Five Oaks Museum Monthly E-Newsletter

March 2022

Issue 27

1 Re-Opening the Museum Building in Fall 2022

Our First Physical, In-person Exhibition as Five Oaks Museum

We are thrilled to share that after two and half years of online exhibitions, the museum building will reopen in Fall 2022 with our first physical show as Five Oaks Museum.

Following 65 years as Washington County Museum, we officially rebranded as Five Oaks Museum and adopted a values-based, community-centered, and arts-integrated approach to regional history and culture in January 2020.

Just nine weeks after our launch, the museum building closed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. We quickly pivoted to online exhibitions and are so proud of the incredible work our guest curators put together.

DISplace co-guest curator Kanani Miyamoto and students

As the program has grown, we have seen a pressing need to improve our generosity and support towards our ambitious guest curators.

Therefore, rather than put the steep learning curve of our first in-person exhibition on the shoulders of a guest curator, we are working with a professional exhibition designer for this initial exhibition. This will help museum staff level up our exhibition-making toolkit and practices in order to better support guest curators to achieve their visions when

in the museum's empty exhibition hall.

they return.

About the Exhibition Designer

Janine Vigus has extensive museum experience and family roots in the Pacific Northwest.

She has worked on the staff of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Fowler Museum at UCLA, and LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes in Los Angeles. After growing up in Seattle and spending time living abroad, Janine currently resides in Los Angeles where she designs books and exhibitions for artists, galleries, and museums. She brings her passion for interpreting and connecting with the natural world to this upcoming exhibition.

2 Belonging and the Five Oaks Historic Site

Announcing the Subject of our Upcoming Exhibition

In the Museum's February newsletter, we shared about a reinterpretation project around the Five Oaks Historic Site.

Today, we are proudly announcing that **change, continuity, and belonging across five centuries of the Five Oaks Historic Site** will be the subject of our upcoming Fall 2022 exhibition!

The Five Oaks site in the 1970s, courtesy of the Berger family

The grove of Oregon White Oak trees located near the Brookwood exit of Highway 26 has witnessed over 500 years of change in the Tualatin Valley, from the unique oak savanna habitat created by Indigenous Kalapuyans to rambunctious early settler gatherings and later preservation efforts amidst development.

The Five Oaks site today. The pink dot marks the ancient oak.

Present through it all, the ancient oak tree gives us a sense of belonging in relationship with this land.

This exhibition will address ecology, Indigenous land stewardship, and bring the history of settlement into larger context. It will also serve the need for local community history in student learning.

Because visitors may need to be limited at first, this exhibition will run for two years to allow time for public and educational access.

