

# Events & Announcements



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

## Killer Mike Speaks

Rapper and activist Killer Mike talks with people after speaking April 7 at the University of Washington HUB Ballroom. A member of the duo Run The Jewels, Killer Mike spoke passionately about racial and social justice and why he has come out so strongly in support of Senator Bernie Sanders for President. The rapper stayed for more than an hour answering questions and taking selfies with the audience.

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end of Portland's historic North Park Blocks, and has long been an integral part of downtown life. One of the city's oldest public spaces, the North Park Blocks were dedicated to the City by Captain John Couch (yep, like the street!) in 1869.

This week, several maintenance crews including carpenters, painters, electrical and mechanical workers are sprucing up the PP&R buildings in Ankeny Square.

Fencing is expected to be up for around two weeks as crews clean, paint, and shine up this historic space.

## Seattle News Briefs

### City Launches Campaign to Identify Barriers to Engagement

The Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs (OIRA) has launched the Seattle Votes campaign to identify barriers to civic engagement for Seattle's immigrant and refugee residents.

The campaign consists of an anonymous survey that will provide data for community groups, agencies, King County, and the City to better understand the civic needs of specific immigrant and refugee communities within Seattle.

Immigrant and refugee residents are a growing and increasingly influential population in Seattle, with nearly 20 percent of residents being foreign born. However, evidence shows that civic engagement rates lag behind other groups.

The lack of voter data has been a challenge for City and election officials to better understand what is needed to serve communities across Seattle.

The campaign will focus on immigrants and refugees who are at least 18 years of age residing in the Seattle-King County area. OIRA has a goal of 5,000 completed surveys and will partner with more than 100 local community-based organizations to reach immigrants and refugees. These Seattle Votes partners will collect surveys in their communities.

The Seattle Votes survey has been translated into ten languages: English, Spanish, Chinese (Traditional), Vietnamese, Tagalog, Korean, Somali, Amharic, Oromo, Tigrinya, and Arabic. Residents can fill out a printed version or an online version, which takes approximately seven minutes to complete and are anonymous.

The City will publish the findings in an official report in August.

The disaggregated results will help inform policies to improve naturalization, voter registration, and voting rates.

Discussion of the Seattle Votes campaign began in 2014 with the Immigrant Voting Rights Task Force.

This committee, comprised of immigrant and refugee civic leaders, released a report with recommendations for city and regional governments. One of the top recommendations was the need for better data about immigrant and refugee voters. The Immigrant and Voting Rights Task force report is available here.

Immigrants and refugees living in Seattle-King County interested in taking the survey and members of organizations interested in becoming Seattle Votes Partners are encouraged to visit [seattle.gov/seattle-votes](http://seattle.gov/seattle-votes).

### Neighborhood Matching Fund hosts April workshops for community groups

The Neighborhood Matching Fund (NMF), a program of Seattle Department of Neighborhoods, is hosting workshops for community groups interested in learning about the city's popular Small and Simple Projects Fund.

The Small and Simple Projects Fund provides matching awards of up to \$25,000 to neighborhood groups for community-building projects such as cultural festivals, facility improvements, public art, and youth activities.

Each workshop provides an overview of the Neighborhood Matching Fund, the qualities of a good project, and the application process and requirements. To RSVP, call 206-733-9916 or go online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BWLYNJB>.

The dates are:

- Tuesday, April 12; 6 – 8 p.m. at Rainier Beach Community Center, 8825 Rainier Avenue S.
- Thursday, April 28; 6 – 8 p.m. at Northgate Community Center, 10510 5th Avenue NE

To learn about the Fund, visit [seattle.gov/neighborhoods/neighborhood-matching-fund/small-and-simple-projects-fund](http://seattle.gov/neighborhoods/neighborhood-matching-fund/small-and-simple-projects-fund). The deadline for applications is Monday, June 6 at 5:00 p.m., but make sure to register now to apply.

The Neighborhood Matching Fund (NMF) Program awards matching funds for projects initiated, planned, and implemented by community members. Its goal is to build stronger and healthier neighborhoods through community involvement and engagement. Every award is matched by a neighborhood's contribution of volunteer labor, donated materials, in-kind professional services, or cash.

