

Events & Announcements



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

Mt. Zion Baptist Church Day of Caring

Volunteers wrap presents at the Mount Zion Baptist Church Day of Caring Dec. 17. The annual event which served more than 300 people included gifts and coats for children, food and caroling and a day of fun for the entire family. Thanks to dozens of volunteers and the First Lady's ChariTea, more than 100 area families enjoyed a joyful Christmas experience with praise & worship, caroling, lunch and lots of gifts. We look forward to working with our community partners for Day of Caring 2016.

Community Calendar 2016

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MONDAY – SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26 – 31

Celebration Lane: Don't miss Celebration Lane, our glittering salute to ring in the New Year! Be sure to join in our fantastic celebration featuring a display of brilliant lights, dancing drummers, characters and exciting music that will have everyone rocking to the best all while Snow Falls from the sky. Nightly at 7 p.m. NE 6th to NE 8th on Bellevue Way, Bellevue.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27

MENORAH LIGHTING: Light the Menorah with us during the week of Hanukkah. Join us in the SJCC lobby for singing, candle lighting, and storytelling. FREE for all to enjoy! 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Stroum Jewish Community Center, 3801 E. Mercer Way.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR WITH FIRST DAY HIKES: The public is invited to ring in the New Year with "First Day Hikes" in any of the 32 State Parks all across Washington. The event allows families to get out and experience the diverse natural resources and recreation opportunities found in State Parks. No Discover Pass Needed On First State Parks "FREE DAY" Of The Year!

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- songs inspired by "Rosie the Riveter". The recording will feature a band of highly talented musicians, all female, over 40 years old, and many who identify as LGBTQ, and will culminate in a performance at McMenamins Mission Theater.
- Chiara Giovando, \$4,838 in the Media Arts category, to support "A Stone, a Stick and a Plastic Soul" (working title) – a new film made in collaboration with contemporary artist and Karuk tribal elder, Brian Tripp. The project is explores the unique ways Brian's life and practice hover between the traditional and the contemporary.
 - Kazumi Heshiki, \$5,552 in the Literature category for "Fireweed Blossoms," a book of haiku-hybrid poetry in English that is the culmination of several years of cross-cultural experimentation under the guidance of local poet Stephanie Adams-Santos.
 - Jesse Mejia, \$6,280 in the Social Practice category for "CHOIR," an ongoing community singing group focused on learning and performing choral music by composers such as Arvo Part and Ola Gjeilo.
 - Kate Simmons, \$4,309 in the Visual Arts category. "Fold the Towel" is a conceptual piece that utilizes the female body to explore ideas of domesticity and the struggles of balancing career and family responsibilities. The finished work will consist of 9 images of the figure printed on fabric panels.
 - Black Women for Peace, \$4,833 in the Community Participation & Access category to help present the 2017 Peace Festival, bringing together youth and young adults from diverse racial, ethnic and cultural groups.
 - Q Center / LGBTQ Community Center Fund, \$5,250 in the Dance/Movement category to bring the nationally acclaimed Sean Dorsey Dance Company to Portland in the fall 2017 for two performances of "The Missing Generation." Funding will also be used to fund a dance workshop; an intergenerational community forum; and a post-performance discussion.
 - Vanport Mosaic, \$4,500 in the Theatre category, to produce six staged readings each of "Summer Squash" and "Hercules Didn't Wade in the Water," new plays about the American Dream, displacement and Hurricane Katrina. One performance of each show will be brought to a local High School with facilitated discussion afterwards.
- RACC's peer review process involved 46 community volunteers who served on 14 different panels organized by discipline. They were guided by staff during the months of October, November and December, evaluating proposals based on artistic merit, audience development and financial accountability.
- More detailed summaries of each grant are available at <http://bit.ly/RACC2017PG> (PDF).

