

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE  
OREGON COUNCIL OF  
TEACHERS OF ENGLISH



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Spring 2017



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**Chalkboard** is the newsletter of the Oregon Council of Teachers of English, an organization that has existed for over 100 years to support teachers of English and the language arts in Oregon elementary and secondary schools, community colleges and universities.

**Chalkboard** is our way of keeping our many members and friends informed about OCTE activities, programs of the National Council of Teachers of English, conferences and learning opportunities for students, research tidbits, book recommendations, and more.

**Chalkboard** is a member of the NCTE Information Exchange.

#### OC TE

P.O. Box 9126  
Portland, OR 97207-9126

*OC TE Conferences are an  
excellent value!*

**Register online:**

[octe.org](http://octe.org)

*Pre-registration prices end  
April 15th.*

# Chalkboard

WWW.OCTE.ORG

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## OREGON COUNCIL OF TEACHERS OF ENGLISH

### Spring Conference - Saturday, April 22, 2017

Seaside High School • 1901 N Holladay Dr • Seaside, OR

There's an eagle calling to his mate from the tree in my backyard and to the west I hear the ocean laying down sand and wrack on the beach. Everyday I've been checking on my tulips to make sure they've survived the elk marching through my garden. Winter's been tough, and I'm thinking about spring. With those thoughts on my mind, I am so pleased to invite you to our **Spring Conference**.



Conference Keynote:  
Paulann Petersen

This year we are providing you an opportunity to create at our Spring Conference. We have gathered a **poet laureate, an outstanding improvisational actor, a writing professor, and a naturalist with experience as an elementary teacher** to lead workshops in which you will get to be a poet, naturalist, improv actor, or essayist. You'll be impressed with the caliber of our workshops!

In addition to leading workshops, Oregon Poet Laureate Emerita, **Paulann Petersen**, will join us as keynote speaker. In her address, "Our Domain: Teachers as Creators," she will speak to how we nourish our students writing skills by engaging ourselves and them in poetry and other imaginative exercises. In the evening, we are hosting a wine and cheese reception with Beach Books at their store in Seaside, where Paulann will give a poetry reading.

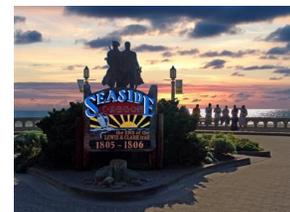
Each workshop leader will be leading intensive workshops twice, once in the morning, and again in the afternoon, giving you an opportunity to deepen your love for language and expression. Each **workshop is limited to 20 participants**, so I encourage you to pre-register right away. Look over the offerings, and I think you'll find it hard to choose a favorite.

This conference will be, in essence, a **retreat**: a time for imagination, creativity, and self-expression. I love the phrase "learn by heart." For me, it conjures images of falling in love with learning. Join us for a chance to be **teachers as learners**, to immerse ourselves in the variety of forms that English/language arts can take, and to deepen our practice. In doing so, I am confident we will have more to give to our students and we will find refreshment and new energy.



**Come, learn by heart!**

Laurie Dougherty, OCTE President Elect





### When Meeting *the other*

Given arms, the sun would choose to grow many.

Having many narrow arms, the sun would—at each limb’s end—flare into a palm and fingers, into the curves made for reaching.

Extremities of flame, of shine. Hands that carry enough heat and light to give away.

Be that sun. One small sun.

—Paulann Petersen  
Excerpt from *Kindle*,  
Mountains and Rivers Press, 2008



### Inviting Encounters with Paulann Petersen, by Peter Thacker

Paulann Petersen, Oregon Poet Laureate Emerita and headliner at our Spring Conference/ Retreat, is “one small sun” that glows quite bright. She is both a marvelous crafter of poems and also a most generous poet and teacher. Just learning that Paulann’s roots are in high school English teaching, we gain a lens into how she has honed her sensitivities to bring forth creativity from her students. I have been one of those recently, and I am sold on her as a mentor. This is a woman who travels the back roads of Oregon for tens of thousands of miles, drawing out poems from first graders to elders. She is ubiquitous with a purpose: giving us a platform from which to sing our truth.

"What I like to do is riff on language, the way a musician will riff with notes, going out as far as I can go and then coming back with what I have."

Paulann talking with Jeff Baker, *The Oregonian*, July 27, 2013

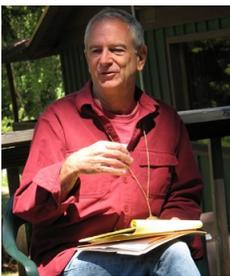
Paulann knows her poetry, and she shares that knowledge in a most gentle, welcoming way, encouraging everyone she meets to share their words and visions through verse. When you listen to Paulann as she speaks, then leads two workshops, you will be nourished by her delight for each poem she encounters. Paulann sees through to the essence of our poetic souls; we can’t help but write, then write more. She praises us novice, sometimes even accomplished, poets. She then sweetly invites us to re-imagine words/lines/stanzas/ poems/worlds in ways that open our imaginations. Not many readers of poems can both appreciate our use of language and then grace us with a sense of further possibilities. We will be nourished by Paulann’s choice of models from which to work. We will revel in the works created by one another. We will soak up her wisdom and love of the written word. Such a love she has for sharing her craft.

### 33rd Oregon Writing Festival

Saturday, May 6, 2017  
Portland State University

Student Registration Form :  
Available through School District contact only.

**For additional information please contact:**



Author, Robin Cody will talk with high school students.

