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Oregon Media Arts Fellowships Awarded to Three Filmmakers

(Portland, Oregon) The Oregon Media Arts Fellowship, established to recognize and support the work of Oregon film and video makers, announced its 2010 awards November 6 at the 36th Northwest Film & Video Festival to Portland filmmakers Sue Arbuthnot, Vanessa Renwick and Jeff Streich. Filmmakers receive cash fellowships administered by the Northwest Film Center. In addition, Vanessa Renwick was awarded the Chambers Communications studio package.

The Fellowship program is funded by the Oregon Arts Commission, Oregon Public Broadcasting and the Gordon D. Sondland and Katherine J. Durant Foundation, with additional in-kind support from The Oregon Film & Video Office and Chambers Communications.

The goal of the Media Arts Fellowship program is to support outstanding moving image artists who live in Oregon and whose work shows exceptional promise and demonstrated commitment to the media arts. A distinguished panel reviewed submissions from 69 applicants from throughout the state, weighing artistic merit, the potential of the proposed activity to advance the artist's work, and the feasibility of the projects proposed.

In addition to teaching youth through the Northwest Film Center's Young Filmmakers Program, Sue Arbuthnot is the founder of Hare in the Gate Productions and manages the primary documentary theater at the Sundance Film Festival each year. Her recent film IMAGINING HOME, is a documentary chronicling the residents in Portland's Columbia Villa neighborhood.

Vanessa Renwick produces films, videos, and installations that explore the possibility of hope in contemporary society. Her extensive body of work spans 20 years and is often inspired by the Pacific Northwest. Her award-winning film PORTRAIT #2: TROJAN was selected for the 2006 Oregon Biennial at the Portland Art Museum.

Jeff Streich is an Emmy Award winning cinematographer and Academy Award nominee whose work has been featured on HBO, Discovery Channel, History Channel, PBS, MTV, and ESPN. He was director of photography on the Academy Award nominated documentary film THE FINAL INCH, and is currently near completion on his first feature length documentary, A LOT OF LITTLE THINGS.

The Fellowship jurors were David Davis, Vice President, National Production, Oregon Public Broadcasting; Meagan Atiyeh, Visual Arts Coordinator, Oregon Arts Commission; and Brian Lindstrom, filmmaker and past Oregon Media Arts Fellowship winner.

The application deadline for the next round of the Oregon Media Arts Fellowship is October 1, 2010. Application information is available from the Northwest Film Center, www.nwfilm.org; or by contacting Thomas Phillipson, thomas@nwfilm.org, (503) 221-1156 or the Oregon Arts Commission, www.oregonartscommission.org, (503) 986-0082.

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