

Guest Commentary

Celebrating the Creative Crone

By Anne M. Dunn

It has always been clear to me that if I lived long enough, I would become a crone. What remained a bit more of a mystery was is I would arrive with any measure of creativity. I also wondered if my arrival would be an occasion that would be worthy of celebration. Well, here I am! And the answers are: Yes! Yes!

As a traveling storyteller coming to the end of her travels, I am ready to stay at home and write the stories that must be told. The road has taken me to many lovely places but I am slowing down and not quite so eager to pack my bags.

In fact, I anticipated this some time ago and decided a purge was in order. So, I opened my traveling theater and began sending my little actors to friends who would appreciate and love them for me.

However, the masks, more than the costumes, identified and defined the actors. I remembered how they had evolved in my hands and how I shaped their characters. When completed they came to life for me and performed without complaint. In the end, only a few masks left my home.

My early rigid masks don't travel any more. But they wait excitedly for my return and will sometimes wink at me or smile when I come home. I'm surprised to discover they still possess such energy!

Several years ago I began experimenting with soft masks because they're easier to pack and

carry than the plaster cast ones. I now have a case of soft masks, wigs, and accessories. Some of them accompany me along the storyteller's road.

Masking is both a product and a process. When we create the mask we take many things into consideration. We decide on size, color and materials. At least we think we do. But at some point, the mask takes on a life of its own and begins leading us through the process. We realize then that the mask is participating in its own creation.

Sometimes we use masks to conceal who we are. A mask helps us to reveal ourselves. It seems to be a truly magical vehicle that carries us forward and backward at the same time. In the mask we are connected and also separated.

Some of my masks fit so well that I can wear them when I dance! Of course, I am not a fearless dancing crone and must always have at least one foot planted firmly and flatly upon the floor or the earth. But even this is a creative adaptation that I have made due to arthritis and finding my center of gravity is not where it use to be.

Nevertheless, I am always ready to celebrate the creative crone I have become and I'd like you to celebrate your creative crone, too.

Anishinabe/Ojibwe Anne M. Dunn is a free-lance journalist, creative writer and a grandmother storyteller. She lives with her husband John and their dog Sam on the Leech Lake Reservation.

Welcome New

Anishinabe Council Members

Three new members were elected to the Anishinabe Arts Initiative Council on December 2, 2002.

- **Carol Cloud** of Red Lake is the Program Director for the Battered Women's Crisis Center at Equay Be Mah De Zee Win (Women Alive). She considers art and crafts to be a beneficial tool to aid in the recovery /healing process and to increase one's self worth and self esteem.

- **Judy Fairbanks** of Ogema is a Grant Writer and Development Officer for the White Earth Tribal and Community College. She is an arts lover and is interested in supporting and promoting Anishinabe art.

- **Debra Warren** of Bemidji is a Job Developer for the Red Lake STEP Program at Minnesota CEP. At an early age she learned to make black ash baskets, godeyes, and beadwork from her elders. She taught Ojibwe art at several schools and continues to be very interested in the arts.

Getting Ready for 2003 Nonprofits Reach Out!

Get to know your legislators!

Forecast: Budget deficits, new legislators, new leadership, increased needs for nonprofit services and programs. Minnesota's nonprofits need to be ready to have an impact on the policy decisions made by the 2003 legislature.

The Nonprofits Reach Out! campaign is designed to ensure nonprofits and legislators get to know one another.

Go to www.mnm.org/reachout.htm.
2314 University Ave. #20, St. Paul, MN
55114. Phone 800-289-1904. Email:
info@mmn.org

Region 2 Arts Council Announces Individual Artist Grant Awards

Norma A. Knapp, Shevlin - \$600 to help pay for the cost to attend and participate in a creative writing workshop, part of the Split Rock Arts Program at the University of Minnesota-Duluth.

Cyrus Swann, Bemidji - \$1,000 to have his ceramic art documented by a professional photographer in 35 mm slide format.

Patricia Black, Bemidji - \$601 to photograph new work and to purchase equipment needed to prepare a professional promotional packet to market her work and to maintain a website.

Chance Voigt, Bemidji - \$440 to study with mentor, Mary Clemenson, by taking an opera piece from the movie "Hannibal" and expanding it from a piano arrangement to a score for orchestra and choir. It will then be entered into a computer to make a professional arrangement.

