



Dec 1, 2011

Dear Friend,

Each month, we feature a writer from one of our workshops on our website. This month, [the writer is Warren Gaston](#) [pictured with his journal, above], a senior at Helensview High School who just completed our 10 week workshop there. Warren wrote a poem called *Ode 2 Real*. We chose a line from his poem to be the title of our new book, *Blueprint to My Backbone*. [You can see the book cover below in this email.]

I really hope you'll take a moment to read [our interview with Warren](#) and learn why he thinks writing can "be a stepping stone for anything." There, you can click on a link to hear Warren read his poem. It's powerful to hear his words, in his voice.

Even better, you can hear Warren read his piece in person at our [free reading and book release party on Friday, Dec 16](#). He'll be joined by writers from our workshops for women in residential addiction treatment, low income housing residents, burn survivors and many others. Bring a friend! Everyone is welcome.

We're also featuring writers in our [three short videos](#), inspired by Bob Dylan. Please do check them out and share them on Facebook and Twitter to help us spread the word.



Wishing you a happy holiday season,

Robyn

Robyn Steely
Executive Director

P.S. Don't forget that now through Dec 31, everyone who donates \$10 to Write Around Portland through the [Give!Guide](#) gets a free taco from [¿Por Que No? Taqueria](#) -- and lots of great [incentives](#) from Willamette Week. Look for us in the Arts section, and help us bring the power of writing to 500 writers in the new year.



[Write Around Portland anthologies make great holiday gifts, just \\$12.](#)



[All the details about our Dec 16 free reading and book release.](#)



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