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Sitka Center for Art and Ecology Monthly e-Newsletter

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>> Director's Notes

The barrage of storms that have washed over the Central Oregon Coast in the last month have left us battered and soggy. We are still cleaning up broken tree limbs from the snows of March and the intense rains have saturated the soils and swollen stream beds. We've had a few spectacularly sunny days as well.



I noticed this week that despite several days in which the estuary took on the appearance of a lake rather than a river, when the waters receded, a soft fuzz of green grass was visible poking up from the soggy earth. Grasses are amazing! Undaunted by brackish water, they spread their roots through the muck and push up toward the sunlight. Their stalks provide food for creatures sized from the regal Roosevelt Elk all the way down to the microscopic and unnamed microorganisms that compost and digest whatever is leftover at the end of the year.

Hurrah for grass, telltale sign that spring is on it's way.



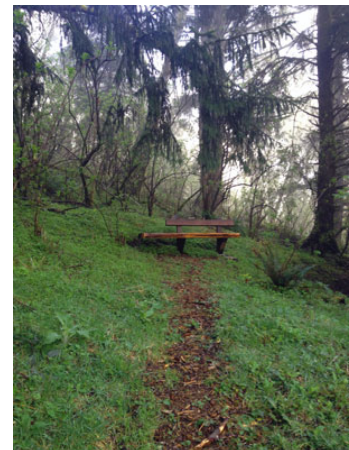
Our [workshop registration](#) has begun with incredible energy. Two weeks into registration and already 17 workshops are sold out. Overall, we expect about 1000 registrations this year and, so far, we have 647. If you have a workshop in mind that captures your

imagination, sign up now to make sure you can get a spot. We want you to have that creative experience you've been craving.

The Boyden Studio remodel is coming along nicely. As soon as the insulation went into the walls, the feeling of the room changed. It was warmer! The new windows look great, the skylights let in some fabulous light, and even though you can't see it, it's really nice to know that we have an electrical system that's up to code and built to capacity for the many needs of our artists.

The next stage of the process is to install the wood siding to the interior of the studio, restoring it's rustic look and feel. We plan to display the names of all the people who have donated to this project as a tribute to those who had the vision to help us remodel this space. That means, if you want to be part of the merry band of donors who made this space possible, you have 7 days to [make a donation](#) and have your name added to the wall. The deadline is midnight on April 14. Be part of something great!

On Monday our new [spring residents](#) arrive, joining us for just a couple months before the summer workshops begin. Dawn Stetzel is back from her winter hiatus (she's very tan after spending more than a month in Puerto Rico living on a sailboat). She'll be here this summer as our Studio Technician and she's helping us hire an excellent summer intern (the applications this year represent some amazing people).



In summary, things are going brilliantly. Construction should be wrapped up by the second week of May, the workshops are on track to be outstanding. And we are working on some fun events so you can have an astounding creative experience while you are here. Come enjoy the fruits of all our labors. After a long winter, it's just what your soul needs.

-Eric

>> Spring Residents

The Spring Artists-in-Residence arrive on April 9th! We've missed having residents on campus this winter due to the Boyden Studio construction project. All four of the new residents will be here until May 18th.

Welcome to:

Ahimsa Timoteo Bodhrán, Writer

Amanda Wagstaff, Visual Artist

Carrie Larson, Visual Artist

Judith Linsenberg, Musician

Learn more about them on our [Current Residents](#) web page and mark your calendars now for their [Residents' Show & Tell](#) on **Saturday, May 12th at 1 pm.**



by Amanda Wagstaff

>> Boyden Studio Construction Update

The chaos of construction is beginning to give way to the semi-tidiness of the next stage. Framing, insulation, electrical, plumbing, roof, skylights, and windows are complete in the Boyden Studio. Digging, building concrete forms, and part of the concrete pour are complete in the new storage space below the studio.



The next stage involves hanging sheetrock (the natural boards will cover the sheetrock), lighting, kitchen cabinets & appliances, and more concrete pouring in the underground space to create the storage room. It's looking less like a cave and more like a room!

We'll continue posting photos on our website if you'd like to [watch the progress](#).



>> 2012 Workshops

Workshop Registration is Open



Oh the joy of making a mess,
making art at Sitka!

Choose from 108 workshops, in 16 categories, taught by 68 instructors...

[2012 Workshop Program](#)

You can register for workshops online or you're welcome to call us at 541.994.5485 and we'll help you get registered. Let your creative muse out to play and come make art at Sitka!

>> William Parks Studio

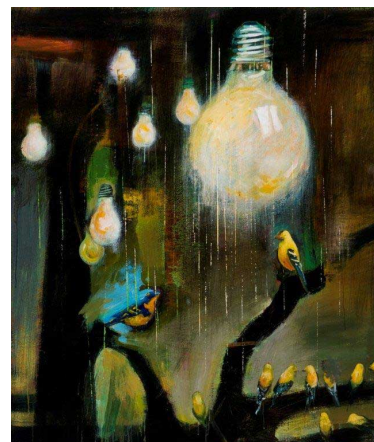
Sitka A La Road - William Parks Studio - Portland

May 4th, Friday 5:00 to 9:00 pm

2637 NE MLK Blvd, Portland OR 97212 -- [Directions](#)

There are not many opportunities to see inside the secret lair of an artist's studio. Visit the Sitka Center staff and friends "on the road" in the studio of instructor and past Artist-in-Residence, [William Park](#).

Free and open to the public, light refreshments provided.



>> Creativity and the Brain

Creativity and the Brain: What is it, who has it and how do we achieve it?

[Jonah Lehrer](#), best-selling author,

Imagine: How Creativity Works and *Proust Was a Neuroscientist*

will speak on April 10th, 7 pm at the Oregon Convention Center, Oregon Ballroom.

Get ready to tune up your neurons and increase your creative capacity for Sitka workshops this season while you mingle with other curious left and right brains like



yours!

Find out how we can all become more creative in everything we do. In addition to this fascinating lecture, **Sitka Center and many other Oregon arts organizations will be there** to share information about their programs along with refreshments.

Learn more about the [speakers](#) and [purchasing tickets](#).



Sitka Center for Art and Ecology

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