

# Events & Announcements

## Community Calendar 2016

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### Portland Metro

#### THURSDAY – FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22 – 23

**NATIVITY LIGHTS A SIMPLE, FREE DRIVE THRU DISPLAY ON STAFFORD ROAD:** Come drive thru from the comfort of your own vehicle to enjoy the Christmas lights. It is free, but donations will go to Teen Challenge Portland Recovery Center. 6 p.m. – 8 p.m., The Neighborhood Church, 21065 SW Stafford Rd. Tualatin.

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

**"TA-DAH" HOLIDAY PERFORMANCE:** "Ta - Dah" performs holiday songs as part of the Square's seasonal event series. Noon to 1 p.m. Pioneer Courthouse Square, downtown Portland.

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

**KIDS' STORYTIME:** Join us for kids' storytime today. We're readying *How This Book Was Made*. Bu Mac Barnett. 11 a.m. Powell's City of Books, 1005 W. Burnside St.

**COME ADORE HIM:** Make memories as a family during this "Come Adore Him" Christmas service. Come hear the Christmas Story and sing carols together. Please bring new packages socks and gloves for those in need in our community this winter season. 4 p.m. Heritage Church, 8808 NE 76th St., Vancouver.

**CHABAD OF OREGON MENORAH LIGHTING:** 1st Night Celebration! For the 33rd year, Chabad of Oregon will hold a public Menorah Lighting. All are welcome to come and enjoy. 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m., Director Park, 815 SW Park Ave.

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

*Merry Christmas!*

**CHABAD OF OREGON GRAN MENORAH LIGHTING:** Please join us for the Grand Menorah Lighting in Director Park. There will be entertainment and children's activities and much more. 4:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m., Director Park, 815 SW Park Ave.

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 26

**50TH ANNIVERSARY 2016 KWANZAA FESTIVAL OF EVENTS:** Celebrating family, community and culture. Professional musicians and dancers from Ghana celebrate the 50th anniversary of Kwanzaa. 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. Matt Dishman Community Center, 77 NE Knott St.

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

**REMARKABLE OREGON WOMEN REVOLUTIONARIES & VISIONARIES:** Without the efforts of inspiring, brave women of the past, the progress and individualistic Oregon we know today might not exist. Author Jennifer Chambers tells these stories of progressive, radical women who fought for change within their state. Admission is adults \$13, seniors (60+) \$9, youth (13-18) \$7, children under 3 are free. 1 p.m. – 2 p.m., End of the Oregon Trail, 1726 Washington St., Oregon City.

### Seattle Metro

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

**IS SHE READY? FREE COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS!** Let us help you get to the next level by identifying and gaining the tools you need to achieve academic and career success! For girls ages 13 – 17. 2 p.m. – 6 p.m., You Grow Girl, 2200 Rainier Ave. S. Suite 201.

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

**HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS:** Visit with Santa 9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. & 2:30 p.m. – 3 p.m. The Dickens Carolers Concert is at 11:30 a.m. & 1 p.m. Create a Reindeer Tree Buddy in the art studio and also do some carpet skating. Free with museum admission. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Imagine Children's Museum, 1502 Wall St. Everett.

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**MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BREAKFAST  
JAN. 16, 2017**

LIMITED SEATING, PURCHASE TICKETS AT:  
[www.TheSkanner.com/mlk-breakfast-tickets](http://www.TheSkanner.com/mlk-breakfast-tickets)



PHOTO COURTESY OF PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION

## Winter Break Swimming

Portland Parks & Recreation indoor pools are offering extra family swims and open swims when schools are out during winter break (Dec. 19–30, 2016). Open swims are for all ages. Non-swimmers and children under 48 inches tall must be supervised in the water by an adult swimmer. During family swims, children under 18 years old must be accompanied in the water by a parent or guardian.

## Portland News Briefs

### Oregon College Savings Plan Offers Complimentary eGift Service

For a truly meaningful gift this holiday season, the Oregon College Savings Plan is encouraging families and friends to open or contribute to a child's 529 college savings account. The Oregon College Savings Plan makes giving simple, straightforward and secure with its eGift feature, enabling account owners to send gift invitations to family and friends. The Plan also offers downloadable gift certificates for Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa for those interested in making an unsolicited gift contribution to a loved one's account.

