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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BMCC, Pendleton Library to host Oregon Writing & Literary Summit

PENDLETON, Ore. – The public is invited to hone their writing skills and hear from regional authors at an Oregon Writing and Literary Summit (OWLS) on Saturday, May 19, at Blue Mountain Community College. BMCC will host the free event in coordination with the Pendleton Public Library from 1-6 p.m. in the Student Union in Pioneer Hall on the Pendleton campus.

OWLS will feature a wonderful lineup of regional authors, including opening keynote speaker Robin Cody, a Yale-educated world traveler and freelance writer from Estacada, Ore., who has written several books, including *Ricochet River* (1990) and *Voyage of a Summer Sun* (1992).

Oregon Humanities speaker Jason Graham will serve as the closing keynote at OWLS. The Chicago-born Graham is now an Oregon-based performer, artist and educator, and is a former slam poetry champion for Oregon. He is currently an art ambassador for Rise Up International, in association with the U.S. Department of State, and has shared the stage with the likes of Ice Cube, Ghostface Killah, Saul Williams, and Talib Kweli.

The public is invited to come to all or parts of the event, which will include writing workshops from regional authors, including David Axelrod, Jodi Varon, and Scott Elliott, in genres ranging from fiction to fantasy, to mystery to memoir. Part of the day's events also include an author showcase where visitors will have an opportunity to meet the authors and learn more about their works. In addition, OWLS will host an Open Mic/Happy Hour from 5-6 p.m.

Generous sponsorship of this event is provided by the Pendleton Friends of the Library, Oregon Humanities, and BMCC's Arts and Culture Series.

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