# THE 16 16TH ANNUAL Literary Festival

OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY

#### MARY OLIVER



Photo by Barbara Savage Cheresh

ong ago, Publishers Weekly predicted the "major vision" that Mary Oliver's seven books of poetry would eventually represent. Of her poetry James Dickey has said, "Far beneath the surface-flash of linguistic effect, Mary Oliver works her quiet and mysterious spell. It is a true spell, unlike any other poet's, the enchantment of the true maker." Identifying her as a poet whose "special gift is to connect us with our sources in the natural world," Stanley Kunitz has also praised her Pulitzer Prize-winning book, American Primitive, commenting on

"the loving freshness of its perceptions, and the singular glow of a spiritual life brightening its pages." Mary Oliver's books include No Voyage and Other Poems, The River Styx, Ohio, and Other Poems, Twelve Moons, American Privitive, Dream Work, House of Light and New and Selected Poems. Her many awards include The Shelley Memorial Award, The American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters Achievement Award, The Pulitzer Prize, The L.L. Winship Award and the National Book Award. She is currently The Banister Writer-in-Residence at Sweet Briar College in Virginia.

#### REGINALD MCKNIGHT



as "a master of narrative pacing," and by the San Francisco Chronicle as "a formidable talent," Reginald McKnight is the author of two collections of short stories, Moustapha's Eclipse and The Kind of Light That Shines on Texas, and a novel, I Get On The Bus. In 1988, he received the Drue Heinz Award for Moustapha's Eclipse followed by, in 1989 and 1990, the Kenyon Review Award for Fiction, the Ernest Hemingway Foundation Special Citation and an O. Henry Award. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa from

Colorado College, then won a fellowship that enabled him to travel and write in Africa. Reginald McKnight now resides in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he teaches at Carnegie-Mellon University.

#### MICHAEL PEARSON



writer whose first book,
Imagined Places: Journeys
Into Literary America, was listed as one
of the Notable Books of the Year by
The New York Times. He has written
for magazines and newspapers—scholarly essays, creative work, and journalism.
In the last few years, in particular, he
has written for the Atlanta Journal and
Constitution, the New Orleans TimesPicayune, the Boston Globe, and The
New York Times. His second book, A
Place That's Known: Essays, will be
published in February by the University

Press of Mississippi. Pearson, who is an associate professor of English at ODU, is presently working on a book of reminiscence and reporting about the Bronx, titled *Rest in Peace*.

#### DAVE SMITH



Photo by Dee Smith

ave Smith has published twenty-three books, seventeen of them books of poems, among them, Night Pleasures: New and Selected Poems, Cuba Night, The Roundhouse Voices, In the House of the Judge, Homage to Edgar Allan Poe, Dream Flights and Goshawk, Antelope. His poems have been anthologized in The Norton Anthology of Modern Poetry, The Harvard Book of Contemporary American Poetry and Vintage Contemporary American Poetry and he has himself edited, among others, The Essential Poe and

The Morrow Anthology of Younger American Poets. Dave Smith has been awarded the Lyndhurst Fellowship, the Virginia Poetry Prize, NEA and Guggenheim Fellowships and The American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters Award. A Professor of English at Lousiana State University, Smith coedits The Southern Review.

#### PAM HOUSTON



Photo by Steve Griffin

am Houston's collection of short stories, Cowboys Are My Weakness, was the winner of the 1993 Western States Book Award. She has published fiction, recently, in Mirabella, Mademoiselle, The Mississippi Review and Best American Short Stories and her nonfiction has appeared in The New York Times, Outside, House and Garden, Elle and Allure. She is a contributing editor at Elle, Allure and Ski magazines. Currently, she is finishing her first novel and editing a collection of fiction, nonfiction and poetry tentatively titled,

Women on Hunting. A licensed river guide, Houston lives in Park City, Utah with her husband, Michael, and her dogs, Jackson and Hailey. The four of them spend at least a hundred nights a year outside.

