

Fruit Tree Project and Leaven Center Host Street Festival



Photo courtesy of Earth Day Oregon's facebook

A Fundraiser For Climate Justice and Community Resilience

Portland Fruit Tree Project and the vibrant community of nonprofit organizations housed within the Leaven Community Center are excited to announce a collaborative street festival, spring plant sale, community forum and fundraiser aimed at promoting climate justice and community resilience. The event, Earth Every Day at Leaven Community, will take place on April 20th from 11am to 8pm at the Leaven Community Center, located at 5431 NE 20th Ave.

Sparrowhawk Native Plants will be present to fulfill pre-ordered plant pickups, and for those who missed the pre-order deadline, there will be a FLASH SALE of leftover plants at incredible prices starting at 2pm. Attendees will have the opportunity to explore an array of garden plants, fruiting trees, and shrubs offered by Portland Fruit Tree Project throughout the day. In addition to plant sales, attendees can indulge in refreshments from 2Towns Ciderhouse, Deschutes Brewery, a Lavender Lemonade Stand, and food for sale from Leaven Community. Family-centric activities, facility tours, and informational booths hosted by neighborhood nonprofits will provide entertainment and education on topics ranging from wildlife tracking to eco-justice initiatives.

Guests will have the chance to win prizes generously provided by Freeya, Portland's Homegrown Free Marketplace. Furthermore, all attendees will receive a Pro membership to Freeya via

email after the event, valued at \$60. The event schedule is packed with engaging activities including crafting for kids with SCRAP PDX, wildlife tracking with Cascadia Wild, a meet and greet with Pyxis the Miniature Therapy Unicorn, and live music by Jessa of Jessa Campbell & The Saplings, among others. A community forum hosted by Leaven Community at 3:30 pm will ask neighbors to imagine what a neighborhood rooted in community resilience and climate justice would look like for them. The day will culminate in a Downtown Portland Raffle Package drawing and a rock concert from 6 to 8pm, donated generously by local group Paper Plane.

"We're thrilled to partner with Leaven Community Center and our fellow nonprofits to bring this dynamic event to the Portland community," said Heather Kessler-Fornes, Executive Director of Portland Fruit Tree Project. "It's an opportunity for us to come together, celebrate our shared values, and take meaningful action towards community resilience." Founded in 2013, Leaven Community is dedicated to igniting the power of relationships within neighborhoods for more equitable, diverse, and thriving communities. Portland Fruit Tree Project annually harvests and donates over ten thousand pounds of fruit, contributing to the community's food security while reducing waste.

"We invite everyone to join us for a day of fun, learning, and community building," said Alison Killeen, Director-Organizer of Leaven Community Center. "Together, we can make a difference and create a more resilient future for all." Sliding scale tickets are available starting at a \$5 donation, and children under 5 are admitted free of charge. Additionally, free tickets are available upon request, as inclusivity and accessibility are priorities for the event organizers.



Members of the FBI Teen Academy. Photo courtesy of FBI

Accepting Applications for the FBI's Teen Academy

Learn about exciting careers in law enforcement within the FBI with the Portland Division

Have you ever wanted to be part of a SWAT Team? Or fingerprint a suspect? Or learn how to catch a cyber-criminal? Then consider participating in the FBI Teen Academy.

The FBI Teen Academy program provides an excellent opportunity for rising high school juniors and seniors to learn about exciting careers in law enforcement within the FBI and beyond. Applicants chosen for the program actively engage with FBI agents and leaders in the Bureau to learn about case studies, crime prevention, evidence gathering, and investigative techniques related to criminal activity. The Teen Academy allows students to delve deeply into levels of law enforcement unavailable to them in a general classroom setting.

"Last year this office received a record number of applicants for the FBI's Teen Academy, and we are excited to host them again this year," said Aubree M. Schwartz, Acting Special Agent in Charge of the FBI Portland Field Office. "This is a unique opportunity for these teens to see how the FBI fits into the greater Department of Justice. They will interact with FBI Special Agents and learn how the FBI conducts investigations, from interviewing to evidence gathering and analysis, using deductive

reasoning and logic-based skills. This week-long program is an excellent introduction into the field of federal law enforcement and will hopefully inspire the next generation of FBI employees."

Students learn about how criminals are captured, hear from FBI agents about actual cases, and learn how to raise their self-awareness online and watch for cyber-predators. Graduates of the Teen Academy program develop a keen understanding of how the FBI interacts with local law enforcement agencies and how participants can raise crime prevention awareness in their communities. In addition, hands-on instruction by FBI experts and other law enforcement agents allows students to understand the importance of communication between national and local agencies.

Teen Academy members engage in group activities ranging from small group exercises to hands-on simulations. As a result, students learn valuable life skills and increase their knowledge and understanding of how law enforcement agencies interact around the country.

Participation is free to the applicants chosen, and volunteer organizations provide supplies for the events. Applicants must be rising juniors or seniors in high school in the state of Oregon or Southwest Washington. Attendees will need to provide their own transportation to and from the FBI Portland Field Office.

FBI Portland is currently accepting applications for its 2024 Teen Academy. The session will take place Monday, July 15 to Thursday, July 18, 2024. Submit your application to outreach.pd@fbi.gov by Friday, April 26, 2024