Mary Clemenson, Bemidji - \$560 to expand her mentee, Chance Voigt's, opera piece from a piano arrangement to a score for orchestra and choir.

Judy Merritt, Nevis - \$1,000 to assist in the creative marketing and distribution of "Coming to the place where eagles soar," a collection of personal narratives that were originally published as columns in the "Cass Lake Times."

Mark Hartung, Park Rapids - \$1,000 to allow him to produce a solo multi-track percussion CD from his compositions.

NORTHERN ARTS NEWS is a free publication of the Region 2 Arts Council, published 10 times per year, with a current distribution of over 1,600.

Funded by a grant from the McKnight Foundation, *Northern Arts News* provides news and information to artists in Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods, and Mahnomen counties of north central Minnesota.

We welcome:

- topics of story ideas;
- guest commentary topic ideas;
- invitations to other artists;
- collaboration and registration notifications.

To submit information and/or to be added to our mailing list, contact the R2AC office:

Call: 751-5447 or 1-800-275-5447

FAX 218-751-2777

Email: r2arts@paulbunyan.net

Web site: www.r2arts.org

Northern Arts News
Region 2 Arts Council
426 Bemidji Avenue
Bemidji, MN 56601

Fiscal Year 2003 Board of Directors

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Permission to reprint *Northern Arts News* items is granted (excluding Guest Commentary) so long as Northern Arts News is credited as the source.

GUEST COMMENTARY inquiries are invited at any time. Submit your topic idea to Terri Widman by telephone, FAX, or email. Selected works must be previously unpublished and fit within the space allotment. Compensation for a selected work is \$60.

Due to the advanced print deadlines of this publication, we suggest that you call to confirm dates, times, and other pertinent information about events and opportunities listed here.

January Showcase

Artist:

Annushka Gisella Peck

(See page 4)

"aye for an eye"
vinyl acrylic
on found paper
5" x 4"



Region 2 Arts Council Offers Grants

R2AC has several upcoming grant deadlines for eligible artists and arts organizations in the five-county region:

McKnight Grants to Arts Organizations January 15

For 501(c)(3) arts organizations who need funding assistance for events or for small capital items.

Individual Artists Grants February 5

For artists who need funding assistance with producing art, travel, workshop fees, mentoring, etc.

Arts Projects Grants March 19

To help organizations create or produce arts events such as workshops, plays, exhibits, or performances.

Anishinabe Arts Initiative March 19

Grants awarded to individuals or organizations for projects that address AAI's mission of supporting, maintaining, and promoting traditional and contempo-rary Native American art.

Call for artists:

The new Wayzata Library, will open in 2003. Two sites in the library are being considered for artistic treatment a glass panel (7' by 3') and a wooden wall behind the circulation desk (art should be 10 long by 2' high).

Materials will be due by **Tuesday, January 21**. To be considered for the project submit

1. A brief letter describing your approach.
2. Up to 10 slides or photos of previous work.
3. Biographical information.

For more information contact FORECAST at 651-641-1128. Email: forecast@vsi.com.

A large-scale sculpture in any medium is to be hung in a three-story cathedral ceiling at the Student Center of the University of Minnesota-Crookston. It will be viewed from both the upper and lower levels and on both sides. The artist will work with an architect.

For information, contact M. Zak at jzad@umn.edu. Use the subject line: "Public Art for Student Center."

MN State Funding Cuts Imminent - Deficit nears \$5 billion -

What can arts constituents do?

ATTEND

ARTS ADVOCACY DAY at the State Capitol on February 27, 2003

Although Minnesota is facing a historic deficit, Governor-elect Tim Pawlenty has pledged not to raise taxes to reduce the deficit. So cuts to state agencies and programs, which could include the Minnesota State Arts Board and the Regional Arts Councils - are almost certain. What is not certain is the depth of those cuts.

Last session, with the help of arts advocates like you, Minnesota Citizens for the Arts (MCA) convinced the Legislature to reduce the cut to the arts to 4%. It took the entire arts community to prevent even deeper cuts. This year, MCA will work hard to keep Minnesota arts funding safe. But we can't do it alone.

