

Pacific University's Visiting Writers Series



Kim Van Alkemade

Thursday, September 24th

7:30 PM

Taylor Auditorium

2nd Floor Marsh Hall

Kim van Alkemade is the author of the historical novel *Orphan #8*. Her creative nonfiction essays have appeared in literary journals including *Alaska Quarterly Review*, *CutBank*, and *So To Speak*.

Van Alkemade spent eight years writing *Orphan #8*. Her research grew from an interest in the Hebrew Orphan Asylum of New York, where her grandfather and uncles grew up. The inspiration for her novel specifically came from a motion she found made by orphanage directors in 1920 for the purchase of wigs for children who had been used for radiation experiments.

She holds a BA in English and History and an MA and PhD in English. Alkemade lives in Carlisle, Pennsylvania and is a writing professor at Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.

Kim Van Alkemade had moxie...*Orphan #8* brims with complicated passions and pitch-perfect historical details. A riveting, memorable debut.”

—Catherine Zobal Dent, author of
Unfinished Stories of Girls

“With rare honesty and emotional courage, Alkemade tackles some of the largest ethical questions of our time. *Orphan #8* will leave you breathless, eager to turn each page.”

—Dolen Perkins-Valdez,
author of *Balm and Wench*

