**Short Story Writing Contest to Benefit the Seaside Public Library**

The Seaside Public Library Foundation will be publishing its third annual short story anthology to support library programs. Writers are invited to submit a short story (**1500 words, maximum**) with a theme of books or libraries.

Winning entries will be featured at the *Write on Seaside!* Fundraiser this spring, where writers will have the opportunity to read an excerpt from their story and speak about their writing process.

**Writers should include at least two characters in the story that event attendees can bid on to name for the final version of the story, which will be included in the anthology.** Animals and mythological creatures tend to be audience favorites.

If your work is accepted, we’ll ask for a 100-word bio and author photo to be included in promotional materials.

**The deadline for entries is Friday, January 31, 2020. Stories must be submitted electronically via email to librariesreadingoutreach@gmail.com and writers will be notified of receipt once a $10 entry fee has been submitted via check to the Seaside Public Library Foundation at 1131 Broadway, Seaside, OR 97138. Stories should be submitted as Word documents and should be family friendly.**

Submissions will be evaluated by a panel of local judges including Melissa Eskue Ousley, Ana Santilli, and Deb Vanasse. Winning entries will be announced on Friday, February 21, 2020.

Melissa Eskue Ousley is the Chair of the Seaside Public Library Foundation Board and an award-winning author living on the north coast of Oregon. Her suspense novel, *Pitcher Plant*, won a 2018 Independent Publisher Book Award. It is set in Seaside, Oregon and features murder and restless spirits. Her story, *43 Pearls*, won an award with The Short Story Project. Melissa’s short stories have been included in *The North Coast Squid*, *Rain Magazine*, and other anthologies.

Ana Santilli is the Vice-Chair of the Seaside Public Library Foundation Board and a student at Clatsop Community College. Her dream and long-term education goal is to get a Master’s degree in Library and Information Sciences and be a librarian. Ana's love of libraries began when she was in elementary school and used the local library as a study place to do homework after school. Her two favorite things to do are organizing her books and reading various genres of fiction.

Deb Vanasse is the author of seventeen books with six different publishers. Among the most recent are *Write Your Best Book*, a practical guide to writing books that rise above the rest; *Cold Spell*, a novel that “captures the harsh beauty of the terrain as well as the strain of self-doubt and complicated family bonds"; and a biography, *Wealth Woman,*a True West "Best of the West" selection. After thirty-six years in Alaska, she now lives on the north coast of Oregon, where she continues to write while doing freelance editing, coaching, and writing instruction.

For submission questions contact:
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