

Events & Announcements



Soul Festival Block Party to Celebrate Black Businesses in Portland

Green Muse Cannabis, has announced the Soul Festival Block Party, a vibrant celebration of Black businesses and community, sponsored by Prosper Portland and NuProject. The event will take place on August 17, from 12-9 p.m. at Green Muse Cannabis, located at 5515 NE 16th Ave. The Soul Festival Block Party is set to be an unforgettable day filled with live music, culture, and community spirit. This event aims to honor and support Black entrepreneurs and business owners, showcasing the diverse and dynamic contributions they make to Portland's economic and cultural landscape.

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Worthen, MD, recognizes exceptional VHA champions for their contributions in enhancing health professions trainee education.

The award is bestowed in three categories: the Rising Star Award, which recognizes an early career champion of health professions education; the Innovator Award, which recognizes an individual who created and is sustaining or expanding a significant educational innovation; and the Career Achievement Award, which recognizes an outstanding health professions education champion whose lifetime contributions have profoundly advanced and impacted the education mission of VHA.

“This year’s awardees have made significant contributions to training the next generation of health care professionals,” said Marjorie A. Bowman, MD, MPA, VA chief of academic affiliations. “Each of these recipients embody the characteristics of excellence that make VA a national leader in health professions education, and we congratulate them for their achievements.”

VHA is the nation’s largest education and training program for health professionals in the U.S., working in partnership with 96% of the country’s medical schools and more than 1,500 universities and colleges including associated health professions schools. Each year, 120,000 trainees in more than 60 clinical health professions education programs complete training in a VA facility.

Montavilla Jazz’s Nick Fish Jazz Community Award Names Portland Broadcaster, Writer, and Historian Lynn Darroch

In recognition of the enormous, enthusiastic contribution from Nick Fish to Portland’s jazz community, Montavilla Jazz will present the second Nick Fish Jazz Community Award to writer, broadcaster, and performer Lynn Darroch on Saturday, August 31st, 2024, as part of the 8pm Joe Kye’s The Well Sessions concert featuring special guest poet Shin Yu Pai at the Alberta Rose Theatre. This event takes place during the 11th Annual Montavilla Jazz Festival, running August 30th–September 1, 2024.

Nick Fish, who passed away early in 2020, won many awards during his twelve years on the Portland City Council, including the Angel Award from White Bird, the Community Partner Award from Metropolitan Youth Symphony, and the McClendon Makarounis Award for Jazz Advocacy from PDX Jazz. He raised funds for and attended the Mount Hood Jazz Festival, PDX Jazz Festival, and Montavilla Jazz Festival in addition to Jazz concerts in Portland parks, despite a schedule that limited his ability to attend these events. Recognizing that he was a champion for the Jazz community, he was given the title of “Portland’s Jazz Commissioner” by veteran Jazz Radio Host and current

Montavilla Jazz Vice President Marcia Hocker.

Seattle News Briefs Hobbs Warns Voters About 2024 Election Misinformation

Washington Secretary of State Steve Hobbs urges Washington’s voters to be wary of dubious election information, including deepfakes and other misinformation, that have already been spotted during the 2024 elections cycle.

“As we move through Washington’s August 6 primary and toward the Nov. 5 general election, I am concerned that a deluge of manipulated and false information may be inserted into social media from foreign actors and other sources,” Hobbs said. “Artificial Intelligence is getting easier and cheaper to manipulate for a broad number of malicious actors. The rest of us must be careful to verify what we see before we take it to heart.”

Hobbs said that voters must understand that faked material is likely to become pervasive in some corners of social media, citing a July 26 posting on the social media platform X, formerly Twitter, by platform owner Elon Musk that shared a manipulated recording of presidential candidate Kamala Harris.

“If the owner of a social media platform themselves is going to share misleading material, it signals to the rest of us that other materials allowed there may not be trustworthy,” Secretary Hobbs said. “I urge Washington’s more than 4.8 million registered voters to seek out trusted information sources — such as established news outlets and official government institutions — as they navigate upcoming elections.”

Monday, Hobbs joined secretaries of state from Minnesota, Michigan, New Mexico and Pennsylvania to send a public letter to Musk calling for X’s AI search assistant, “Grok,” to direct voters seeking elections information to CanIVote.org, as the administrators of ChatGPT and OpenAI already do. Shortly after Pres. Joe Biden announced his withdrawal from a re-election campaign on July 21, Grok generated false information about ballot deadlines in Washington and eight other states that was shared on multiple social media platforms.

