

# VALLEY WRITERS SERIES

Linn-Benton  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## Kim Findling

Monday, Feb. 13th, 3:30-4:30 p.m.  
North Santiam Hall, NSH-106,  
LBCC Albany campus

Oregon author Kim Findling released two books this year: *Day Trips From Portland: Getaway Ideas for the Local Traveler*, from Globe Pequot Press, and *Chance of Sun: An Oregon Memoir*, from Nestucca Spit Press, a coming of age story set in Oregon. *Chance of Sun* depicts twenty-three essays set over 20 years, where Findling traces her own coming-of-age story against the beauty and complexity of the Oregon landscape. "In so many ways my story is every small-town kid's story, especially those who grew up in Oregon in the 70s and 80s. Our beautiful rural towns were a weird combination of innocent and harsh, and almost all of us spent our youth waiting to get out. Yet we were totally unprepared for the racous, fast-paced city. For me, all that action was completely irresistible, and ultimately destructive," says Findling. Findling grew up on the Oregon Coast, spent years in the Willamette Valley and has lived in Central Oregon for sixteen years. Her essays and articles have appeared in many magazines over the last decade, including Travel Oregon, Oregon Quarterly, Horizon Air and High Desert Journal. Findling lives in Bend, Oregon, with her husband and two daughters. [kimcooperfindling.com](http://kimcooperfindling.com)



## Peter Jensen

Wednesday, February 22,  
3:30-4:30 p.m.

North Santiam Hall, NSH-106,  
LBCC Albany campus

Peter Jensen recently published two works on Shakespeare: *Shakespeare's Name Code*, a recently updated chronology of research surrounding Shakespeare's autobiographical code, and his newly released novel, *Shakespeare's Lovers*, a fictional adventure mystery that covers Shakespeare's life in London and Stratford from 1587 to 1616. Jensen will read from his new novel, *Shakespeare's Lovers*, and will describe his journey of research and discovery.

Jensen is a faculty member in the English Department at Linn-Benton and teaches Shakespeare, fiction, science fiction, and writing. Jensen received a B.A. in English, Philosophy, and Anthropology from the University of Michigan and an M.A. in English from New York University. [shakespearessonnets.googlepages.com/home](http://shakespearessonnets.googlepages.com/home)



## Charles Goodrich, Marjorie Sandor, and George Estreich

Wednesday, April 18th, Noon-2 p.m.  
Calapooia Center, Fireside Room, LBCC  
Albany campus

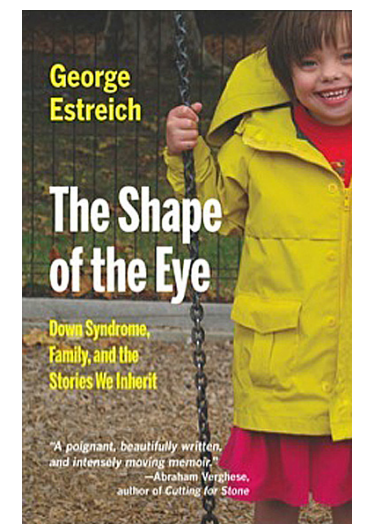
This trio will give presentations called Visions of Home, meditations on "home" in many senses, focusing particularly on our lives in Oregon. Each has written a book that meditates extensively on the meanings of "home." Charles Goodrich, in *The Practice of Home*, provides his account of family, gardening, and building a house; Marjorie Sandor, in her book of essays *The Night Gardener: A Search for Home*, a 2000 Oregon Book Award winner for Literary Nonfiction, and more recently in *The Late Interiors: a Life Under Construction*, a 2012 Oregon Book Award finalist for Creative Nonfiction, links the hands-on practice of gardening with larger questions of family, loss, and change; and George Esterich's *The Shape of the Eye: Down Syndrome, Family, and the Stories We Inherit*, a 2012 Oregon Book Award finalist for Creative Nonfiction, details an at-home dad's memoir of raising a daughter with Down syndrome, set against a backdrop of renovation.

All three authors, in very different ways, set the literal, hands-on, messy aspects of home (gardening, renovation, daily tasks) against the larger questions implicit in living and making a family in a specific place.

Charles Goodrich has made a long career as a professional gardener and writer. He is the author of another volume of poems, *Insects of South Corvallis* (Cloudbank Books, 2003), and his poems and essays have appeared in *Orion*, *The Sun*, *Open Spaces*, *Willow Springs*, *Zyzzyva* and many other magazines. Goodrich's poems and essays are rife with the smells, sounds and precise visual details of a nature intimately known, of creatures living together in "a ceremony / of appetite." In all his work, "an inquiring sensibility rubs noses with an everywhere-intelligent world." [charlesgoodrich.com](http://charlesgoodrich.com)

Marjorie Sandor's work has appeared in such magazines as *The Georgia Review*, *AGNI*, and *TriQuarterly*, as well as in *Best American Short Stories 1985 and 1988*, *The Pushcart Prize XIII*, *Twenty Under Thirty*, *The Best American Spiritual Writing 2000*, and other anthologies. She teaches in the MFA program in Creative Writing at Oregon State University in Corvallis. [marjoriesandor.com](http://marjoriesandor.com)

George Esterich is a poet and essayist whose works have appeared in *Superstition Review*, *Eureka Street*, *My Great Story project*, *BLOOM*, and many others. [georgeestreich.com](http://georgeestreich.com)



[www.linnbenton.edu/go/valley-writers](http://www.linnbenton.edu/go/valley-writers)

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