MCA has been successful at fighting cuts in the past with the help of arts advocates like you all across the state. You can add a powerful voice to the choir of arts advocates who believe the arts in Minnesota are worth fighting for.

On Advocacy Day, arts advocates from every corner of Minnesota come to the State Capitol to meet with their legislators and talk about the importance of the arts to our state and region. This important event is organized by Minnesota Citizens for the Arts (MCA).

This exciting day begins with a brief advocacy train-ing session. MCA will set up appointments with legisla-tors for you. You will not be alone-arts advocates go out in teams to meet with lawmakers. Each team is led by someone from the arts community who has participated in Advocacy Day before and who knows what to do. Brenda Flintrop, PLRAC Executive Director and a board member of MCA, will lead a southern MN team again this year at the capitol.

The most important person a legislator can hear from is YOU. Call MCA to find out who your legislators are and contact them directly if you're unable to attend Advocacy Day. Also, by becoming a member of MCA, you or your arts organization can help to continue lobbying, organizing and educating citizens and elected officials about the vital role of the arts in our state. Individual dues are just \$30 and you can print out a membership form from their website: www.mtn.org/mca.

Sign up for Arts Advocacy Day by calling MCA at 651-251-0868, or email them at mca@mtn.org.

OPPORTUNITIES

January thru March 31 2003

Courage Cards Art Search. Courage seeks artwork for their holiday card collection including traditional

Christnas and

Thanksgiving images. Major city scenes and world peace and ethnic diversity artwork is also needed. Licensing fee paid to the artist for each piece chosen, in addition to national exposure. All artists, especially those with disabilities, are invited to submit works.

Call 763-520-0211 or visit:

www.couragecards.org.

Jan. 15 Deadline Artslink

Projects 2003 provides support to artists and arts organizations to work with their counterparts in 27 countries.

Applications accepted from individual artists, curators, and non-profit arts organization working in visual, design, or media arts. For information, call 212-643-1985 x 22 or www.cicip.org.

Jan. 17 Deadline Journey's End

National Art Exhibition. First annual Lewis and Clark art show to take place March 8-30. All media. \$29,000 in total awards to be given out. For more information, visit the web site:

www.send.org or email:

jouneys@pacifir.com, or send SASE to PO Box 2002 Astoria, OR 97103.

Jan. 1-Feb. 15 Submission period for Sarabande Books "The Kathryn A. Morton Prize in Poetry" and The Mary McCarthy Prize in Short Fiction." For information, visit

www.sarabandebooks.org or send a SSE to: Literary Contest Guidelines, Sarabande Books, Inc. 2234 Dundee Road, Suite 200, Louisville, KY 40205.

Feb. 2 Deadline Art Education Opportunity for High School Students

through the Perpich Center for Arts Education. The Arts High School (AHS) is a tuition-free public school open to Minnesota resident students. The school accepts only 310 students into grades 11 and 12, majoring in one of six art areas: music, dance, theater, visual arts, media arts, and literary arts. For information, visit www.pcae.k12mn.us or contact: Bev DeVos at bev.devos@pcae.k12.mn.us

Feb. 7 Deadline "Drawing with

the Masters," workshop with Charles Kapsner Feb. 24-28, sponsored by the

Great River Arts Association, Little Falls. The workshop offers area artists an opportunity to improve their drawing skills and to incorporate these new skills into their own preferred art medium, whether it be paint, clay, wood, ink, conte or graphite. Classes are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Arts Center. For information, call Great River Arts Association at 320-632-0960. Or write GRAA, PO Box 157, Little Falls, MN 56345. Email: greatart@littlefalls.net.

Feb. 15 Deadline Speakeasy Prize in Poetry and Prose offers two winners, in each category, \$1,000 and publication in Speakeasy, the Loft's new literary culture magazine. Entry fee \$15 for non-members; 10 for members. For application form, visit www.loft.org or call 1612-215-2575.

Springboard for the Arts Workshops on various subjects including building a website, grantwriting, and career planning for artists. For information, visit www.springboardforthearts.org or call 561-28-92-4381.

The New York Foundation for the Arts has a database of awards, services, and publications for artists of

About the Showcase Artist

Annushka Gisella Peck

"Daily, we are fed more images than we can decipher. This pop culture subterfuge (the manipulation of our mythologies and creation of our collective realities) is used to coerce our purchases and our politics. ...it is also the basis for my study of visual languages.

