

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

50 Years of the Peace Corps Oregon History Museum celebrates legacy

Have you ever wondered what it is like to live and work in the most isolated corners of the globe? Peace Corps volunteers bring the world to Oregon with a new exhibit celebrating the 50th anniversary of this iconic organization, Peace Corps: 50 Years of Service and Bringing the World Home, now showing at the Oregon History Museum through June 12.

After working with returned Peace Corps volunteers and immersing herself in the history of the organization, Marsha Matthews, exhibit manager and director of public services at the Oregon Historical Society understands the excitement gen-



erated 50 years ago when John F. Kennedy gave an impromptu speech about the importance of service.

"I have personally come to know many returned Peace Corps volun-

teers, spanning from 1961 to 2010 and from Belize to Ethiopia, Uzbekistan to the Solomon Islands, and all points in between" Matthews said.

"The exhibit is truly their experiences in their own words - told through journals, letters, photographs, stories, memories, video interviews, and artifacts," she said. "They share a commonality of dedication to service - to the mission and goals of the Peace Corps - and to self discovery. Those convictions gave them the courage to drop themselves into an undeveloped country for two years and the will to stay."

Friends of Last Thursday to Meet

In partnership with Portland's Office of Neighborhood Involvement, a group of dedicated volunteers has spent the last year preparing to assume a stewardship role of the popular arts festival, Last Thursday on Alberta Street.

The group, Friends of Last Thursday, has adopted a mission "to facilitate a fun, safe, and sustainable monthly public arts festival that cultur-

ally enriches the community while fostering neighborhood respect."

The volunteers will host a town hall meeting Saturday, April 2, at 2 p.m. at St. Andrew's Church Community Hall, Northeast Ninth Avenue and Alberta Street, to formally unveil the proposed strategy, the most vital component of which will be the participation of the larger community.

Celebrate



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Explore Cultures

Each day during Spring Break, visitors to the World Forestry Center Discovery Museum can explore a new and exciting region of the world and learn about its forests, cultures, and customs.

Included with museum admission, visitors will not only be able to interact with all the great exhibits the museum has to offer, but they will be able to participate in activi-

ties such as craft projects, a karate workshop, folk music and stories, and hula dancing.

The regions highlighted each day are Monday, March 21 Russia Day; Tuesday, March 22 Mexico Day; Wednesday, March 23 Japan Day; Thursday, March 24 South Africa Day; and Friday, March 25 Hawaii Day. Museum admission is \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors, and \$5 for children 3-18. For information, call 503-228-1367 or visit worldforestry.org.

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