

Travel Oregon receives two national tourism awards; *Travel Guide to Oregon Indian Country* honored in Outstanding Print Collateral category

Winners of the National Council of State Tourism Directors (NCSTD) 2023 Mercury Awards were announced in August at the U.S. Travel Association’s annual Educational Seminar for Tourism Organizations (ESTO) conference in Savannah, Ga.

The Mercury Awards recognize excellence and creative accomplishment in state and territory destination marketing and promotion, and inspire, through showcasing outstanding work, the continued development of imaginative and exciting marketing and promotional programs. Travel Oregon was recognized in the Outstanding Print Collateral category as well as Outstanding Video, Film or Podcast Series.

The product of a partnership between Travel Oregon and a collective of representatives from Oregon’s nine federally recognized Tribes, the *Travel Guide to Oregon Indian Country*, was honored in the Outstanding Print Collateral category.

Driven by the editorial vision of the Tribal Tourism Leadership Committee, the 52-page guide aims to promote Tribal tourism assets, cultural resources and respectful appreciation of Tribal lands. It offers resources and inspiration to help visitors understand and respect the history, cultures and land that Indigenous people have occupied since time immemorial while promoting attractions on and nearby Tribal lands where Tribes have invested in ways to welcome visitors.

“Earning these Mercury Awards is a testament to the exceptional collaboration between Travel Oregon’s staff and our incredible partners,” said Todd Davidson, CEO of Travel Oregon. “We are especially grateful to Oregon’s nine federally recognized Tribes, who proactively drove and participated in creation of the *Travel Guide to Oregon Indian Country*. Tribal tourism is a crucial driver of state and local economies and contributes greatly to tourism’s \$13.9 million impact statewide.

We can’t tell the story of Oregon without them.”

Hidden Trails of Oregon, which featured 10 Oregon cities and 10 guided experiences with documentary-style audio, was honored by NCTSD as Outstanding Video, Film or Podcast Series. Narrative voice-overs by Armchair Productions touch on themes important to our visitors, such as land stewardship, safe outdoor adventure and Oregon’s rich cultural landscape.

The quantifiable outcomes of this podcast were impactful – including 90,000+ downloads, 60,000+ hours of engagement – and brought Oregon to life for listeners all over the globe while inspiring travel to the state.

“To me, these awards honor the totality of effort of the entire Travel Oregon team over time,” continued Davidson. “A competitive grant may have funded the restoration of a trail now featured in the podcast and a Destination Ready work-

shop may have galvanized a community or inspired a new guiding business. These efforts, and so many others, fuel the creative campaigns inspiring travel to, and within, Oregon.”

Travel Oregon has been honored with 24 Mercury Awards since 1997. To see all awardees, visit ustravel.org.

About Travel Oregon

The Oregon Tourism Commission, dba Travel Oregon, is a semi-independent state agency whose mission is to inspire travel that uplifts Oregon communities. Collaborating with stakeholders to align as stewards of Oregon, we work to optimize economic opportunity, advance equity and respect the ecosystems, cultures and places that make Oregon ... Oregon.

Travel Oregon aims to improve Oregonians’ quality of life by strengthening the economic impacts of the state’s \$13.9 billion tourism industry, which employs more than 100,000 Oregonians.

Chinook Winds among sponsors for STAHS gala fundraiser for endowment fund



Chinook Winds Casino Resort, along with the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians and Northwest Natural, have come together to sponsor the second annual gala dinner to benefit the Dave Hatch Memorial Endowment. The dinner will be held on Saturday, Oct. 21, at Chinook’s Seafood Grill in Lincoln City, Ore., and will feature a silent auction, comedy show and a buffet dinner.

The Siletz Tribal Arts and Heritage Society is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting and preserving the cultural heritage of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians. The organization provides a variety of services, including community outreach, educational programs and cultural events.

The gala dinner is the society’s largest annual fundraiser. The proceeds from the dinner will support the Dave Hatch Memorial Endowment, which in turn will support the operations of Ghii De-Nee Dvn, A Place for the People, the cultural museum that is now under construction in Siletz, Ore.

If you would like to sponsor, donate or volunteer for this event, please visit our website at <https://siletzartsheritagesociety.org/>.

ATNI Embassy, continued from page 1

represent at a center point when coming to Portland.”

“This has been a long-time dream becoming reality to own our site, where until now ATNI has rented building space without equity which did not meet our needs,” said Sharon Goudy, ATNI treasurer. “A revered organization such as ATNI deserves no less. It’s been an honor to be a part of the fulfillment of the dream.”

Jeanie Louie, ATNI secretary, explained the importance of the location. “The reason our ATNI office is headquartered in Portland is because that is the HUB for the Northwest Tribes. All the federal offices are located there, like the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land

Management, Bonneville Power Administration, USDA and others. Portland is fairly central to all ATNI Tribes.”

ATNI intends to launch a capital campaign this fall to support the purchase and improvements to ATNIE to best meet the operational and membership needs of ATNI.

ATNI was founded in 1953 and is dedicated to promoting the sovereignty and self-determination of Tribes in the Pacific Northwest. ATNI is composed of 57 Tribes in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Northern California, Western Montana and Southeast Alaska.

For more information, visit www.atntribes.org.

Siletz Tribal Youth Fall STREAM Kits

Register for a STREAM kit and enhance your learning experience!

October

Deadline to submit your application is October 16th at 4:30 PM.

November

Deadline to submit your application is November 13th at 4:30 PM.

December

Deadline to submit your application is December 11th at 4:30 PM.

If you apply the previous month, you will not need to apply for the following month(s).

Contact your Education Specialist for an application.

Katy Holland Portland Area KatyH@ctsi.nsn.us 503-238-1512	Sonya Moody-Jurado Salem Area SonyaMJ@ctsi.nsn.us 503-390-9494	Candace Hill Eugene Area CandaceH@ctsi.nsn.us 541-484-4234	Jeff Sweet Siletz Area JeffS@ctsi.nsn.us 541-444-8207	Raina Mason Out-of-Area RainaM@ctsi.nsn.us 541-444-8347
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Kits available on a first-come, first-served basis.
All enrolled Siletz Tribal youth between the ages of 3-18 are eligible.