**"bulk payout (diptych)"
4" x 5.75"**



all disciplines.

www.nyfaorg/nyfa-source.asp?id=47&fid=1.

March Deadline Call for Theater Manifestos. The Playwrights' Center and the Guthrie Theater are sponsoring a competition for manifestos that speak to the need and necessity for creation of new work. Winning author will receive \$2,500. For information, contact: The Playwrights' Center, 2301 Franklin Ave. E. Minneapolis, MN 55406-1099; phone 612-332-7481 or visit www.pwcenter.org.

March 3 Deadline 2003 Travel and Study Grant Program. The Travel and Study Grant Program awards grants to artists and arts administrators. Funds support travel for the purpose of professional development. Grants in 2003 will be for literature, media arts, and music. The program is supported by General Mills and Jerome foundations. Applications must be postmarked on or before the deadline. Fax and email submissions are not permitted. For application and guidelines, write: Jerome Foundation, 125 Park Square Court, 400 Sibley Street, St. Paul, MN 55101-1928. Call 651-224-9431 or 800-995-3766. These materials may also be found at: www.jeromefdn.org.

Minnesota Literature Live Small Grants Program for Greater Minnesota offers grants of up to \$800 to help support literary events throughout Greater Minnesota. Eligible events include: readings and or/storytelling events, writing work-shops, in-school residencies by writers (must include one event open to entire community). Events must occur before June 30, 2003. For information, contact The Loft Literary Center, Suite 200, Open Book, 1011 Washington Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55415; call 612-215-2575; or visit www.loft.org.

Touring Actors & Directors

needed for Prairie Fire Children's Theatre residency programs of Robin Hood and Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs, to take place January /February through May.

Directing up to 80 children, perform lead role, minor set and cos-tume repair, and light paperwork. Travel required. Fee, per diem, housing, transportation while on tour.

Send photo, resume, and two references who can talk about your work with children to: Ben Ratkowski, PFCT, PO Box 82, Barrett, MN 56311. For information, call 320-491-4833. Email: jorda021@tc.umn.edu.

Grants and Fellowships from Minnesota State Arts Board available for schools, communities, and non-profit organizations. For guidelines, contact MSAB, Park Square Court, 400 Sibley St. #200, Saint Paul, MN 55101. Call 800-866-2787. Email: msab@state.mn or check Web site: www.arts.state.mn.us.

Black Nature Sanctuary announces 2003 Artist Fellowship Programs. One program will support Minnesota emerging artists working alone or in collaboration with another artist, mentor, protegee, or naturalist for a two-week to one-month stay at one of the Sanctuary residences. Minnesota arts administrators are also eligible for a one-week residency. A second residency opportunity for artists at any career level living in central Minnesota has been funded by the East Central Regional Development Commission and East Central Arts Council with funds provided by the Minnesota State Legislature. This program will support one artist who wishes to work solo or in collaboration with others for a three week residency. For information, contact Project Director, Catherine Jordan at 612-823-6257. Web site: www.blacklock.org.

ON THE WEB

Following are Web sites you may find of interest:

Information on opportunities for performers and composers
www.composersforum.org

Arts related jobs/opportunities:
<http://artdeadlineslist.com>

Minnesota Materials Exchange
www.mnexchange.org.

Feb. 1 Deadline The 31st Annual Minnesota Crafts Festival. Craftspeople working in the following craft media are eligible: clay, fiber, metal, glass, wood, leather, paper, and mixed media. For more information, call 612-333-7789. Applications are also available at the MCC web site: www.mncraft.org. Festival is June 27-29, 2003 on the grounds of the Minnesota History Center.

On behalf of all of us at
Region 2 Arts Council,
we wish you hope for
the future, good health
in the days ahead, and
appreciation of the
beauty and peace that
surrounds us in the
'north country.'

Happy New Year!



Calendar of Events

JANUARY

Jan.3 Northwoods Folk Collective First Friday Coffeehouse, 7:30 p.m. at the Headwaters School of Music and the Arts, 519 Minnesota Ave. Bemidji; 218-444-5606.

Jan. 6-24 Introduction to the Wheel. Up North Clay Center, 921 Minnesota Ave. NW, Bemidji, MN. 56601. For information, call 751-5878.

