

Award-Winning Author Ellen Waterston To Lead Writing Workshops on Creative Nonfiction and Memoir

by Bend Weekly News Sources

Enroll in Six Part Series and Find Your Own Voice – No Experience Necessary

Ellen Waterston, award-winning author and poet and founder of the Writing Ranch and The Nature of Words, will conduct a six-part series of workshops on writing creative nonfiction and memoir starting January 9, 2007. Titled “Getting Out of Your Own Way,” the workshops will be held at the Broken Top Clubhouse Board Room, Bend, Oregon from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. each Tuesday through February 13, 2007.

Focusing on memoir and creative nonfiction, the workshops will include writing prompts designed to help writers “get out of their own way.” Discussion and assigned readings will address using fiction devices to strengthen nonfiction, finding one’s own voice in writing, and memoir as a genre. The workshop series will include writing assignments, class and individual critiquing, and class presentations. No previous writing experience is necessary.

Class size is limited to 15 to ensure a quality experience. A second section may be added to meet demand. One-on-one sessions with Ms. Waterston are also available at an additional charge.

The fee for the six-week writing workshop series is \$250, payable to the Writing Ranch, P.O. Box 644, Bend, Oregon 97709. For registration and information, contact Ellen Waterston at 541.385.7025 or e-mail info@writingranch.com.

About Ellen Waterston Ellen Waterston is the founder and director of the Writing Ranch, which supports the craft and careers of writers through workshops, retreats and seminars. She also is the founder and director of The Nature of Words, an annual literary event held in Bend, Oregon the first weekend of November. Waterston’s poetry chapbook *I Am Madagascar* (Ice River Press 2004) won the 2005 WILLA Award in poetry. Her memoir *Then There Was No Mountain* (Rowman and Littlefield 2003) was selected as one of the ten best books in the Northwest for 2003, was a Foreword magazine and WILLA finalist in 2004 and earned her an appearance on Good Morning America with Diane Sawyer.

Waterston's poetry, short stories and essays have appeared in numerous reviews, anthologies and journals. She is also the published author of two children's books. Waterston has been awarded eight writing residencies, most recently the 2005 Fishtrap Writer-In-Residence, a two-month writing retreat. She is the 2003 recipient of an Oregon Literary Fellowship.

The Writing Ranch conducts annual writing retreats for emerging writers in Oregon's High Desert each August and in Todos Santos, Baja California Sur, Mexico each February and March. For information, visit www.writingranch.com.

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