

For Immediate Release:

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The Sitka Center Hosts Open Studio Event with Bend Writer Ellen Waterston

Bend, OR - On June 4th, the Sitka Center for Art and Ecology will host its final "Sitka A La Road" event at the Bend studio of writer Ellen Waterston. The "Sitka ala Road" series was added this year, says Development Manager Rebecca Welti, "because there's nothing on earth like the Sitka Center! We want to share more about the organization with people across the region – to let them know we're here. We really want to become a household word." Not only that, but the open studio format will give attendees a rare glimpse into the working life of an artist. "You learn a lot about an artist from seeing their work spaces," Welti contends.

Waterston is the founder, lead staff member and Executive Director of The Nature of Words, and has made her living writing – as creative writer, journalist, writing instructor, and public relations specialist. She is a published author, award-winning poet, essayist and screenwriter, and a produced playwright. Simultaneously, she has devoted time and energy to the Writing Ranch, an enterprise dedicated to building and supporting the careers, craft and creative needs of the writer. She has also been an Artist-in-Residence twice at the Sitka Center.

Waterston says she's excited to "extend a hand to Sitka," by hosting the event, which will take place from 4-7pm at the Nature of Words Literary Center, 224 NW Oregon Ave, Bend, OR 97701. The event will be free and open to the public – come for the Bend Artwalk on Friday and stay for this Open Studio event on Saturday – and light refreshments will be served.

For more information about this event and all other Sitka Center programs, visit their website at www.sitkacenter.org or call their office at 541.994.5485.

Committed to expanding the relationships between art, nature and humanity, the Sitka Center for Art and Ecology is renowned for its workshop and residency programs, and its support of the local community. Exploration of the coastal environment has remained a key component to the Center's vitality. Located on Cascade Head, with views of the Pacific Ocean, Sitka offers a place where artists of all abilities and backgrounds come to inspire, create, and, ultimately, transform themselves. Head to www.sitkacenter.org. or call 541.994.5485 to learn more.