3 Stories of Hawaiians in the Pacific Northwest

Backyard History at Tigard City Library through March

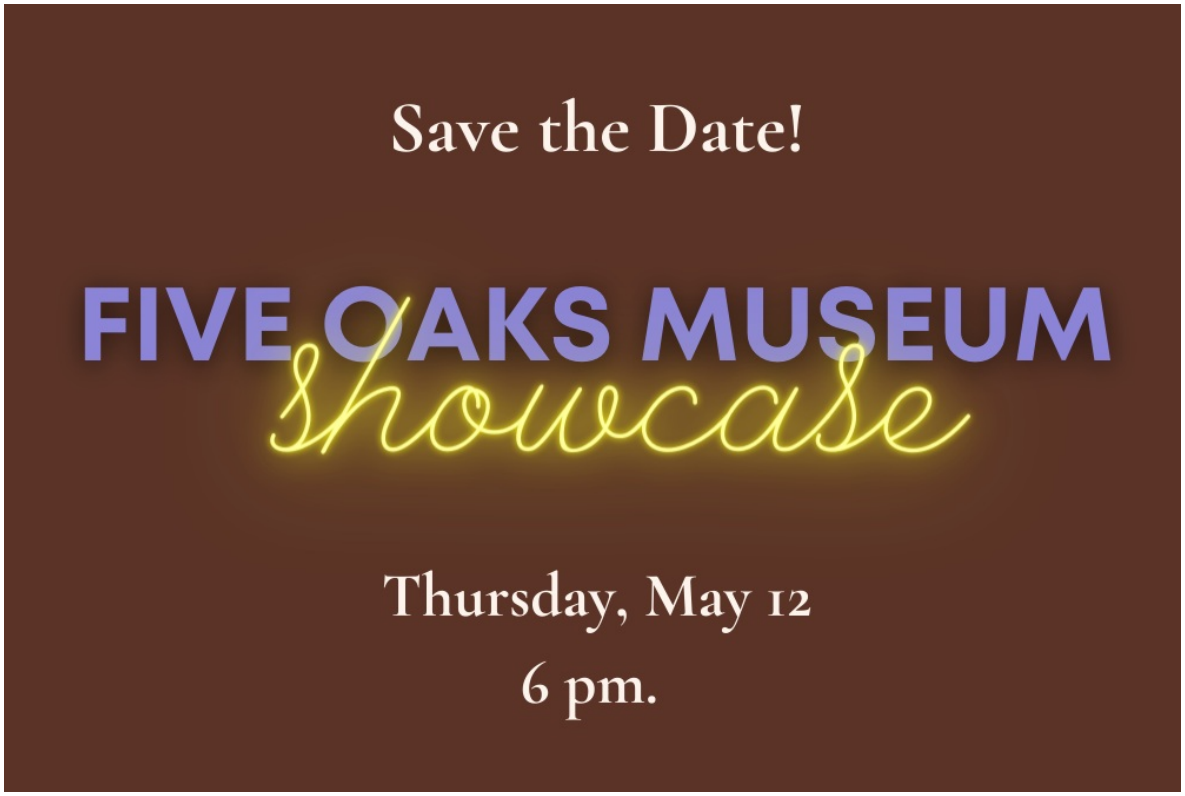
This March, find history in Tigard City Library's backyard!

The mobile exhibit shines light on the widely unknown connection between Hawai‘i and the Pacific Northwest through excerpts, artwork, images, and stories from our 2020 *DISplace* online exhibition.

Featured stories include Waine’e, the first documented Hawaiian abroad, how favorite Hawaiian foods originated from a blend of local and foreign influences, and how Hawaiians living in the Pacific Northwest carry on a sense of community, now and in the past.

4 Save the Date for the Museum Showcase

A Virtual Fundraiser and Community Celebration



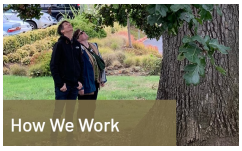
On Thursday, May 12, 2022, join the museum for a showcase of vibrant performances and speakers in celebration of the museum's exhibitions and the incredible community leaders who created them.

Register here today! (so you don't have to later)

The Gathering Place
Museum & Community Updates

Museum Update: Expressing support for Ukrainian community

The museum expresses our compassion and wishes for peace for Ukrainian and Russian peoples, both in their home countries and those here in Oregon. The Slavic community, including Ukrainians and Russians, make up the largest refugee-based community in Oregon, with over 11,000 Slavic people residing in Washington County. (Read about the community here.) We uplift the work of IRCO to support immigrants and refugees across the state. Support IRCO here.



Museum Update: How we work webpage

Wondering How We Work? We added a new page to our website where you can find posts on institutional transparency, budget, and values. We'll keep adding to it as we go! View the webpage here.

In the Community: Chachalu Museum at Grand Ronde reopens

The Chachalu Museum and Cultural Center is designed to teach about the culture of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, and to serve as an active center for the community. It has now reopened to the public. Read more here.

Call for Writing: Oregon Humanities magazine "Memory"

Oregon Humanities magazine is now accepting submissions for the Summer 2022 issue, "Memory." They are looking for nonfiction pieces that explore the people and events we choose to commemorate and those that are buried or erased, justly or unjustly. Read more here.

Career Opportunities: Exhibitions and Arts

- Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde ishiring an Exhibit Designer.
- Portland Parks & Rec is hiringmultiple positions at the Multnomah Arts Center.
- Native Arts & Culture Foundation ishiring a Facilities & Program Manager.
- Caldera Arts ishiring summer camp staff in multiple positions.

Thanks for being part of our journey.
Join our community on social media: