



For immediate release

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### **Internationally renowned artist Ann Hamilton to visit OSU to announce her first Oregon public art commission**

Salem, Oregon -- MacArthur Fellow, National Medal of the Arts recipient and internationally acclaimed visual artist Ann Hamilton will visit Oregon State University to discuss her first public art commission in Oregon at 4 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 24, in OSU's Memorial Union Horizon Room.

Hamilton was recently commissioned through Oregon's Percent for Art in Public Places Program to create a permanent artwork for the renovation of OSU's Cordley Hall. The Percent for Art in Public Places Program is managed by the [Oregon Arts Commission](#).

Hamilton is recognized for her large-scale multimedia installations, performance pieces and public projects. Her talk will invite faculty and students – across the sciences, literature, humanities and the arts – to engage in the material and tactile experience of language. Hamilton will address how her practice and artworks have evolved over time in response to the sites and communities where she creates.

“One of the goals of this commission is to encourage exploration and incite a sense of discovery in Cordley Hall,” said Ryan Burghard, Percent for Art contractor. “Ann was selected because of her unique ability to create emotional, powerful works that also convey a surprising sense of intimacy.”

The OSU Cordley Hall Rehabilitation project is a comprehensive renovation of a large five-story biological science building at the north edge of campus. Cordley Hall is the long-time home to the departments of Integrative Biology (IB) and Botany & Plant Pathology (BPP) and is responsible for housing their broad teaching, research, outreach and operational needs.

“Over the past year, Ann has been forming connections in ways both directly and indirectly related to the fields of botany and plant pathology and integrative biology that emphasize discovery as a fundamental aspect of our existence,” said Burghard.

Among Hamilton's many other honors are the Heinz Award, a United States Artists Fellowship, an NEA Visual Arts Fellowship, the Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Award, the Skowhegan Medal for Sculpture and the Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship. She represented the United States in the 1991 Sao Paulo Biennial, the 1999 Venice Biennale and has exhibited extensively around the world. Her major commissions include projects for Waterfront Seattle (upcoming); Park Avenue Armory (2013); The Pulitzer Foundation for the Arts, St. Louis (2010); The Guggenheim Museum, New York (2009); MASS MoCA, North Adams, Massachusetts (2003); The Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington D.C. (2003, 1991); The Wanas Foundation, Knislinge, Sweden (2002); The Musee d'art Contemporain, Lyon, France (1997); The Art Institute of Chicago (1995); The Museum of Modern Art, New York (1994); The Tate Gallery, Liverpool (1994); Dia Center for the Arts, New York (1993); and The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (1988).

The final design of Hamilton's OSU Cordley Hall work remains in progress.

### **Oregon's Percent for Art in Public Places Program**

Oregon was one of the first states in the nation to pass Percent for Art legislation, placing works of art in public spaces throughout the state. Since then, the Percent for Art in Public Places program has maintained a commitment to the placement of permanent art of the highest quality in public places. Committees of local residents across Oregon make selections. The overall collection enhances the state's public spaces and contributes to our well-recognized quality of life.

### **Oregon Arts Commission**

The Oregon Arts Commission provides leadership, funding and arts programs through its grants, special initiatives and services. Nine commissioners, appointed by the Governor, determine arts needs and establish policies for public support of the arts. The Arts Commission became part of Business Oregon (formerly Oregon Economic and Community Development Department) in 1993, in recognition of the expanding role the arts play in the broader social, economic and educational arenas of Oregon communities. In 2003, the Oregon legislature moved the operations of the Oregon Cultural Trust to the Arts Commission, streamlining operations and making use of the Commission's expertise in grantmaking, arts and cultural information and community cultural development. The Arts Commission is supported with general funds appropriated by the Oregon legislature and with federal funds from the National Endowment for the Arts as well as funds from the Oregon Cultural Trust.

More information about the Oregon Arts Commission: [www.oregonartscommission.org](http://www.oregonartscommission.org)