The Oregon College Savings Plan is a state-sponsored, tax-advantaged 529 college savings plan that offers a variety of low-cost investment portfolios to choose from, including age-based, multi-fund, single-fund and guaranteed options.

Anyone with a Social Security or federal tax ID number may open an account or contribute to an Oregon College Savings Plan account, and in certain cases, the contributor can receive state tax benefits to incorporate the gift into their overall estate and legacy planning (consult a tax advisor). An account can be started with as little as \$25; any earnings grow free from federal tax, and many states offer a state income tax deduction or tax credit for contributions (limitations apply; see the Disclosure Booklet for details).

The Oregon College Savings Plan also offers certain gift and estate tax planning benefits (consult your tax advisor). Withdrawals are tax-free at both the federal and state level when used for qualified higher education expenses, and saved funds can be used for tuition, required fees, certain room and board costs, books, supplies, computers and related technology costs, including internet access fees and printers. Funds can be used at most accredited colleges and universities in the United States and certain colleges abroad.

For more information about gifting opportunities into the Oregon College Savings Plan, visit [www.oregoncollegesavings.com/gift](http://www.oregoncollegesavings.com/gift).

### Survey Seeks Input from Portland Restaurant Workers

An online survey running through December asks Portland restaurant workers, "Does your job work for you?" The Oregon Restaurant & Lodging Association (ORLA) is conducting the Portland Restaurant Workers Survey to collect feedback from hourly staff in advance of potential policy changes that could impact Portland restaurants in 2017. The anonymous questionnaire asks about quality of life, compensation, benefits, job satisfaction and more.

The survey will allow ORLA and its members to hear directly from the people who make Portland's red hot restaurant scene work. Little data about working in Portland restaurants exists year-to-year, and information can change quickly. As a result, most discussions about the industry are based on anecdotal evidence. As the city and region face drastic cost of living increases, housing pressures and rapid growth, ORLA is committed to providing its members with survey data to illustrate what is working well for restaurant workers, what isn't and what changes are top priorities for staff.

All hourly food service employees—including cook staff, servers and hosts—are invited to take the survey, and everyone who completes the survey to the end can enter for a chance to win one of five \$100 Amazon gift cards. The survey is available online at [bit.ly/2fxVs0e](http://bit.ly/2fxVs0e) and takes around 10 minutes to complete. ORLA hopes for strong and diverse participation from workers across Portland over the next few weeks.

For more information, contact Lori Little at [LLittle@OregonRLA.org](mailto:LLittle@OregonRLA.org).

### RACC Awards \$733,608 in Project Grants for 2017

The Regional Arts & Culture Council (RACC) has awarded \$733,608 in grants to 92 local artists and 52 nonprofit organizations for artistic projects that will take place in calendar year 2017. This represents a 10% increase over last year thanks to increased funding from Multnomah County, the City of Portland and RACC's workplace giving campaign, Work for Art. Additional funding was provided by Clackamas County, Washington County and Metro.

"As 2016 draws to a close, we can start looking forward to a tremendous variety of innovative arts activities scheduled to take place in 2017," said executive director Eloise Damrosch. "I am especially pleased that 57% of our grants this year are going to artists and organizations that have never received RACC project grant funding before."

Some examples of funded artists and organizations that are receiving their first-ever project grant from RACC include:

- Alan Alexander III, \$5,400 in the Theatre category to fund a public performance of an original musical theatre work titled "Homeless (the musical)." Book, music and lyrics by Alan Alexander III with additional music and lyrics by Kathryn Grimm.
- Irina Boboia, \$6,495 in the Multi-Discipline category to fund "Two Worlds and Nowhere," a project aimed at revealing the stories of local immigrants/refugees through video, still images and text.
- Ashleigh Flynn, \$5,600 in the Music category to help create an LP record of self-penned Americana