#### ALLISON JOSEPH



llison Joseph was born in London, England in 1967 to Aparents of Caribbean heritage. She was raised in Toronto, Canada, and the Bronx, New York and she holds degrees from Kenyon College and from Indiana University. Her first book, What Keeps Us Here, was the winner of Ampersand Press' 1992 Women Poets Series Competition. It also received the John C. Zacharis First Book Award from Ploughshares and Emerson College in Boston. She lives in Little Rock, Arkansas and is an Assistant Professor of English at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

#### **BOB SHACOCHIS**

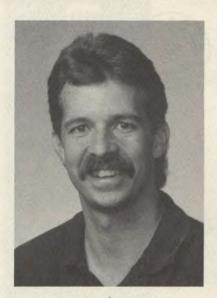


Photo by Jim Curley

Bob Shacochis was born in Pennsylvania in 1951 and grew up in Virginia. He lived for three years in the Caribbean and now resides in Florida. His first collection of stories, Easy in the Islands, won the American Book Award in 1985, and his second collection, The Next New World, was awarded the Prix de Rome from the American Academy of Arts and Letters in 1989. He has also received a James Michener Fellowship and a grant from the NEA. He received a Bachelor of Journalism and an M.A. in English from the University of

Missouri and an M.F.A. from the Iowa Writers' Workshop. Bob Shacochis is a columnist for *Gentleman's Quarterly* and a contributing editor for both *Outside* and *Harper's*. A collection of his columns, *Domesticity*, will be published by Scribners in February 1994. *Swimming* in the Volcano, the first book in a projected trilogy, is his first novel.

# MARKHAM JOHNSON



ark Johnson is executive director of the Associated Writing Programs at Old Dominion University. His book of poetry, Collecting the Light, will be published by The University of Florida Press in Fall 1993. His poems have appeared in Sonora Review, Indiana Review, Nimrod and many other literary magazines. A chapbook, Starlings, Grackles, and Redwings, was published in 1991. He earned an MFA from Vermont College and has taught creative writing at Drake University and Simpson College.

#### WENDY BISHOP



endy Bishop holds a PhD in English/Rhetoric from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. In addition to writing articles on ethnographic research, gender and composition studies, creative writing and teacher training for The Writing Instructor, AWP Chronicle, and The Journal of Advanced Composition, she has also published poems and stories in The American Poetry Review, The Yale Review, Western Humanities Review, Cream City Review and many other journals. She has a chapbook of poetry, Time in

the Southwest, forthcoming from Jumping Cholla Press and two forthcoming co-edited volumes, Colors of a Different Horse: Rethinking How We Teach Creative Writing and Genres of Writing: Mapping the Territory of Discourse. She is a member of the board of directors of Associated Writing Programs.

#### ROBIN BECKER



Photo by Peggy Eliot

Riacometti's Dog, published in 1990 by the University of Pittsburgh Press. Her previous books are Backtalk and Personal Effects, both published by Alice James Books. She has received fellowships in poetry from the Massachusetts Artists Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. Her poems appear in many journals including Agni, The American Poetry Review, The Kenyon Review, and Ploughshares. She has published book reviews in Belles Lettres, The Boston Globe, The Boston Review, Prairie

Schooner and The Women's Review of Books. She teaches in the Program in Writing and Humanistic Studies at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. This year she is Visiting Poet at Pennsylvania State University. Robin Becker serves as Poetry Editor for The Women's Review of Books and as a member of the board of directors of Associated Writing Programs.

