

*The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute  
at the University of Oregon presents:*

# The Writing Life

Ryan Blacketter

Baker Downtown Center, Belize Classroom

OLLI-UO will offer members an intensive writing workshop during winter term. The workshop will bring members from Central Oregon and Eugene/Springfield together via teleconferencing to examine the writing life from the perspectives of five writers—Ernest Hemingway, Annie Dillard, John Gardner, Francine Prose and Anne Lamott. They all seem to agree: Although the writing life is risky, dangerous, and impossibly difficult, it is nevertheless exciting and always worth the effort. Apart from discussing these authors' books—*A Moveable Feast*, *The Writing Life*, *On Becoming a Novelist*, *Reading Like A Writer*, and *Bird by Bird*—we'll commit to a daily habit of reading and writing.

We'll devote the second half of class to critiquing in-class writing exercises. We'll grapple with character, description, voice, tension, narrative arc, and other important issues of craft. We will be honest and rigorous in our advice, yet respectful and constructive. Writers at all stages of artistic development are welcome.



Your instructor is **Ryan Blacketter**, an author whose short stories have appeared in *Image*, *Alaska Quarterly Review*, *Clackamas Literary Review*, and *Other Voices*. A graduate of the Iowa Writers'

Workshop, he is a recipient of a Haystack Writing Award and a Tennessee Williams Scholarship. He has received grants from Oregon Regional Arts and Idaho Humanities Council. His story collection, *Horses All over Hell*, was a 2006 finalist for the Bakeless Prize. Now he's at work on a novel.

**Eight Wednesdays, 3:30–5:00 p.m.,  
beginning January 30, 2008**

Workshop fee: \$60 per person; limited to fifteen participants. For further information, or to register, call (800) 824-2714.