

# Whereas

*Whereas*, Walt Curtis has been cited as Portland's unofficial poet laureate for several decades; and

*Whereas*, Walt Curtis wrote the novella *Mala Noche* which was adapted into the eponymous 1985 feature film that launched the directorial career of Gus Van Sant; and

*Whereas*, *Mala Noche* has been translated and published in both French and Italian editions, and Walt's prose and poetry have appeared in dozens of prestigious publications; and

*Whereas*, Walt Curtis has been featured many times in film, most recently in the 2009 *Salmon Poet*, and is well-reputed and much-collected as a painter; and

*Whereas*, Walt Curtis co-founded Oregon Cultural Heritage Commission, and received Literary Arts' 1991 Stewart Holbrook award for "the advancement of Oregon's literary life"; and

*Whereas*, Walt Curtis suffered major losses of creative work and personal effects in the tragic fire at Great Northwest Bookstore Sunday May 2, 2010; and

*Whereas*, civic-minded friends are uniting to stage benefit performances, film screenings, and an auction of fine-art and literature to launch the *Curtis Legacy Initiative* to reestablish his personal studio and residence, and consolidate his regional and international reputation;

*Now, therefore*, I, Sam Adams, Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the "city of Roses," do hereby proclaim the week of July 1-7, 2010, which includes his birthday July 4, to be

## *Walt Curtis Week*

in Portland and encourage all residents to become familiar with Walt Curtis' contributions to arts in Portland.

