



Five Oaks Museum Monthly E-Newsletter

December 2022

Issue 35

1 Partnerships Support Learning & Reflection

Some of our community partners reflect on the year

As we near the end of 2022, we want to acknowledge and celebrate some of our community partners that we've worked with this year. We invited two partners to share some highlights from the year in their own words:

"The Our City, Our Stories project signifies an intentional and really meaningful step toward expanding our understanding beyond traditional narratives of who has shaped Beaverton. We feel really lucky to have Five Oaks as subject matter experts and thought partners on this project. **The partnership has been energizing and inspiring not only because of its findings but also in the collaborative process itself, which has lent itself to deep learning and reflection.**"

—Alexis D.R. Ball, Equity & Inclusion Manager, Cultural Inclusion & Community Services for the City of Beaverton, with whom the museum has been working to research and uplift a broader, more inclusive telling of Beaverton's history.



"In support of improving relationships with local tribal governments and creating a safe and

welcoming city, we sought to acknowledge the known and unknown stories of Eugene. We were honored to present *This IS Kalapuyan Land* during Eugene's Riverfront Festival and share the histories of the new Downtown Riverfront Park and the Farmers Market Pavilion sites."

—Chanin Santiago, Senior Public Art Program Coordinator for the City of Eugene, whom the museum supported in presenting content from *This IS Kalapuyan Land* to millions of visitors during the 2022 World Athletics Championship.

Special Correction Note

Truth is a core value at the Museum. We take truth to be an orientation rather than a fixed state, and we are devoted to its pursuit. Last month in our *This IS Kalapuyan Land* at Pacific University story, we stated that their Forest Grove campus was "originally the first Indian boarding school." However, our partner at Pacific University, Eva Guggemos, kindly corrected our misconception. Technically, the Indian School was not on the campus, but about four blocks away from campus on land owned by Pacific. We regret the error and are grateful to update our understanding of this history.

2 Hello Aron!

Welcome our new Visitor Services & Learning Coordinator

We are thrilled to welcome Aron to the Five Oaks Museum family! Her role is critical to reopening the museum, as she will be our first point of contact for all guests and serve as our in-gallery learning facilitator. Aron is originally from Wyoming and has been in the Portland area teaching Humanities at Parkrose Middle School for almost fifteen years.

Her reason for joining the team? "A big part of what draws me to the Five Oaks Museum are the team's values of curiosity, equity, and engagement with the surrounding community...as someone passionate about the experience of place-based learning and the power of creative storytelling."



"I am truly delighted to be joining the team. As an educator, but also just as a person, my favorite moments have always been those when we explore an idea or subject that seems familiar. **As our understanding grows, new questions and insights open up in front of us and we see that familiar thing in a deeply new way.**"

3 FOM Welcomes New Board Co-Chair

Ameena Djanga steps into a new role!

We are grateful and excited to welcome Ameena Djanga into her new role as Co-Chair of the Five Oaks Museum Board of Directors! Ameena has served on the museum board since 2019, and has served as Board Secretary since 2020. Ameena is also on the museum's Cultural Resources Committee, helping to guide strategy and improve policies around caring for the museum's 100,000 material artifacts. Her generous service, combined with her educational background in museums, make her an exciting addition to the Board's leadership duo with ongoing Board Co-Chair, Vanessa Benedetti.



Currently, Ameena works as a Technical Recovery Analyst at Nike with a background in marketing and advertising, association management, and operations. She's a southern California girl at heart with a passion for all things related to museums, and enjoys spending her free time with family, reading, painting, or learning new languages.

Ameena graduated from George Fox University in 2015 with a BA in Art & Design, Studio Arts and a BA in Global Business. She also holds a Master's in Museum Studies and Certificate in Nonprofit Management from Johns Hopkins University.



Joseph Sr., Ameena & Joseph Jr.

"I'm truly honored to be stepping into the role as Co-Chair for the Five Oaks Museum. It is humbling to be serving with such an amazing group of individuals and helping to lead the museum through this time of change. I'm excited to see where our future takes us and to be able to shape the narrative."

4 Small Snack, Big Impact

Donate the cost of a coffee & support a visitor's well-being

Part of making our visitors feel truly welcome means ensuring they have access to drinks and snacks. This small gesture helps people feel safe, and gives their brain the energy they need to learn and engage with our exhibitions and collections. As we prepare to open to the public again, we need to stock up our snack stash!

If you donate the amount that snacks and coffee cost you this month, the Museum can provide this care to someone who may not be able to afford



Become a recurring donor at \$5 or more a month and get a free membership!

5 The Gathering Place Museum & Community Updates



Kat Salas Receives 2022 Skidmore Award!

A big congratulations to FOM former guest-curator Kat Salas, who is one of this year's Skidmore Award winners. Every year Willamette Week awards the Skidmore Prize to four young Portlanders who work every day to make Portland a better place and to preserve the community-oriented nature of the city. [Read more.](#)



Lighttopia: An Illuminated Journey

This brilliant 1/2-mile drive-through attraction features an astounding number of lights and includes seasonal light vignettes ranging from funny to dazzling. Open December 3rd-31st. Tickets are free, but reservations are required. Sun through Thurs: 5 pm - 9 pm, Fri & Sat: 5 pm - 10 pm. [Learn more.](#)



Dec 10: Rock Creek Trail Parkrun

This free and fun weekly 5K community event welcomes runners, walkers and spectators every Saturday for a run on Rock Creek Trail. Parkruns are positive, welcoming and inclusive experiences with no time limit and no one finishes last. From 9 am - 12 pm. [Register here.](#)

Say Cheese!: Holiday Season Photos at Forest Grove City Library

Have your holiday photos taken at the Forest Grove City Library. Photos taken by library staff and digital copies of your photos will also



be provided. Saturday, December 10 from 1 pm - 4 pm. [Learn more.](#)

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



Five Oaks Museum | 17677 NW Springville Rd, Portland Community College Rock Creek Campus, on Kalapuyan land, Portland, OR 97229

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