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ANPF NAMES THIS YEAR'S WINNING PLAYWRIGHT

ASHLAND, OR – Ashland New Plays Festival has announced the winning playwrights for its flagship festival in October: **ROBERT JOHN FORD** of Des Moines, IA for *Sleeping Dogs*; **RICHARD MANLEY** of New York, NY for *A Question of Words*; **BO WILSON** of North Chesterfield, VA, for *The Boatwright*; and Jamie Pachino of Los Angeles, CA for *Other Than Honorable*. The winning scripts were chosen from 273 blind submissions.

The winners will travel to Ashland for a week in October to workshop their plays and see their scripts taken from the page to the stage. There will be two readings of each of the winning plays, featuring professional actors and directors from the Oregon Shakespeare Festival and the community. The Kickoff Gala is Monday, October 21, from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Schneider Museum of Art, and the staged readings are Wednesday through Sunday, October 23 to 27, at the Unitarian Center, with both matinée and evening performances.

Festival Week will also include two events for local writers: a playwriting workshop on Friday morning led by ANPF 2008 winner and returning host playwright **EM LEWIS**, and a moderated panel discussion on Saturday morning with this year's four visiting playwrights.

For more information visit www.AshlandNewPlays.org.