

Alumnus receives 2008 Dibner Writing Fellowship

7/16/08

ELLSWORTH, AUGUSTA & PORTLANDA Martin Dibner Memorial Fellowship in fiction has been awarded to Ben Kostival (AU class of 1995) of Saco, Maine. The Maine Community Foundation awards the fellowships annually to promising Maine writers seeking to develop their writing skills. Kostival holds a BA from Alfred University and an MFA from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. He is a substitute teacher in the Saco, Maine, school district. He has published fiction in Willow Springs Literary Journal, Frisk and Rendezvous. Kostival is completing a novel, Elm and North. This year's judge was writer Bill Roorbach of Farmington. Roorbach's latest book is Temple Stream: A Rural Odyssey (Dial Press). He also contributed an essay to A Healing Touch (Down East Books), a book to benefit Waterville Hospice Volunteers, edited by Richard Russo. The Dibner fellowship alternates between fiction and poetry. Next year's deadline, for poets, is Jan. 15, 2009. Guidelines can be found at www.mainecef.org <<http://www.mainecef.org>> or by calling toll free 1-877-700-6800. Novelist and historian Martin Dibner served on the Maine Arts Commission and was the first director of the Payson Gallery at Westbrook College. Several friends created this fund to honor Dibner's contributions to the art of writing. A statewide foundation with offices in Portland, Augusta and Ellsworth, the Maine Community Foundation has been partnering with donors and nonprofits to strengthen Maine communities through philanthropy and leadership for 25 years.