



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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**FOR INFORMATION**

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- **Virginia Fellowship for Montana Artists, Writers, Composers**
- **Fully funded one-month residency**
- **Funded by LEAW Foundation of Missoula**
- **Deadline May 20, 2011**

## **Missoula Foundation Funds Fellowships in Virginia for Montana Artists, Writers and Composers**

(AMHERST, VA)— VCCA (Virginia Center for the Creative Arts), a working retreat for artists located in Central Virginia, announces the availability of a fully-funded one-month residency for a Montana artist, writer or composer funded by the LEAW Foundation of Missoula. Applications are currently being accepted for residencies between October 2010 and January 2011 with a postmark deadline for applications of May 20, 2011.

Each year the VCCA awards fully funded one-month residencies for Montana artists, writers and composers funded by the LEAW Foundation. Montana artists are encouraged to apply for residencies—valued at \$5,400—as a means of concentrating exclusively on their creative work. Residencies include a private bedroom, studio and all meals in a community setting with 24 other artists from around the United States and many foreign countries. Admission is highly selective based on applicants' previous achievement or promise of achievement.

Past recipients of the LEAW Fellowships have included Noellynn Pepos, a visual artist from Victor, Loren Graham, a writer from Helena, Brandon Shimoda, a writer from Missoula. Katie Knight, a visual artist from Helena and Melissa Kwasny, a writer from Jefferson City.

One of the nation's largest and best-known artists' communities, the VCCA is a year-round working retreat, providing meals, rooms and studios to selected professional artists from around the world, hosting more than 300 individuals each year. VCCA Fellows include mature artists of noteworthy achievement and promising younger and mid-career artists. Fellows have received international attention through publications, exhibitions, compositions and performances, and have received countless awards, including Pulitzer Prizes and National Book Awards, plus Academy Award nominations and Guggenheim and National Endowment for the Arts grants.

"The benefits of this generous grant extend beyond the artists themselves to include the entire art-going, concert-going, literature-reading populace of Montana who will be enriched by the productivity of these artists," said VCCA Executive Director Suny Monk.

A non-profit organization founded in 1971, the VCCA is supported by grants and private donations. For an application visit the VCCA website at [www.vcca.com](http://www.vcca.com), call 434-946-7236 or send your request and a #10 self-addressed, stamped envelope to: VCCA Admissions, 154 San Angelo Drive, Amherst, VA 24521.

**For more information: [www.vcca.com](http://www.vcca.com)**