Jan.10 Music by Jon Henningsgaard, Diane Sauer, Don Leet, and Jeff Sawyer at the Uptown Caffe, Bemidji. 7:30 p.m. 444-5282.

Jan. 10-12,16-19 Snoopy: a musical by and for children at Bangsberg Hall on the Bemidji State University campus. For times, call 218-751-9194 after Jan. 2. Tickets at the door, Corner Drug, Ken K. Thompson Jewelry, and Bemidji Mall.

Jan.10-12 Chain Reaction Festival, Cass Lake. Winter Carnival atmosphere with art and craft fair. Call Dan Evans, 800-356-8615.

Jan. 17 Creative Words Coffeehouse at Uptown Caffe, Bemidji. 7:30 p.m. 444-5282.

Jan.17 Comedy Club XII: Williams & Ree at the Myles Reif Performing Arts Center, Grand Rapids, MN .For information, call 218-327-5780 or visit the Reif Center web site at www.reifcenter.org.

Jan. 24 Annie Humphrey at Uptown Caffe, Bemidji. 7:30 p.m. 444-5282.

Jan. 25 McKnight Fellowship Artists' Workshop. the 2002 McKnight Fellowship Recipients Maren Kloppmann and Keisuke Mizuno will discuss their lives as ceramic artists and share their experiences and influences. Join them for a day of slides,

discussion, and side-by-side demonstrations. 10 a.m. -3 p.m. Northern Clay Center, 2424 Franklin Ave. E. Minneapolis. Call 612-339-8007. Email: nccinfo@northernclaycenter.org .

FEBRUARY

Feb. -March Artist Vivienne Morgan will be featured at Uptown Caffe, Bemidji throughout Feb. and March.

Feb. 1 Deadline Call for entries for Bemidji Sculpture Walk. \$200 honorarium awarded to each exhibitor. \$200 cash award for People's Choice Award winner. For information, contact Suzi Rhae at bcac@paulbunyan.net. or download off Web at: www.bcacmn.org/artcal1/bswinfo.html

Feb. 7 Bemidji Community Arts Center reception and annual meeting. 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Main Gallery, Bemidji.

Feb. 21 Winter Arts Ball sponsored by Bemidji Community Art Center. 5 p.m.- 10 p.m. at Bemidji Town and Country Club. A fundraiser for the arts. Call 751-7570.

Artists of Minnesota Website

www.artistsofminnesota.com

Features of the site include:

- Main page
- Members' Gallery
- Bulletin Board
- Classified Ads
- Links of Interest
- Board of Directors Information
- Chat Room

Send emails to:
grammatophile@aol.com and
[cc: artistrobin@yahoo.com](mailto:artistrobin@yahoo.com).

New addition to Mural Walk Project

A new mural by Anishinabe artist Michael Boyd has been hung on the outer wall of the Looking Glass Salon at 404 Beltrami Ave. in Bemidji.

The project was sponsored in part by the Blandin Foundation, Bemidji Area Race Relations Council, Ace on the Lake, and Region 2 Arts Council.

Minnesota State Arts Board Grant Opportunities

Career Opportunities all disciplines	February 3
Folk Artists Directory	February 3
Video Documentation for choreographers, dancers, actors, directors, conductors performance artists, lighting designers, and storytellers.	February 17
Cultural Collaborations all disciplines	February 17
Arts in Education Roster of Artists previously listed in roster new to roster	March 1 April 1

For grants information, contact the Minnesota State Arts Board at 800-8MN-ARTS or visit www.arts.state.mn.us.

Pequana Playhouse announces auditions - "Fiddler on the Roof" -

Pequana Playhouse announces auditions for its upcoming performance of "Fiddler on the Roof." Performances are scheduled for the first two weeks in April 2003. Auditions will be held **Sunday, January 5** from 2:00-7:00 p.m. and **Thursday, January 9**, from 3:30-7:00 p.m., in the Band Room at the Lake of the Woods (LOW) High School.

It is strongly encouraged to call the show's director, Tami Bredeson, at 634-9863 to set up an appointment to avoid a long wait. Audition packets are available at the Baudette and Rainy River Public Libraries as well as the LOW and Rainy River Schools.