Barbara Wiegele  
[bjwiegele@aol.com](mailto:bjwiegele@aol.com)  
503-723-6275

Rick Hardt, Festival Chair  
[hardtu@pdx.edu](mailto:hardtu@pdx.edu)



Susan Hill Long will present to 4th and 5th grade, while Lisa Schroeder will chat with middle school students.

### OCTE Teacher Excellence Award

To recognize excellence in teaching, OCTE invites any Oregon school to nominate one outstanding English language arts educator for recognition. We welcome nominations from anyone at any level of education.

To be nominated, the educator must have taught at least five years in any Oregon school at any level. In the opinion of the nominator, the educator must have created a particularly noteworthy record in teaching the English language arts. The nominator—with or without the assistance of the candidate—should do the following: **To nominate, go to [octe.org](http://octe.org) and submit online.**

**Nomination deadline is April 6.**



### Guide to Spring Conference Workshops

Join us for a wine and cheese reception at Beach Books 7pm April 22nd to celebrate a special poetry reading by Paulann Petersen.

**Saturday, April 22, 2017**

Seaside High School

Register online:

[octe.org](http://octe.org)

**Anyone's Domain:  
A Writing Workshop**  
Choice A



**Paulann Petersen**, Oregon Poet Laureate Emerita

**Improvational Acting  
Workshop**  
Choice B



**Phil Incorvia**, Facilitator with Character, LLC and early member of the Brody Theater

**Using Nature and History  
as Inspiration for Writing  
Along the Fort to Sea Trail**  
Choice C



**Cathy Peterson**, Education Program Coordinator, Lewis and Clark National Historical Park

**Writing Workshop:  
Nonfiction**  
Choice D



**Kimberly Campbell**, Lewis and Clark Professor

"Poetry is not the domain of just a few. It's as natural and accessible as heartbeat and breath. Writing poetry requires nothing more than a love of words and a willingness to let your pen move across a page, following language wherever it takes you."

Join Paulann in a workshop devoted to generating new poems. Using innovative methods, you'll make exhilarating plunges into language. All levels of experience are welcome. The only requirement is your willingness to spend time writing as part of a supportive community. Paulann's goal is for each participant to leave with both new writing and the inspiration to shape that new work into poems or prose. Paulann urges you to bring a reasonably large notebook or journal.

This session will focus on bringing the toolbox of improvised theater to a workshop setting where participants will be able to work their noticing, agreeing, accepting and collaborating 'muscles'. Phil doesn't just say, "You should let the inmates run the asylum," he believes it!

The workshop participants will collaborate on setting the goals and direction of the session, with the greater eye towards creating an engaging and useful experience that is tailored to the people in the room. Sound familiar? I'm excited to see you there!

Explore timeless rainforests and majestic coastal vistas. Discover the rich heritage of the Clatsop Indians. Unfold the dramatic stories of America's most famous explorers. The park encompasses sites along the Columbia River and the Pacific Coast.

Follow in the footsteps of the explorers and have an adventure in history. As you hike along the Fort to Sea trail with Cathy, you'll learn about the rich history of the park along with the natural surroundings.

You will have plenty of opportunities to stop and write as you are inspired by Lewis and Clark National Historical Park.

In order to teach writing well, English Language Arts teachers need to write. Many of us love to write, but finding the time is challenging. In this workshop we will use writing prompts and mentor texts as entries into our own writing.

Our focus will be nonfiction-telling the stories of our lives. We will come together to find the humanity and warmth that are the cornerstones of quality nonfiction. We will leave with strategies to use in support of our own writing practice and to engage, develop, and support students in their writing.

# OCTE Chalkboard

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Portland, OR 97207-9126

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## Please Post



Save the Date



### Spring Conference - Saturday, April 22, 2017

Seaside High School • 1901 N Holladay Dr • Seaside, OR

#### Conference Schedule:

**8:30-9:00**

Welcome: Registration, Continental Breakfast, Exhibits

**9:00-12:00**

Concurrent Sessions I

**12:00-1:30**

Keynote, Lunch, Poetry Workshop

**1:30-4:30**

Concurrent Sessions II

**4:30**

Closing, PDUs distributed

**PRE-REGISTRATION FORM** ~ Pre-registration prices end April 15, 2017 ~ On-site Registration is \$115 for all.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_  
email \_\_\_\_\_  
Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Register online at: [octe.org](http://octe.org)

Checks payable to *OCTE*.

Mail this form to:

Barbara Wiegele  
14867 Orchid Ave  
Milwaukie, OR 97267-2454

#### Special Room Rates at

#### Best Western Ocean View Resort

Rates are the same for Friday, 4/21/2017 and Saturday 4/22/2017

Rooms are ready to be booked! Please use the group code OCTE17 or the group name "Oregon Council of Teachers of English" when booking.

Call [1\(800\) 780-7234](tel:18007807234) or [\(503\) 738-3334](tel:5037383334)

#### Indicate number of registrants:

- \$70 - \*OCTE Members \_\_\_\_\_
- \$95 - \*\*Non-Member \_\_\_\_\_
- \$45 - Student & Retired \_\_\_\_\_
- Group Rate \$60 (OCTE members only) \_\_\_\_\_
- Group constitutes 5+ members
- Cost Includes: *Breakfast*
- \$25 \_\_\_\_\_ OCTE Membership
- PDUs will be provided.
- Seaside School District Teachers, please register, your attendance is free. \_\_\_\_\_

\*OCTE Member price does not include renewal of membership

\*\*Non-Member price includes membership

#### Workshop Preference

See page 3 for identifying letter. You will attend 2 workshops , one AM and one PM. Each is limited to 20 participants.

Register now to improve likelihood of being assigned your choices.

Preference 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
Preference 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
Alternate \_\_\_\_\_

