Jubilee, Metropolitan Youth Symphony, 503.239.4566, www.playmys.org


12/7-28 A Christmas Carol, Portland Center Stage, 503.445.3700, www.pcs.org


12/12-1/3 Biglittlethings, Imago Theatre, 503.231.3959. www.imagotheatre.com

For more: www.racc.org/resources/events

AT RACC
Candidates’ Stand on Art & Culture Issues. RACC and Northwest Business for Culture & the Arts asked run-off candidates for local elected office about their positions on important arts and culture issues. Visit www.racc.org for their responses. You will also find a link to the arts positions of Barack Obama and John McCain, the two presidential candidates. Be sure to vote by Nov. 4th.

Donate to the Oregon Cultural Trust. The Oregon Cultural Trust is a statewide cultural plan to raise significant new funds to invest in Oregon’s arts, humanities and heritage. Before the end of the year, be sure to donate to your favorite Oregon arts and culture groups, then make a matching donation to the Oregon Cultural Trust in order to claim a 2008 tax credit for 100% of your Trust gift. Visit www.culturaltrust.org for details.

Nov 20th Art Spark. Join RACC on the third Thursday of every month for this networking of artists. Laika will be the host and show some sneak peeks of their new animated feature film. Art Spark is from 5-7pm at the Living Room Theaters, 341 SW 10th. Visit www.portlandartspark.com.

“The Shadow City,” at the Portland Building through Dec 5. RACC presents this temporary installation by Portland artist Gabe Shaughnessy. Based on an idea that began as a temporary art installation at Diversion, the 2007 Regional Burning Man Decompression for Portland, Shaughnessy is presenting the familiar image of a city skyline with recycled building materials playing a major role. Portland Building Installation Space, 1120 SW 5th Avenue, 7am - 6pm, Monday through Friday.

RACC Public Art Opportunities:

• Gateway District Public Art. RACC invites US artists/artist teams to submit qualifications for a public art opportunity in Portland’s Gateway District. The art budget is $60,000. To apply for this project, go to www.callforentry.org. Deadline: 11/17/08.

• Portland Building Installation Space 2009-2010 - artists/teams in Oregon or Washington can submit proposals for temporary installations in the Portland Building. Six installations will be featured in one-month installations. $1000 honorarium. Visit www.racc.org. Deadline: 12/1/08.

• Portland Building Installation Space 2009 - art students/teams enrolled in an Oregon college/university can submit proposals for temporary installations in the Portland Building. Three student installations will be featured in one-month installations. $500 honorarium. Visit www.racc.org. Deadline: 12/1/08.

ART at RACC
Currently on display at RACC is artwork created by four 2008 Marylhurst University BEA recipients: Sara La Du, Rhonda Forsberg, Reiko Warrens and Claire Strickland (at left her Water Mediation). On view at the RACC office, 108 NW 9th, Suite 300, through January 31, 2009.
2009 RACC Artists Workshop Series

From January through June of 2009, RACC is offering 10 professional development workshops for artists in all disciplines who reside in the tri-county Portland region. These workshops are offered as part of RACC’s commitment to provide relevant and affordable learning opportunities that help artists become more successful in their careers. For a more updated schedule and to register, visit www.racc.org/workshops or call 503.823.5111 or email info@racc.org. Registration opens November 17, 2008.

Will Click for Art: The newest eon of marketing online
Date: TBD; 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. In this interactive session we will discuss online marketing: what works, what doesn’t; social media technologies and their practical online uses; free online resources that will bring more visitors to your web site; good principals of user interface and navigation structure. Presenter: Mark Grimes. Fee: $30. Location: Art Institute of Portland, 1122 NW Davis Street. (Session 1)

Copyrights & Contracts for Artists
Saturday, February 21, 2009; 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Copyright topics will include the most important concepts that every visual artist should know. The contract discussion will focus on the Oregon Artwork Consignment law, collaborations, licensing and sales agreements, commission deals and agent representation agreements. Presenter: Peter Vaughan Shaver, Esq. Fee: $30. Location: New Columbia Community Education Center, 4625 N. Trenton.

Artists Wanted: Public Art from A to Z
Saturday, February 28, 2009; 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. RACC public art managers Peggy Kendellen and Kristin Calhoun will walk workshop participants through the process of applying for a commission from the City of Portland and Multnomah County % for Art Programs. They will review key elements from successful applications, demonstrate how to develop reliable budgets and timelines, discuss the architectural issues and go over common application mistakes and how to avoid them. Presenters: RACC Public Art Managers. Fee: $30. Location: New Columbia Community Education Center, 4625 N. Trenton.

