



PRESS RELEASE – The Alaska Arts and Culture Foundation and the Alaska State Council on the Arts

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Recipients of the 2017 Alaska Literary Awards and 2017 Connie Boochever Fellows Announced

The Alaska Arts and Culture Foundation, in partnership with the Alaska State Council on the Arts (ASCA), is pleased to announce the artist recipients of the 2017 Alaska Literary Awards and the 2017 Connie Boochever Fellowships.

Alaska Literary Awards

The following five Alaska literary artists, selected from a pool of 42 applications, will each receive \$5,000 awards:

Mary Katzke, screenwriter, Anchorage
Lily Tuzroyluke, fiction writer, Point Hope
Vivian Faith Prescott, poet, Wrangell
Matthew Komatsu, creative nonfiction writer, Anchorage
Don Rearden, fiction writer, Anchorage

The Alaska Literary Awards recognize and support writers of poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, playwriting, screenwriting, and mixed genres. Quality of the work submitted is the primary consideration in determining who receives the awards. The annual Alaska Literary Awards are made possible by Peggy Shumaker and Joe Usibelli through their generous donation to the Alaska Arts and Culture Foundation administered by the Alaska State Council on the Arts.

Connie Boochever Fellowship

The following four Alaska performing artists will each receive \$2,500 fellowships:

Christy NaMee Eriksen, spoken word artist, Juneau
Ruby Jones, performance artist, Anchorage
Christel Veraart, composer and musician, Anchorage
Stephanie Wonchala, dancer and choreographer, Anchorage

The purpose of the Connie Boochever Artist Fellowship is to recognize and support Alaska emerging artists of exceptional talent. The Connie Boochever Fellowship was established to honor and reflect the spirited passion of the arts Mrs. Boochever consistently demonstrated, and

to further the message she championed throughout her life: That the arts are important to the citizens of Alaska and worthy of significant support from individuals, businesses and corporations.

For more information about the recipients of the 2017 Alaska Literary Awards and the 2017 Connie Boochever Fellows, contact the Alaska State Council on the Arts at 1.888.278.7424.

The Alaska Arts and Culture Foundation's mission is to develop resources and provide services to support the arts in Alaska and advance the mission of the Alaska State Council on the Arts.

The Alaska State Council on the Arts is a division of the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, and is governed by eleven council members appointed by the Governor. It is supported with general funds appropriated by the Alaska State Legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts, with additional support for arts education programs from the Rasmuson Foundation.

The mission of the Alaska State Council on the Arts (ASCA) is to foster the development of the arts for all Alaskans through education, partnerships, grants and services.

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