



For immediate release

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**Nov. 19 public event to celebrate new Lee Imonen sculpture
at University of Oregon's Allan Price Science Commons and Research Library**

Salem, Oregon – “1116 Pages,” a new sculpture formed as an aluminum waterfall by Oregon artist Lee Imonen, will be celebrated during a public event from 3 to 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 19, at the University of Oregon's Allan Price Science Commons and Research Library. The work was commissioned through Oregon's Percent for Art in Public Places Program.

The sculpture appears to flow out of the atrium's wooden-slatted wall, its form tapering downward until it spreads into an undulating surface that serves as a canopy for mezzanine seating below. Blown glass bubbles seem to float on the water's surface. As a viewer looks closer, they see laser engraved text and images on some of the 1,116 individual aluminum "pages" that comprise the sculpture. The images were provided by students of science programs at the University of Oregon.

“The work of hundreds of students has been engraved on the surface of the pages, forever documenting their long hours of research within the library's walls,” said Imonen, who lives in Dexter. “This sculpture is intended to acknowledge and celebrate the intense study and focused research that takes place within this space.”

Installed in spring of 2021, the sculpture is already well-loved by the UO community. “We have received so many complements about the sculpture from students, staff, faculty and community members since the installation,” said Nancy Cunningham, the Interim Associate Vice Provost and University Librarian. Lara Nesselroad, manager of the university's math and science libraries and an art selection committee member, added that “1116 Pages” is the engaging sculpture the committee was hoping for: “During our early conversations about this project, the committee talked about hoping for a project that would speak to library, space, people, learning and science. I personally also hoped for a piece that would encourage people to notice new features as they viewed the work for a second, third, fifth time. ‘1116 Pages’ gets at all of these things. I enjoy talking to visitors about what they see, and what they have discovered, and I encourage them to look again, because I know they will see more.”

During the Nov. 19 event, Imonen will discuss his vision and creative process for "1116 Pages." The event will also feature the library's recently completed technology refresh of the Visualization Lab.

The Allan Price Science Commons and Research Library (PSC) serves the Lokey Science Complex and the UO community at large. The subterranean library, built in the 1960s, was a crowded, dark and outdated space. The recent renovation transformed the library into a vibrant student activity hub with a new, airy plaza-level entry called the "Commons." The Commons offers a beautiful, glass-faced open area with comfortable seating, which is used as a flexible gathering space for collaborative study, lectures and events. A grand staircase connects the Commons to the below-grade science and research library. The library level includes group and individual study areas, classrooms, computer lab, staff spaces, a visualization lab and makerspace.

Guided by Oregon's Percent for Art Statute, an art selection committee was assembled to consider the most appropriate artwork for the building. Through a competitive process, the selection committee--comprised of UO faculty, staff, the project architects and local arts professionals and chaired by Rebecca Banyas of the Arts Commission--selected Lee Imonen to create a site-specific interior sculpture.

Lee Imonen is a professor of Fine Arts at Lane Community College in Eugene, a resident of nearby Dexter, Oregon, and an artist with public works throughout the United States. He holds an MFA from the University of Oregon. This is his first permanent installation at the University of Oregon.

"1116 Pages" is located in the Price Science Library atrium space on the University of Oregon's campus in Eugene. The [artwork can be viewed online](#) through Oregon's Percent for Art in Public Places collection website.

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 De-

partment) 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

University of Oregon

The University of Oregon is a comprehensive public research university committed to exceptional teaching, discovery and service. We work at a human scale to generate big ideas. As a community of scholars, we help individuals question critically, think logically, reason effectively, communicate clearly, act creatively, and live ethically. Nestled in the lush Willamette Valley, with an easy drive to both the Pacific Ocean and the Cascade Mountains, the University of Oregon is renowned for its research prowess and commitment to teaching.