The Balancing Act: Making Art & Making Money
Saturday, March 28, 2009; 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Full of useful and immediately usable insights into the how to of marketing: how to talk about your work, the tools you can use to promote interest in it, the simple process of sales, and ending with tips on how to organize your efforts. Making promotional efforts efficient and effective so artists can enjoy more time for their art. Presenter: Bob Sterry. Fee: $30. Location: New Columbia Community Education Center, 4625 N. Trenton.

Presenting Yourself Professionally
Date: TBD; 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Tips for connecting with galleries, applying to juried exhibitions, building your resume and growing your career. This panel discussion will present several perspectives on what galleries and exhibition jurors are looking for in your portfolio. Facilitator: Katrina Gilkey; Panelists: Six local commercial, collective and college gallery, artists, representatives and curators Fee: $15. Location: Blue Sky Gallery, 122 NW 8th Avenue.

Grant Writing for Success—The Foundation Level
Saturday, April 25, 2009; 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. In this introductory workshop geared for first-time applicants, individual artists learn how to decode application questions, brainstorm before writing the first draft and strategize like successful grant writers. Presenter: Gigi Rosenberg. Fee: $30. Location: Museum of Contemporary Craft, 724 NW Davis.

Grant Writing for Success—The Second Step/Intermediate Level
Friday, May 15, 2009; 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. This advanced workshop is for individual artists with some experience in grant writing who want to improve their chances of success. Participants learn strategies for finding fresh language to describe a project, how to budget with ease and how to stand out from the crowd. Presenter: Gigi Rosenberg. Fee: $30. Location: Art Institute of Portland, 1122 NW Davis Street. (Session 2)

Image Basics for the Grant and Public Art Submission Process
Date: TBD; 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 pm. In this workshop, RACC staff will demonstrate methods of image acquisition and discuss differences between image file types, image sizing and resolution, as well as suggestions for storage, organization and backup of your digital images. We will cover RACC’s digital submission guidelines. Presenter: Chris Bigsard. Fee: $30. Location: Art Institute of Portland, 1122 NW Davis Street.

Digital Photo Editing
Date: TBD; 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 pm. In this hands-on workshop, RACC staff will review methods for editing and adjusting digital images using Adobe Photoshop CS3 on the Macintosh platform. Students will implement non-destructive processes that allow full image editing capabilities, without losing quality in the original file. Topics include repairing damaged images, color correction techniques, sharpening, adjusting skewed images, working with layers and the use of adjustment layers. Basic computer skills and experience working with digital photos needed. Presenter: Christopher Huizar. Fee: $30. Location: Art Institute of Portland, 1122 NW Davis Street.


Grants to Emerging Artists. Puffin Foundation provides grants to emerging artists in art, music, theater, film/video and photography whose works, due to their genre and/or social philosophy, might have difficulty being aired. Contact: 201.836.8923 or www.puffinfoundation.org. Deadline: 12/30/08.

2009 Artist-in-Residence program at Acadia National Park offers professional writers, composers and all visual and performing artists the opportunity to pursue their art form surrounded by inspiring landscape. The park provides housing to participants for 2-4 week periods. No additional stipend is available. Contact: Artist-In-Residence Program Coordinator, Acadia National Park, P.O. Box 177, Bar Harbor, ME 04609, 207.288.3338, www.nps.gov/acad/supportyourpark/artistinresidence.htm. Deadline: 1/5/09.

2009 Architecture Foundation of Oregon Grants for nonprofit organizations throughout Oregon with projects that: Advance AFO’s mission; Provide visibility for architecture and the built environment; Be supported by the architectural profession; Include or have potential for statewide involvement; Foster collaboration, leveraging organizational resources for the greatest possible impact. Grants range from $1,000 to $5,000. Visit www.af-oregon.org/afo.php?section=grants or contact Jane Jarrett at residencies@ocac.edu, 503.297.5544, www.ocac.edu/#/programs/artists-in-residence. Deadline: 3/1/09.

For more: www.racc.org/resources/grants

Competition

Call for Artists for the 19th Annual Buckman School Art Show & Sell (3/6-7). Looking for original artwork in a broad range of media—from painting to puppetry, ceramics to glass, jewelry to handbags, knitwear to mixed media. Artists retain 70% of their proceeds. Remainder supports the educational program at Buckman Arts Focus School. Visit http://buckmanelementary.org/artsale. Deadline: 11/21/08.

Call for Visual Artists for the 27th Annual Beaverton Visual Arts Showcase (2/8-21). Artists must live in the Portland metro area. All work must be original and have been completed within the last two years. A 30% commission will be taken from all sales. Apply at www.callforentry.org. Contact the Beaverton Arts Commission at 503.526.2288, jscott@ci.beaverton.or.us, www.beavertonarts.org. Postmarked Deadline: 11/21/08.