Seattle News Briefs

City Announces \$47 Million in Affordable Housing Investments

Last week, Mayor Ed Murray announced the city's commitment of \$47 million in funding to produce and preserve 610 affordable homes. Mayor Murray made the announcement at the Capitol Hill Light Right Station, where the money will fund transit-oriented development, matching investments in affordable housing with other investments that make Seattle a more affordable and livable city. This investment is \$13 million more than originally anticipated for the 2016 competitive funding process managed by the Seattle Office of Housing (OH) due to an increase in payments through the Incentive Zoning program.

This year marks the last year of funding from the 2009 Seattle Housing Levy, which was renewed and doubled by voters this August. For the last seven years, the 2009 Levy has provided \$15 million per year to invest in affordable multifamily housing.

The 2016 funding awards will support the construction of six new buildings (with 472 apartments) and the preservation of three buildings (with 138 apartments) throughout Seattle.

Every year, the Office of Housing provides a notice of funding availability to affordable housing developers and solicits proposals based on current City priorities.

In June, OH announced \$34 million in funding, and received 11 applications totaling \$58 million in requests. An increase in the amount of payments from the Incentive Zoning program allowed OH to increase the total funding awarded to \$47 million this year. Each City dollar is leveraged with three dollars from other sources.

Over the last 35 years, the Office of Housing has invested nearly \$500 million in the creation and preservation of over 13,000 units of affordable housing. These apartments retain their affordability for at least 50 years.

Seattle Parks and Recreation Announces Holiday Closures

Many Seattle Parks and Recreation facilities will be closed or on modified schedules in observance of winter holidays:

- Community centers and environmental learning centers will close at 5 p.m. on Dec. 24 and 31, and will be closed Dec. 25 and 26, and Jan. 1 and 2.
- Teen Centers and Late Night programs will be closed on Dec. 24, 25, 26 and 31, and Jan. 1 and 2.
- Indoor swimming pools will close at 3 p.m. on Dec. 24 and 31, and will be closed Dec. 25., 26, and Jan. 1 and 2.
- Small Craft Centers will be closed on Dec. 24, 25, 26,

and Jan. 1 and 2.

- Golf courses will close at 2 p.m. on Dec. 24 and 31 and will be closed on Dec. 25. Golf courses will be open on Jan. 1. (Schedules subject to change. Some courses may be open later than 2 p.m. Please call specific courses directly before your trip. Contact information can be found at <http://premiergc.com/-contact-us>.)
- Amy Yee Tennis Center will be open from 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. Dec. 24, 7 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Dec. 26, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Dec. 31, and 7 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. on Jan. 2. The center will be closed on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.
- The Moorage Operations Office will be open Dec. 22-23, Dec. 28-30 from 12 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Dec. 31 from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. The office will be closed Dec. 24 and 25.

Most Seattle Parks Drop-in Activities Will be Free Starting Jan. 1

Thanks to funding from the Seattle Park District as part of the Community Center Strategic Plan, starting on Jan. 1, most drop-in activities at community centers will now be free.

During a public outreach process, we heard from many communities that even small drop-in fees can be a barrier for people with low incomes, preventing many from taking part in some of our basic activities and services.

We proposed in the Community Center Strategic Plan to eliminate drop-in fees. The Mayor and City Council agreed, and eliminated drop-in fees as part of the 2017/2018 budget process.

Most drop-in activities will now be free at all Community Centers.

In general, a true drop-in activity is one that does not regularly hire staff or have regular materials and supply costs. For most community centers, this means the following activities are now free:

- Tot Gyms and Tot Rooms
- Fitness Rooms
- Basketball, Pickleball, Dodgeball, Volleyball
- Pool Tables
- Table games like Bridge or Mahjong
- and most other activities that previously had \$1, \$2, or \$3 drop-in fees.

The following kinds of activities will continue to charge a fee:

- Program drop-in (paying for a class one session at a time)
- Special events
- Drop-in activities held outside normal hours

For more information, or if you have questions about a previously purchased punch card for drop-in activities, please contact your local community center.