Those auditioning for Fiddler will be asked to sing a number from the show and read from the script. All music needed is included in the audition packets. If you have questions regarding the music, or are interested in being a part of the orchestra, please call the show's musical director, Sherry Ausmus, at 634-1935.

In addition to Tevye, his wife and his five daughters, there are the daughter's suitors, the matchmaker, the Grandma, Constable, Russian soldiers, and a chorus of villagers roles to be filled.

There are roles for adults, students, and children. However, children under the age of 12 will be cast in the production **ONLY** if a parent or grandparent is involved in the production.

Art Organizations to retain own identifies

After thoughtful deliberations over the course of the past few months, the boards of directors of the Bemidji Community Arts Council (BCAC) and the Headwaters School of Music and the Arts (HSMA) have decided not to pursue a merger of the two organizations at this time.

Although their missions are compatible, they discovered that many aspects of their distinct and separate organizations would not profit by coordinated efforts. A merger at this time would be beyond the organizations' capacities to fully realize the true and lasting potential of the respective organizations.

Partnership endeavors such as the First City Celebration of the Arts have evolved from the successful and well-established "Art in the Park" and will certainly continue. Executive directors, Suzi Rhae of the BCAC and Steve Saari of HSMA, will continue to create innovative programming both independently and cooperatively.

Have an idea for a workshop?

R2AC has money available to bring a workshop to your community and we are anxious to hear your ideas. Workshop funding is open to any group that wants to bring in an artist or arts professional to conduct a workshop. It is also open to artists who wish to present a workshop themselves. We will consider ideas in all arts disciplines - we will help by paying the bills, manage registration, postage, and promotion.

The focus of your workshop may be topics such as learning an art technique, learning more about the business of being an artist, or maybe a community discussion of art. The key to a successful proposal is that you emphasize high-quality adult learning and that your presenter is both experienced and proficient. The workshop must be open to the public.

Because these are partnerships and not grants, there is no deadline date. We will review your written proposal at a Board meeting and if it is approved, we will start working with you to make it happen. Feel free to call Terri Widman to discuss your ideas at 218-751-5447 or 800-275-5447.

Take note!

Send your "Noteworthy" successes to R2AC, 426 Bemidji Ave. NW, Bemidji, MN 56601; ATTN: "Northern Arts News."

Or email:

r2arts@paulbunyan.net.

Deadline for events, opportunities, and other submissions for the February issue of "Northern Arts News" is January 9, 2003.



Region II Arts & Humanities Council
DBA: Region 2 Arts Council
426 Bemidji Ave.
Bemidji, MN 56601

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Noteworthy

William Borden's, Bemidji, poem "On Reading Callimachus" is one of one hundred poems chosen from 6,000 submissions included in the annual edition of "Runes: A Review of "Poetry," Arctos Press, Sausalito, California. Borden's poem, "Buddha Lake," appeared in the anthology "Fresh Water: Poems from the Rivers, Lakes, and Steams," Pudding House Publications, Johnstown, Ohio; and "India Cows," is included in "We The Creatures: Poetry for the Rights of Other Animals," 2002.

Jane Freeman, Bemidji, was featured in the "American Artist Magazine." Her watercolor paintings are displayed on six pages of the January 2000 issue of the publication. Luekens Grocery North, has purchased 20 of the magazines for resale to the public.

Carol Struve, Bemidji, attended the opening reception of her solo exhibition of recent paintings at A.I.R. Gallery in the Chelsea District of New York City in October. She received two grants for the project: a Minnesota State Arts Board Career Opportunity Grant and a Bemidji State University Professional Development Grant. Struve also served as panelist for the Minnesota State Arts

Board Annual Individual Artist Fellowship Award and participated in the invitational, annual Autumn Art Auction held at the North Dakota Museum of Art.

Vicki Swan, Cass Lake, was a featured artist in the Star Quilts exhibition at the Two Rivers Gallery, Minneapolis. The Star Quilts Exhibition is designed to remember and encourage the traditional ways associated with the star quilt. The Two Rivers Gallery is managed by Native Arts Circle, an arts service agency.

"*Memory Boy*," **Will Weaver's**, Bemidji, most recent novel for young adults, won a "top ten" award by the American Library Association and is currently on several state "best of" lists for high school readers. His new novel, "Claws," is forthcoming from HarperCollins in April 2003.