Call to Artists for Mentors; Northwest Artists Who Teach (1/20-2/27); a juried exhibition at the Minthorne Art Gallery at George Fox University, Newberg, OR. An exhibition showcasing the dedicated artists who choose to pass on their talents and teach grade school, middle school and high school. Contact Tim Timmerman at ttimmerm@georgefox.edu. Deadline: 11/24/08.

Public Art Call for COCC Campus Center Building. Central Oregon Community College seeks to commission a permanent large scale work of art for the Campus Center building on the Central Oregon Community College campus in Bend, OR. The work of art is to be located on an exterior wall of the building at the main entrance to the Campus Center building. Visit www.callforentry.org. Deadline: 12/1/08.


Call for Artists for Flora & Fauna (1/2-2/1), a celebration of the life surrounding us in our natural world. This juried

specified craft medium. All selected residents will be provided with nearby housing, a stipend and materials and travel reimbursement. Contact: residencies@ocac.edu, 503.297.5544, www.ocac.edu/#/programs/artists-in-residence. Deadline: 3/1/09.

Photo: Michael Romanos

Portland Youth Philharmonic presents

Fall Concert

Nov 8

under their new Conductor and Music Director David Hattner

Visit www.portlandyouthphil.org

(RACC General Support Grant)
Call for Films for Peripheral Produce’s 8th Annual Portland Documentary and eXperimental Film Festival (PDX Fest) in Portland 5/6-10. PDX Fest is dedicated to showcasing new and innovative work in film and video from around the world. Experimental, documentary and/or underground work of all lengths will be considered. Visit www.peripheralproduce.com/pdx_fest/2009. Early Bird Deadline: 1/12/09. Final Deadline: 1/23/09.

Call for Images of the Hawthorne Bridge. The Friends of the Willamette River Bridges and Witham & Dickey Printing are planning to create a 2010 four-color wall calendar to be published in late spring/early summer 2009. The calendar will feature 12 images of the Hawthorne Bridge, turning 100 years old on 12/19/10. The Friends seek 12 images from 12 different artists of all ages working in all media and disciplines that depict the Hawthorne Bridge, past, present or future. Contact: Sharon Wood Wortman at sharon@bridgestories.com. Deadline: 3/1/09.


For much more: www.racc.org/resources/competitions

Job Opportunities

Community Arts Education Outreach Coordinator sought by Salem Art Association, Salem, OR. Responsibilities include designing community programs based on SAA exhibits; implementing on-site classes, workshops and master classes; overseeing Summer Art in the Park for ages 6-16; and developing new initiatives. Visit www.salemart.org for a full job description. Contact: CAE Director, Salem Art Association, 600 Mission Street SE, Salem, OR 97302, kathleen@salemart.org. Deadline: 11/14/08.

Executive Director sought by Literary Arts, Inc. Duties include: the management and artistic direction of the organization, reporting to the Board of Directors and working with staff to administer diverse and unique literary programming within a mid-sized budget; serve as the primary spokesperson for Literary Arts. Salary $75,000 - $85,000. For more information about Literary Arts and for the full job description, visit www.literary-arts.org. Executive Director Search Committee, 4455 N.E. Alameda Street, Portland, OR 97213, aedjobsearch@yahoo.com. Deadline: 11/14/08.

Assistant Professor of Theatre sought by Reed College. Seeking a theatre generalist committed to excellence in teaching in a small undergraduate theatre program in a liberal arts context. The ideal candidate will possess a Ph.D. and have

White Bird presents
Uncaged Series

Kidd Pivot
“Lost in Action”
Nov 11-15
at Kaul Auditorium,
Reed College
Visit www.whitebird.org
(RACC General Support & Opportunity Grant)
undergraduate teaching experience in pre-twentieth-century theatre history and directing and/or playwriting. Contact: Jo Cannon, Search Committee in Theatre, Reed College, 3203 South East Woodstock Boulevard, Portland, OR 97202-8199. **Deadline: 12/2/08.**

**Administrative Assistant (P/T)** sought by Friends of Chamber Music/Portland Piano International. Qualified candidates should be highly organized, detail-oriented, have strong verbal and written communication skills and have the ability to multitask, prioritize and work independently. Starting salary is $10/hour. More about the organizations at www.focm.org and www.portlandpiano.org. Send resume and brief statement expressing your interest, skills and goals to pat@portlandpiano.org or mail to Pat Zagelow, Executive Director, Friends of Chamber Music/Portland Piano International, 222 NW Davis St, Suite 405, Portland, OR 97209.

