

June 2007 Update

If you are quick, you will have a **chance to buy a signed copy of *Family Portraits*** at the Greenwood Space Travel Supply Co. If you are less-quick you can buy an un-signed copy. David Lasky has done it again – taught a very successful and fun comic book class to young comic book artists and produced a very cool anthology from their work. Price to you: \$8.26 – a bargain at twice the price.

Speaking of book purchases, next Tuesday **you can buy your own copy of *Burning the Past***, our collection of essays on the subject of change written by the students of John Marshall Alternative School. At 6:30 PM on June 12 these students will be joined by Charles Mudede (writer and filmmaker) on stage in the John Marshall auditorium to share their work, speak about change and then, surrounded by dozens of (edible) cupcakes, sign books. Last year's event was my favorite and I'm looking forward to this year's being equally moving. (Justin has put a rush order on 826 Seattle embroidered hankies for the evening, although it appears they may not arrive on time. We have so many moving moments at 826 Seattle that we felt it was time to provide a "moving moment support device" for such events.)

Please also note that our **summer workshop schedule** is posted on the web and signups have begun. If you know of a young writer (or wannabe writer or shouldbe writer) please direct them to www.826seattle.org where they can sign up for our summer workshop offerings. All workshops, of course, are free of charge. Make comics! Invent Northwest Mythological Creatures! Blog with Alex! It's all possible. (Plus a twice-a-week "just writing" drop-in time for aspiring authors.)

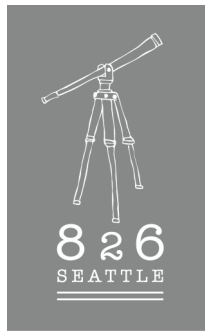
This month we were saddened to have **Therese Norton, our Development Director**, leave us. She told us when we hired her she was going to law school so it wasn't a surprise. We have taken her departure poorly because she has done so much to turn the chaos of how we raise money into a fine-tuned precise organizational wonder. Our database is current! Our donors each have files! We will miss Therese. She is super organized and smart, not to mention fun at parties.

The comforting news is that **Kate Frew** has replaced Therese. Not only is she also fun at parties (at least she was at the one we had since she started), but she comes to us with years of experience doing development work. About twenty some years ago Kate, newly in town, showed up at The Hutch School, where Teri was teaching. Kate wrote her first grant for something that neither Kate nor Teri can quite remember, and then moved on to raise funds for such worthy orgs as the YMCA and the Northwest Women's Law Center. There are a number of reasons we decided to hire Kate. We have had a distinct lack of ballet dancers on staff and she wants to ride her bike to work, which we think will inspire the rest of us to don helmets (although so far that hasn't happened).

Stay tuned for our next update when I'll tell you why we have hired **Norma Andrade** as the person to run our programs. Norma starts the end of June, and we cannot wait!

You can get a **peek** at all of the 826 Seattle staff and interns at www.826seattle.org/about/staff/. Good looking bunch, don't you think?

I was recently a guest at the Seattle Foundation annual breakfast where 826 Seattle and The Mesa Project were cited as the recipients of the Anne V. Farrell Leadership Award. We are truly



honored to be the recipients for a number of reasons, including the fact that we are enormously respectful of the work of both the Seattle Foundation and The Mesa Project. You know how great it feels to be hanging out in the right crowd.

826 Seattle is hosting the annual **826 National conference** this year at the end of June. Last year Alex and I went to Brooklyn where 826NYC is located. The year before I traveled to Los Angeles. This year staff members from the seven 826 chapters will convene in Greenwood to share best practices, field trip ideas, fundraising tips, student anecdotes, publishing ideas and gyros from Mr. Gyro's across the street— all in the name of helping each other do our work in the best way we possibly can. 826 Seattle is happy to host the conference this year, because as you can imagine, the 826 National crowd is a fun group. We're especially looking forward to meeting the Executive Director of the most recent chapter: 826 Boston. Where are the other chapters, you ask? Chicago, San Francisco and Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Lastly, the JAWSL results are in and posted on our website at www.826seattle.org/JAWSL. And, let me just say, we are so proud of our 826 Seattle students for how they scored on their abilities towards kindness, humor and the suppression of whining. See for yourself. And, while you are there, you'll find a downloadable PDF of the test. We dare you to take it yourself. There is even an opportunity for you to have our highly-trained staff score your test.

As usual, my update is a little long-winded. I can't help myself. See you at John Marshall on June 12. Stay tuned for my next update when we'll give you The Numbers. (How many students have we served in this school year? Sneak preview: a ton more than the last school year.)

Teri

PS: We are now in the planning stages for our 826 Seattle fundraising breakfast in October. If you are an 826 Seattle fan and you have nine friends that might enjoy a super-interesting-special-coming-in-from-out-of-town-speaker AND seeing the world premiere of our next (soon to be) award-winning info film from (soon to be) award-winning filmmaker Brad Wilke, and those nine friends would be inspired to write a check for a minimum amount (\$100 at least....more is fine) while eating a tasty breakfast in a venue with an excellent view of Puget Sound, do give us a call as you might be Table Captain Material. There are many rewards to being a Table Captain, including your name whispered reverently at select board meetings throughout the year.