Oregon Authors Collection

Oregon is a companionable place to be a writer. The cities are vibrant and friendly, the people are creative and open-minded, and the landscape is rich in variety and beauty. It’s no wonder Oregon writers are inspired. The state is fertile ground for writers—the native Oregonians, the authors who made their home here. Oregon has produced extraordinary writers in all disciplines—from the groundbreaking food writing of James Beard to the beloved children’s books of Beverly Cleary; the science fiction of Ursula K. Le Guin to the earthy poetry of William Stafford, the fiction of Ken Kesey, Chuck Palahniuk, and Jean Auel.

Oregon is also home to thriving small presses that are producing works in every discipline, each contributing to the expansive, ever-evolving narrative of life. It is with this great diversity of form and experience in mind that the Portland State Library proposes the creation of a unique collection that shares and celebrates the work of Oregon authors.

The University Library is Portland State’s hub for engaged learning and research. Every day our students walk through our front doors, log onto our website, or attend a librarian-led workshop on the latest databases available. We are committed to providing our students with access not only to first-rate research materials but to a bounty of literary texts to engage their inquiry. The increased scope of holdings authored by Oregonians will be a vital resource for students and faculty; it will also serve a much broader purpose: to encourage students in all disciplines to enjoy the simple pleasure of falling headlong into a great book.

Portland State values its identity as an engaged university that promotes a reciprocal relationship between the community and the University, in which knowledge serves the city and the city contributes to the knowledge of the University. In that spirit, we seek to amplify a diverse range of Oregon voices and make a profound contribution to the thriving literary community by both providing access, and in some cases, preserving these materials that might otherwise be lost due to limited runs or editions. We recognize that we live in a vibrant community of creative and engaged citizens that take great pride in what makes our region unique. It is this spirit that we aspire to capture in this collection, as well as call upon for financial support to build this resource.

Honor Oregon authors, support Oregon students
To create a deep and rich collection that represents the excellent work of Oregon authors, we developed a two-tiered approach to address the need to build, maintain, and grow the collection.
• $10,000 One-time funds: This will support the immediate purchase of a wide range of titles representing regional authors. We will quickly make them accessible to our students and faculty.
• $25,000 Endowment Fund: An endowment will provide an annual payout of sustainable funding to help us maintain and grow the collection.

Your Gift Matters
The Oregon Authors Collection is a tribute to our great state and the talented writers that have enriched our lives with their passion and expertise in so many fields. Your support makes this collection a permanent, accessible part of the Portland State Library’s holdings, and a vital community resource for years to come.

For more information on how you can help, please contact Library Development (503) 725-4509 or libdev@pdx.edu