

**From:** carol doig <cddoig@comcast.net>  
**Subject:** Re: An Invitation to Teach - 2015 Summer Fishtrap  
**Date:** November 24, 2014 9:14:55 AM PST  
**To:** Mike Midlo <mike@fishtrap.org>  
**Cc:** david laskin <laskin.david@gmail.com>



Mike, hello--

Appreciated your invitation to Fishtrap--Carol and I enjoyed our short stint there years ago, and Laskin himself is certainly an inducement--but I wanted to let you know pronto I'm not workshop material. Never have taught workshops, using the time for my own work. Accordingly my 13th novel, Last Bus to Wisdom, comes out near the time of your gathering, and I'll be consumed by that.

So, a couple of reasons, that add up to I'm sorry but no can do. Good luck with this year's Fishtrap--you already have a powerhouse lineup of writers.

Regards,  
Ivan

On Nov 20, 2014, at 10:17 AM, Mike Midlo wrote:

Mr. Ivan Doig

David Laskin generously opened a conversation about inviting you to attend Summer Fishtrap. We believe you would be a great addition to the Fishtrap community and that you would enjoy and be energized by the experience as much as those attending.

Our ED, Ann Powers and David mentioned the 2016 keynote but I would like to enthusiastically invite you to teach a workshop this coming July 6-12, 2015. Here's why:

Each year Fishtrap focuses on a theme of particular interest in the West. For 2015 we celebrate historian and Fishtrap co-founder, Alvin Josephy, on the centennial of his birth. His passion was to reveal stories that have been ignored and devalued by the main stream narrative of our nation, especially those of Native Americans. In that spirit, our theme is Hidden From History: Stories We Haven't Heard, Stories We Haven't Told. We think you are a great match for the the theme and for the Fishtrap community.

Other confirmed faculty include:  
Timothy Egan - Keynote Speaker  
Winona LaDuke - Closing Address  
Allison Hedge-Coke  
Tom Kizzia  
Sherwin Bitsui  
Page Lambert  
Kim Stafford & Perrin Kerns  
Bob Pyle  
Karen Fishter  
Teresa Jordan  
Jane Vandenburg

Summer Fishtrap is held at the foot of the Willowa Mountains in NE Oregon. The site is beautiful and remote and steeped with history.

<image001.jpg>



**From:** David Laskin <laskin.david@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: key note idea!  
**Date:** November 19, 2014 12:29:24 PM PST  
**To:** Ann Powers <ann@fishtrap.org>, Carol Doig <cddoig@comcast.net>  
**Cc:** Mike Midlo <mike@fishtrap.org>

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Hi Ann (when you return) and Mike,  
I'd like to put you in touch with Ivan Doig, copied on this message. I'm thrilled at the idea of Ivan delivering the keynote at Fishtrap in the summer of 2016 -- by which point our cabin will be done and ready to receive esteemed guests. Now that you have each other's emails, I'll bow out and leave you 3 to work out the details. Delighted to be the midwife on this. Best, David

On Wed, Nov 12, 2014 at 3:33 PM, Ann Powers <[ann@fishtrap.org](mailto:ann@fishtrap.org)> wrote:

Hi David,

That is great news. Thanks! I am actually leaving tomorrow for a 10 day trip, most of which is vacation without internet access, but our program manager, Mike Midlo (cc'd here) will be available to work out details with him. I hope we can make this work!

Best,  
Ann

On Wed, Nov 12, 2014 at 11:13 AM, David Laskin <[laskin.david@gmail.com](mailto:laskin.david@gmail.com)> wrote:

Ann, I just came back from Ivan's house -- helping him with some heavy lifting that he is unable to do. He is most intrigued by the idea and would like to be in touch with you next week. I'll shoot you both an email on Monday so you are connected and can work out the details. Cheers and thanks. David

On Tue, Nov 11, 2014 at 6:53 PM, Ann Powers <[ann@staff.fishtrap.org](mailto:ann@staff.fishtrap.org)> wrote:

Ah, back pain. Very much the issue of the day here. My husband just got knocked to his knees by a sudden twinge. Not the first time either. Aging is a tough row to hoe.

Yes, do put us together when the time is right.

Best  
Ann

On Nov 11, 2014, at 4:22 PM, David Laskin <[laskin.david@gmail.com](mailto:laskin.david@gmail.com)> wrote:

Ann, How thrilling -- thank you so much for the quick response. I just talked to Ivan and he is currently dealing with a health issue -- so it may be a couple of days before he can put his mind to this. I'm thinking at some point I'll just put the two of you together and bow out. But meanwhile I'm going to leave Ivan be and let his back pain settle down. Stand by! Best, David

On Mon, Nov 10, 2014 at 4:21 PM, Ann Powers <[ann@fishtrap.org](mailto:ann@fishtrap.org)> wrote:

David,

Our program manager was thrilled by this idea! Do you think Ivan Doig might be willing to come as Fishtrap faculty this summer? He would be a huge hit and a perfect fit for our theme. We are



honoring Alvin Josephy this summer on the centennial of his birth. Like Doig, Josephy began as a journalist and had a passion for the West and the stories of the West. The theme is *Hidden From History: stories we haven't heard and stories we haven't told*. He'd teach a fiction writing workshop, give a reading and generally enjoy the area. As you know, it's a great group of folks. If you think he might be open, let me know!

Best,

Ann

On Mon, Nov 3, 2014 at 3:36 PM, Ann Powers <[ann@fishtrap.org](mailto:ann@fishtrap.org)> wrote:

Thanks for the suggestion, David. And congrats on getting your house off the ground. Or on the ground? I'm sure Pam would be thrilled to schedule you for a Fireside reading - it would be a treat.

I'm cc'ing our program manager, Mike Midlo, here and we will keep Doig in mind as we ponder our themes for 2016 (the 2015 theme and keynoter are already set, although we might have one fiction faculty slot open . . . . I'll check.)

All the best,

Ann

On Mon, Nov 3, 2014 at 7:30 AM, David Laskin <[laskin.david@gmail.com](mailto:laskin.david@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hi Ann,

I hope this finds you well. Kate and I were in Joseph over the weekend inspecting our house -- very exciting to see it framed. We had dinner with Pam and Skip on Saturday and talked a lot about Fishtrap. I'd love to do a fireside reading if we can find a good time.

Hey, I have an idea for a keynote speaker for next summer if it's not too late: Ivan Doig! He is one of my best friends, lives just a few blocks away, and we talk all the time. I have an ulterior motive here: I'd love for Ivan and his wife Carol to see our house; if he had an invitation from Fishtrap that would seal the deal. I could help with transport -- driving him from and back to Walla Walla airport.

Just an idea! I hope to see you next visit.

Thanks and cheers, David

--

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*"Promoting clear thinking and good writing in and about the West"*



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