“Voters should not be misled about how our elections function,” Secretary Hobbs said. “The owners of social media platforms must take responsibility for safeguarding their audiences against the spread of false information, and this includes stopping their own AI mechanisms from generating it.”

In 2023, request legislation from Hobbs, Senate Bill 5152, created Washington’s first limitations on the use of deepfakes in political campaigning. The law enacted disclosure requirements for any manipulated videos and gave candidates targeted by undisclosed deepfakes a right to sue for damages.

“My staff and I have monitored trends across the globe, and the spread of deepfakes into state and lo-

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also be accepted at our Umoja Fest Booth! Northwest African American Museum, 2300 S Massachusetts St

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 6-8PM

SUMMER AT SAM CONCERTS IN THE PARK: Join us at the Seattle Art Museum for free concerts by local artists RUB and LivT as well as a family-friendly sun printing workshop led by Path with Art, during which you'll use natural materials such as flowers, leaves, ferns, features, string, and other small objects to create your very own sun print to take home. Food and drinks will be available for purchase from local food trucks Seoul Bowl and El Cabrito. Olympic Sculpture Park, 2901 Western Ave, Seattle

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 10AM-3PM

SUMMER AT SAM DAY IN THE PARK: Free summer programs at the Olympic Sculpture Park explore place-making, cultural confluences, and learning from our local environment through visual art, music, and community. Join us for free vinyasa yoga, a Coffee and Crafting Club meet-up, an art activity led by Kana-ka Maoli teaching artist Malia Peoples, a lesson on native plant species at Duwamish Longhouse and Cultural Center, a pop-up concert from Tim Bertsch, and Zumba. Olympic Sculpture Park, 2901 Western Ave, Seattle

MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 11AM-2PM

PATHFINDERS: FIND, STABILIZE AND CONNECT VETERANS OF COLOR: The Veterans of Color Pathfinders Program provides outreach, advocacy, and service pathfinding to all veterans with an emphasis on assisting veterans of color and their families living in King County. We connect veterans to VA Pension & Disability Compensation, Military Sexual Trauma Counseling, Crisis & PTSD Advocacy, Vocational Rehabilitation, VA Home Loan Resources, LGBTQ+ Benefits, Mental Health Resources, Survivors & Dependents Benefits, Housing & Rental Assistance, and Employment/Job Readiness. Registration for this event is not required. Seattle Public Library, Lake City Branch, 12501 28th Ave NE, Seattle

cal races is happening now in America,” Hobbs said. “There are already numerous real-world examples. In June, we saw a video spread in Utah falsely indicating the governor had been involved in signature-gathering fraud. In July, videos of Pres. Biden and Vice Pres. Harris portrayed them making statements they did not say. During the presidential primary, a political consultant distributed a deepfake robocall of Biden discouraging New Hampshire voters from participating in the election. This is a pervasive threat.

“These bad actors can and will sow distrust with our local elections,” Hobbs continued. “If something you see raises questions about your access to a fair and trustworthy election here in Washington, please visit a legitimate elections office and learn the truth.”

Secretary Hobbs urges voters to reach out to these trusted sources:

The Office of the Secretary of State’s elections website, which includes important election deadlines, printable PDF registration forms, and more.

Washington county election offices provide ballots upon request and help you make changes to your registration.

“The right to vote is the cornerstone of our democracy, and we shouldn’t allow anyone to interfere with it,” Hobbs said.

Free Vaccination Events for South King County Kids Provide School-Required Vaccinations and More

On or before the first day of school, K-12 students in Washington state must be up to date on required vaccinations. Childhood vaccination rates have fallen in recent years due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Now is the best time to get caught up.

Families are encouraged to beat the back-to-school rush and make a vaccination appointment with their child’s healthcare provider now. In addition, upcoming no-cost events will provide all vaccines required for school as well as other recommended vaccines to children ages 0-18 living in south King County. Children can also get vaccinated at these clinics if they are uninsured, are experiencing homelessness, or recently moved to the U.S. and do not have a healthcare provider. Limited vaccines will be available for uninsured adults.

Check the website kingcounty.gov/findaclinic to find details on events.