



## Sitka Center for Art and Ecology e-Newsletter

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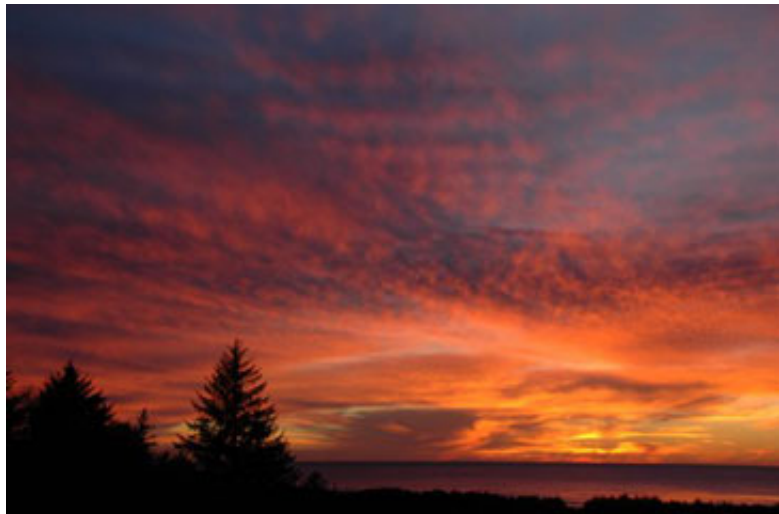
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### >> Director's Notes



A wet winter wind hounded us last Tuesday with gusts that shook the buildings and left our electricity flickering. Forays outside exposed us to swirling rain that soaked us thoroughly (and quickly). How exciting! Besides stirring our desire to curl up next to the woodstove, these winter storms remind us that we are only a thin wall away from standing in the rain. It's nice to be humbled in this way. But as always, the winds and rains gave way to some clear days and spectacular sunsets like this one that Ernie photographed on Friday night.

As we roll over the calendar to the final month of 2010, we look with interest at our financial situation. This was a good year for Sitka. We increased attendance in our workshops from 730 in 2008 to an all time record of 998 students in 2010. The number of residency spots also more than doubled from 2008 to 2010 (13 vs 28 residents who collectively spent 720 vs 1350 days at Sitka) giving more artists the chance to spend time nurturing their craft, becoming better at bringing their skills to benefit the world community. We are the largest artist/writer/music residency

program in the state of Oregon, one of the top 10 in the nation.

Even the Art Invitational saw increased success this year. Thanks to the excellent submissions from our invited artists we witnessed the best collection of art to date, and the addition of the auction and dinner to the event helped us double our net income from the event. Yes!

We still have to raise \$21,000 by December 21 in order to receive \$15,000 in matching funds for our endowment. If we do this, we can end the year with a balanced budget and be building a fund for our future. Last year at this time, we faced a \$41,000 shortfall, and with your help we were able to pull in the dollars we needed to end the year in the black. This year, thanks to a lot of hard work, the hill is not as high, but it's no less important that we climb it. [We need your help again.](#)

The Sitka Center is an Oregon treasure that needs financial support to exist. Our programs nurture artists of all skill levels while blending experiences with nature to create magical, transformative moments. Our work is making the world better and more beautiful. And when you choose to renew your membership or send an end of the year donation, you are making all of our lives brighter.

Thank you for what you do to make the world a better place.

Be well,  
-Eric

[Donate](#) | [Buy a Membership](#)

## >> Artist Salon



We'll host an Artist Salon on **December 15, 2010**. From 5:30-8:30pm, community members are invited to join us and our current [Artists-in-Residence](#) in the Boyden Studio for a potluck dinner, (we'll provide delicious, homemade mac & cheese!) live original music, readings, and in-studio demonstrations.

Each year from October to May, Sitka offers up to 28 artists, writers, scientists and musicians the chance to live and work at the Center's facility near Cascade Head.

The Artist Salons are a way for those residents to share their work and connect more deeply with the local community.

Musician and producer Graham Smith-White will lead the program, while attendees enjoy the communally provided food. He will be followed by writers Margaret Malone, Robin Kimmerer, and Lauren Davis, who will each read from their distinctive work, and visual artist Catherine Chauvin, who will pull an original print during a presentation of her work.

After the "official" salon concludes, attendees are invited to join together for an impromptu jam

session. So come with instruments in tow to experience first-hand the talent and creative energy of the Sitka community.

### >> Fall Resident Open House

Save the date of **January 8th from 1 to 4 p.m.** for our Fall Resident Open House.

The 9 [Artists-in-Residence](#), who spent time at the Sitka Center from October 2010 to January 2011, will share about their work and experience during their residency time here.

For now, here's a teaser -- the afternoon will involve music, literary readings, and a visual art exhibit.

We'll share more details with you soon.

*Print by current resident, Catherine Chauvin.*



### >> Oregon Cultural Trust



Remember, if you made a [donation to Sitka](#) this year, you can make an equal donation to the Oregon Cultural Trust and then get 100% of your donation to the Cultural Trust as a tax credit.

This is a great way to support the arts broadly in Oregon with very little financial pain.

[Donate to the Trust](#)

### >> Sitka Center Gift Certificates

#### **10 really good reasons to give a Sitka Center [gift certificate](#):**

1. Someone you care about has been saying for some time now, "Gee, wouldn't it be great to take a workshop at Sitka?"
2. YOU'VE been telling someone you care about for some time now, "Gee, wouldn't it be great if you could come WITH me to a workshop at Sitka?"
3. It's a match-made-in-heaven gift when slipped inside the also available Sitka artist's bag!
4. Everyone loves having an excuse to visit the stunning Oregon coast in summer...
5. Anticipating a Sitka visit helps the cold, damp winter move along more quickly!



6. Art can never play too prominent a role in someone's life...
7. You can help a loved one make the time to make that art!
8. No one re-gifts a present that promises rejuvenation, inspiration, and beauty.
9. You'll be the reason yet another workshop participant describes the Sitka experience as "awesome," "challenging," "energizing," "enlightening," "exhilarating," "exploratory," "eye-opening," "fabulous," "fascinating," "freeing," "fun," "inclusive," "informative," "inspirational," "outstanding," "relaxing," "stimulating," "wow."
10. Supporting the Sitka Center is a gift to everyone - and one that just keeps on giving as we use our love of art and nature to make the world a better place.

P.S. The 2011 workshop catalog will be mailed on 1/28/11.

P.S.S. Giving a [membership](#) is a great idea, too!

>> **Happy Bottom Quest Done**



### **Sitka Center Fulfills "Happy Bottom Quest" with Help from Siletz Tribe**

"Hey! These chairs hurt!" During its 2010 workshop season, the Sitka Center for Art and Ecology realized the chairs in its three teaching studios desperately needed updating. The Workshop Program, which runs May through September, gives participants of all levels the transformative and joyful experience of making art. It's offered as part of the nonprofit organization's overall mission to support people who enjoy making art and discovering their connections to nature.

[read more...](#)

### **Sitka Center for Art and Ecology**

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