

Art Exhibitions and Musical Performances Open to All



The Patricia Valian Reser Center for the Creative Arts (PRAX) at OUS will host an open house on Saturday, April 6 starting at noon. Photos by Blake Brown

Oregon State's New Creative Arts Center PRAX Invites Public for Grand Opening

Oregon State University's new Patricia Valian Reser Center for the Creative Arts will host an open house from noon to 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 6, to celebrate the center's inaugural season.

Art exhibitions and musical performances will fill every corner of the 49,000-square-foot space for the family-friendly event, which is free and open to all.

"The goal of PRAX is to be a big tent and reflect a wide variety of artistic experiences and styles, so I hope people experience that," said Peter Betjemann, Patricia Valian Reser executive director of PRAX. "And it's such a cool building. It's not like anything else on campus, and it's not like anything else in Corvallis."

"PRAX" stands for Patricia Reser Arts, with the "x" signifying the center's intersections between the arts and other academic disciplines. The center is named for Patricia Valian Reser, OSU alumna and volunteer leader, who has given \$36 million to the OSU Foundation for the arts at Oregon State, including \$25 million for PRAX.

"The arts are not an add-on to OSU's mission as an international research university; the arts drive the culture of creativity and innovation that sparks breakthroughs," Reser said. "A dedicated arts center has been a dream for the OSU community for over a century, and today our need for the arts — and for interdisciplinary collaboration with the arts — is more urgent than ever. I am thrilled for the opportunities and change-making energy PRAX will set in motion."

Construction on the \$75 million center began in August 2021. PRAX boasts six venues suited for a range of indoor and outdoor shows: the 490-seat Lynne Hallstrom Detrick Concert Hall, the Edward J. Ray black box theater, the Kate and John Stirek Gallery,

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Represent a Non-Profit? Learn About This Program!



A Community Livability Grant in the Central Eastside TIF District helped to fund improvements in Kickstand Comedy's new building.

Funds Available Through the Community Livability Grant

The Community Livability Grant (CLG) provides grants to community-based organizations for projects that promote healthy, complete, and resilient neighborhoods and respond to and respect the diversity of its residents. Eligible applicants include nonprofit organizations, neighborhood and business associations, and neighborhood groups. Property owners may also be eligible.

The CLG is for Nonprofit organizations, neighborhood and business associations, and neighborhood groups located within the Central Eastside, Gateway Regional Center, Interstate Corridor, Lents Town Center and North Macadam Tax Increment Finance (TIF) Districts are eligible. The total maximum grant award is \$300,000; awards typically range from \$10,000 to \$50,000. You may reapply each year, but any organization that has previously been awarded a cumulative total of \$300,000 has reached the maximum and will no longer be eligible.

The CLG focuses on projects that benefit historically underserved communities and promote

widely shared prosperity. For example, such projects would improve access to jobs and workforce development services, support wealth creation opportunities for small business owners.

You can apply once you have a concept plan, projected budget, and schedule. You should be ready to start your project if your application is approved. Project bids must be submitted within 3 months and the project must be completed within one year of the grant award. If you're not ready to proceed with your project and cannot meet these timelines, please wait to apply when this timeframe can be met. For more information please contact: clg@prosperportland.us

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