For much more: www.racc.org/resources/jobs

**Workshops/Conferences/Lectures/Trips**

**11/8 Sales Coaching Workshop for Artists.** Discuss your specific challenges for promoting your work. Be coached through appropriate solutions. Gain understanding of the basic process of a sale or commercial commitment. 9 am-1 pm in Canby, OR. Visit www.clackamasculturalcoalition.org/workshop/sterry/index.html to learn more.

**11/17 1st Annual Oregon Arts Education Congress** sponsored by the Oregon Arts Commission for teachers and administrators, artists, arts education providers, government and political leaders, leaders from higher education, business leaders, parent advocates, arts advocates, creative industries spokespeople, elected officials and liaisons from key statewide associations.

Contact: Deborah.Vaughn@state.or.us, 503.986.0085, www.oregongatewayarts.com/advocates, arts advocates, creative industries spokespeople, leaders, leaders from higher education, business leaders, parent advocates, arts advocates, creative industries spokespeople, elected officials and liaisons from key statewide associations.

Contact: Deborah.Vaughn@state.or.us, 503.986.0085, www.oregongatewayarts.com/

**2/10/09 The Big Picture: Connecting Eric Carle, Collage & Story.** A Young Audiences Arts & Literacy Teacher Workshop for K-6 educators. Based on the techniques of author and illustrator Eric Carle (The Very Hungry Caterpillar), innovative teaching artist Kaaren Pixton guides K-6 teachers in a creative exploration of ‘the big picture’ of color, collage and story. 8:30am-3:30p

at Marylhurst University, Art Department, 17600 Pacific Hwy, Marylhurst, OR 97036. $150. Register at www.ya-or.org or call Christine Caton at 503.225.5900 ext. 225, christine@ya-or.org. **Registration Deadline: 1/16/09.**

For much more: www.racc.org/resources/workshops

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**Other Opportunities & Information**

**Volunteers for Wordstock (11/6-9).** Without volunteers, there would be no Wordstock. And we need more! So please visit the volunteer page on Wordstock’s website at www.wordstockfestival.com/#/page_id=114&article=122 to sign up to volunteer the weekend of the festival or before the festival. If you have any questions e-mail volunteer coordinators: Megan Wellman at megan@wordstockfestival.com and Bradi Grebien-Samkow at bradi@wordstockfestival.com.

**11/9-22 BroadArts Visionary Salons:** discussions, presentations and theaters with local leaders, activists and visionaries, honing in on fashioning the future we want for Portland. The BroadArts Visionary Salons focus on specific communities whose voices have not traditionally been represented in ‘wonky’ government-initiated city planning. Each Salon event is free and open to the public. For schedule and location of meetings call BroadArts at 503.288.5181 or BroadArts@aol.com or www.broadarts.org.

**New Board Member** sought by The Newspace Center for Photography. The prospective board member should have nonprofit experience, enthusiasm for the arts, and a desire to contribute to the strength of the organization. Board positions require a commitment of one to two years of service. Send resumes and cover letters to Chris Bennett, Executive Director at chris@newspacephoto.org or 1632 SE 10th Ave., Portland, OR 97214.

**Volunteers needed during holiday season at Museum of Contemporary Craft.** Volunteers are needed for November and December to assist with the annual holiday sale. This is a great opportunity to help the Museum during one of the busiest times of the year! To learn more visit www.contemporarycrafts.org/info_op.php or call Claire Patoine, Volunteer Coordinator at 503.223.2654 ext. 101.

**Downtown Vancouver, WA Studio Space for Rent.** 3,000 sf available for rent to artists, photographers, fiber workers or any kind of creative work. Access is 24/7. Located near I-5 bridge and SR 14. Address is 215 W. 4th Street. Contact Gill Wallis at gillwallis@yahoo.com or 360.600.7094.

**For listing of Local Holiday Bazaars & Sales** featuring local artists and designers selling a wide variety of handmade art and gifts for all visit www.racc.org/resources/info/other.php#HolidayBazaars.

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La Boutique Fantasque

**The Portland Ballet presents**

Leonide Massine’s “La Boutique Fantasque”

**Nov 28-29**

Visit www.theportlandballet.org (RACC General Support)
ARTISTS WORKSHOP SERIES

Ten professional development workshops for working artists in all disciplines from January to June, 2009

See details inside on page 4 of this issue of Art Notes

Presented by the Regional Arts & Culture Council in Portland, Oregon

Photos from upper left: Edis Jurcys’ “Ferry” from Blue Sky Gallery; Portland Building Installation “Vertical Garden” with Hilary Pfeifer; Third Angle New Music Ensemble’s “The City Dance of Lawrence & Anna Halprin” (Photo: Alicia Rose); Luciana Proano in “Noche Nochera” (Photo: Jane Keating)