### 2016 Seattle Maritime 101 Announces Spring Events

Seattle's largest maritime industry celebration presented by Vigor Industrial and sponsored by the Seattle Propeller Club and the Port of Seattle has announced its schedule of events for April and May. These free, family-oriented events are designed to

## Community Calendar 2016

### Seattle Metro

#### THURSDAY – SUNDAY, APRIL 14 – 17

**WASHINGTON STATE SPRING FAIR:** The four-day event in Puyallup features a family friendly atmosphere with animals, monster truck show, racing pigs and much more. Admission is Adults \$10, Students 6-18 \$8. All day event all four days. Washington State Fair Events Center, 110 9th Ave. SW, Puyallup.

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 16

**WELLNESS: ITS A FAMILY AFFAIR – HEALTH AND WELLNESS EVENT:** Learn how to take better care of yourself and your family members. Free health screenings, information booths from local community organizations, bouncy houses and face painting for kids. Light refreshments and more. 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., Rainier Beach Community Center, 8325 Rainier Ave. S. Seattle

**SOAPBOX DERBY RACES:** This is a unique program for Boys and Girls between ages 7 to 18 years old. The public is encouraged to come out to cheer on the racers or get information on how to get involved. Free event for all to enjoy. 9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m., Dauntless Drive, Paulsbo.

**FRANCHESKA BERRY:** Seattle-based Berry blends elements of West African, Brazilian, Caribbean and Cuban dance in her experience-based teaching sessions. She's bringing her skills to Town Hall for an educational morning of movement. Your little ones will get some stretching in! Admission for adults is \$5, children are free. Seattle City Hall, 600 4th Ave. Seattle. All-day event.

**JUNIOR DAFFODIL PARADE:** Largest children's parade in the State celebrating our youth! 10 a.m. – noon, Proctor Business District, 26th and Proctor, Tacoma.

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 17

**HAIKU DAY AT THE SEATTLE JAPANESE GARDEN:** Learn about the traditional poetry style of haiku, and even write your own haiku inspired by the beauty of nature. Admission is adults \$6, youth 6-17 \$4, students with ID and seniors 65+ are free. 11 a.m. – 3 p.m., The Japanese Garden, 1075 Lake Washington Blvd. E.

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 23

**WHIDBEY ISLAND EARTH DAY FESTIVAL:** There will be ongoing family activities, networking, informational displays, guest speakers, entertainment, local vendors and much more. Noon – 4 p.m., Historic Bayview Corner (Bayview Rd. & SR 525) 5603 Bayview Rd., Langley.

**READY TO BUY A HOUSE?** Here we will be going over the basics to buying your first home. Come and get all the information you will need. 2 p.m., Federal Way Regional Library, 34200 First Way S., Federal Way.

showcase and celebrate the maritime industry and the men and women who make everything on the waterfront happen. Shipping, fishing, boatbuilding and repair are all happening in our backyard. Come participate and learn.

Special events, public tours and other activities are planned during April and May with the highlight being the Vigor Seattle Maritime Festival from May 12-14, with the Harbor Open House on the Downtown Waterfront on Saturday, May 14.

#### April 16

**Duwamish Alive! Restoration and Cleanup, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

Join us as we celebrate Seattle's only river by working to restore the Duwamish! Volunteers can sign up: [www.duwamishalive.org](http://www.duwamishalive.org)

#### April 22-26

**Clipper Round the World Yacht Race Comes to Seattle**

The Clipper Round the World Yacht Race, which benefits Unicef, is the world's longest ocean adventure, spanning 40,000 nautical miles. The race consists of 12 teams competing against each other. Don't miss the free open-boat tours at Bell Harbor Marina. Sponsored by Visit Seattle and the Seattle Sports Commission, in partnership with the Port of Seattle and the Seattle Historic Waterfront Association. Details at <http://www.clipperraceseatle2016.org>

For more information, visit <http://www.seattle-maritime101.com/vigor-maritime-festival/>.