

# OLAQ

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## Upcoming Issues

### Fall 1999

*The Heart of a Librarian*

Guest Editor

Juanita Benedicto

University of Oregon Knight Library

***OLA Quarterly is indexed in  
Library Literature.***

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# OLA QUARTERLY

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## Writing Oregon

Serving as guest editor for this issue of the *OLA Quarterly* gave me an excuse to immerse myself in the writings of Oregon authors. Hoping to gain a renewed sense of what makes our literature unique, what gives it that sense of "Oregonness," I read, and read some more: Barry Lopez, Lars Nordstrom, Molly Gloss, John Daniel, Robin Cody, Shannon Applegate. I found some answers, many more questions, and an ever-increasing number of works to add to my reading list.

Though I grew up in Oregon and have read voraciously all my life, it is only in recent years that I have been drawn so strongly to the writings of Oregon authors. Is this because these writers are more visible now? Perhaps; certainly the efforts of those who work hard to promote local authors are paying off. Yet there is more. As we become more connected to the great wide world every day, as we routinely and instantly communicate with colleagues in all parts of the globe, as advances in technology rush us into an exciting and unfamiliar new future, the need to feel a strong sense of place, of home, of community, grows ever stronger. The writings of our local authors can help satisfy that yearning.

Here is a glimpse of the Oregon literary landscape: from the voices of writers, readers, editors, and librarians. Here is a look at the organizations and people who work to nurture and support Oregon writers, to build a community of writers and readers, and to raise public awareness of our rich literary heritage. I hope this issue inspires you to add an Oregon author or two to your summer reading list.

Lori Robare, University of Oregon Knight Library  
*Guest Editor*

[www.olaweb.org](http://www.olaweb.org)

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