

FISHTRAP FIRESIDE 2021 BEGINS

ENTERPRISE — Put a log on the fire and log on for the January Fishtrap Fireside featuring Kate Forster, John Gaterud and Kathryn Kemp. Due to the holidays, this month's Fireside, sponsored by Ruby Peak Naturals of Enterprise, will happen a week later than usual, on Friday, Jan. 8, 2021.

Fishtrap Fireside is a local monthly reading series designed to feature diverse voices of local and regional writers. The series launched in 2013 and continues to provide a fresh look at what people of the West are thinking about and writing down.

Because of the pandemic, Fishtrap now is presenting the reading to viewers via livestream at www.fishtrap.org and on Fishtrap's YouTube channel. A recording of the event as well as previous Firesides also are available for viewers to watch anytime.

Kate Forster

Kate Forster was raised in Walla Walla County and is thankful to continue to call this place home.

After beautiful, life-changing experiences at Landmark College in Vermont and Western State College of Colorado, her heart took her back home to Oregon, where she works as

a peer support specialist on the Assertive Community Treatment team at Walla Valley Center for Wellness. She loves helping people and being a part of a phenomenal team. Community and place have always been important to her.

Kate credits her writing ability to her parents. Her mom was an English teacher and her dad was a sports writer for *The Oregonian* and *The Chieftain*. She also has two amazing sisters who have been by her side through thick and thin.

When not working Kate enjoys

spending time outdoors in every season, bonfires with friends, watching football and going on drives through the spectacular county she calls home.

John Gaterud

John Gaterud, of Wallowa, is a journalist who has worked as a reporter, editor, graphic designer, college teacher and newspaper and book publisher in a career spanning nearly 50 years. Born in New Jersey, he worked part time during high school as a printer's devil for his hometown weekly paper. He briefly attended forestry school at the University of Maine but dropped out and traveled for several years.

After earning a journalism degree from the University of Northern Colorado in 1978, John moved to Oregon, where he served for a year and a half as editor of *The Grant County Blue Mountain Eagle*. He earned a master's in journalism from the University of Oregon in 1981 then taught for 25 years at Minnesota State University, Mankato, specializing in feature writing, editing and graphic design.

John is the founding publisher of *Willow Avenue Review*, a literary quarterly; the *Minnesota Times*, a statewide newspaper; and the award-winning *Blueroad Press*, a small book company he started with his daughter. Over the years, John has worked as a freelance writer and designer and served as publishing faculty for *Howling Bird Press* at Augsburg College, Minneapolis. He holds a doctorate in American

studies and journalism from The Union Institute, Cincinnati, where he pursued creative nonfiction focused on American road stories. Current projects include editing a book manuscript for the Wallowa History Center, assembling a collection of his own work and chasing ambitions (strictly amateur) in woodworking.

Parents to two kids, he and his wife, Cindi, had no idea they would return to Eastern Oregon four decades after leaving John Day, but here they landed. Retired now, they are happy to be living, hiking and skiing in the beautiful Wallawas.

As for writing tips, John defers to a favorite teacher, who advised, "You don't know what you think until you write it down."

Kathryn Kemp

Kathryn Kemp is a school mental health counselor, yogi, wine enthusiast and cat lover with a passion for people and their stories. She grew up in Joseph before leaving to study psychology and social work, taking her from North Carolina to New York City until the Wallowa mountains called her home.

Kathryn's poet life began in high school with the help of Fishtrap and continued through spoken word poetry performance in college and graduate school. Her writing focuses on the nuances of human hope, relationship and resilience, which she feels privileged to learn about every day through her students in her work. Her greatest hopes are for all Wallowa County kids to be able to go see the world one day and for her little kitten Larry to live a long, snuggly life.



Winter Fishtrap explores resilience

ENTERPRISE — Every January, Winter Fishtrap takes on issues that are important to citizens of the West by gathering diverse voices to inspire a greater understanding on a timely theme. Activities include lectures, panel discussions and workshops.

Participants can expect a vibrant exchange of ideas and information while making life-long connections.

The theme of this year's conference is resilience. Winter Fishtrap 2021 will take place online, featuring live interactive events in morning and afternoon Saturday sessions, Jan. 9, 16, 23 and 30.

Winter Fishtrap will explore the role resilience plays in our communities, our cultures, our world and our lives.

Be a part of the conversation as we examine questions such as:

- How does resilience impact mental health?
- How do cultures survive, even thrive?
- What does resilience look like in the natural world?
- What role does imagination play in building resilient communities?

The registration fee is \$65. Fishtrapper members pay \$50, and students are \$25.

Registration provides access to all four weeks of online content including a mix of self-guided activities, online discoveries and live weekly events brought directly to you wherever you are. If you aren't able to join the live events, all presentations will be available for participants to watch at their own convenience.

To register and for further information on presenters and the complete conference schedule, go to www.fishtrap.org/winter-fishtrap-resilience or call Fishtrap at 541-426-3623.



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