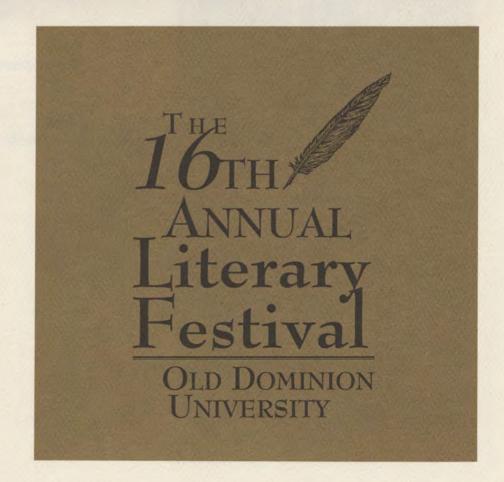
#### ETHELBERT MILLER



Photo by Julia Jones

Born in New York City,
E.Ethelbert Miller serves as the director of the African American Resource Center at Howard University, a position he has held since 1974. He is the author of six books of poetry:
Migrant Worker, Season of Hunger/Cry of Rain, Women Surviving Massacres and Men, Where are the Love Poems for Dictators?, First Light: Selected and New Poems and In Search of Color Everywhere. In addition, Ethelbert Miller is the founder and director of the Ascension Poetry Reading Series, one of the oldest literary series in the

Washington area. He is also the host of the popular weekly radio program, "Maiden Voyage," on WDCU-FM and a commentator for National Public Radio. Recently a visiting professor at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, he is now a member of the board of directors of Associated Writing Programs.



## MONDAY, OCTOBER 4

Literary Festival Fund Raiser

8:00 p.m. Poetry Reading

Mary Oliver BAL 104

Donation: \$7.50, students \$5.00

# TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5

3:00 p.m. Fiction/Creative Nonfiction Readings

Reginald McKnight Michael Pearson

Newport News Room, Webb Center

8:00 p.m. Poetry Reading

Dave Smith

Chandler Recital Hall

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6

3:00 p.m. Fiction/Poetry Readings

Pam Houston Allison Joseph

Newport News Room, Webb Center

8:00 p.m. Fiction Reading

Bob Shacochis

Chandler Recital Hall

# THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7

3:00 p.m. Poetry/Creative Nonfiction Readings

Mark Johnson Wendy Bishop

Newport News Room, Webb Center

8:00 p.m. Poetry Readings

Robin Becker Ethelbert Miller Chandler Recital Hall

All Festival events are open to the public. All but the Fund Raiser are free. For more information call 683-4035.

wo American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters Achievement Awards, The Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Award, The John C. Zacharis First Book Award, The Western States Book Award, The Washington D.C. Mayor's Art Award for Literature, The Virginia Poetry Prize, The Prix de Rome, The American Book Award, a New York Times Notable Book of the Year, fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, from the Guggenheim Foundation, and on, and on. As we all know, there is no substitute for quality in writing, whether that quality be in the short stories or creative nonfiction of emerging writers or in the fiction and poetry of writers who have, for many years, tested the durability of their talents. Old Dominion University's 16th Annual Literary Festival celebrates the very diverse voices of eleven award-winning writers, all of whom share an abiding fascination with the power of language to make us feel.

n the past, the Directors of ODU's Literary Festivals have Lalways tried to make the Festival readings and performances as open as possible, not only to the university community, but to everyone in Hampton Roads. The Festival is especially lucky this year, though, in the efforts of members of Associated Writing Programs and the Chrysler Museum staff, who have organized a program called "Words Up: Poets at the Chrysler," a pilot that, by sending fifteen to eighteen writers into Norfolk middle and high schools on the first day of the Festival, encourages students to try their hands at writing and to attend this year's readings. Cheers to AWP, to the Chrysler, to the participating Norfolk schools and to the volunteers who have initiated this And cheers to the members of our audience, old and new!

Janet Sylvester, Director

# SPONSORED BY THE OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM

The Department of English

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And many local supporters

For further information call 683-4035.

If special accomodations are needed, please call 683-4035 at least 14 days prior to the festival (TDD users may call 683-3433).

#### PARKING

For both afternoon events in the Webb Center (10) and evening events in the Chandler Recital Hall (9), parking is available in lot 27, west of Elkhorn Avenue.

