Previewing the 2021 Oregon Country (Virtual) Fair

FAIR IN THE CLOUDS
2021

A VIRTUAL EVENT
JULY 9, 10 & 11

* Live performances streamed from multiple locations and new entertainment created exclusively for Fair in the Clouds *
* Workshops and discussions in the community village *
* Explore the immersive 3D fair and wander the paths with friends new and old *
* Interactive map featuring links to connect with fair artisans *

OREGONCOUNTRYFAIR.ORG

Fair in the Clouds is free to attend. Those who are able can make a tax-deductible donation to the non-profit Oregon Country Fair or purchase commemorative merchandise.

Poster art donated by Diane Mortimer
WHY FAIR IN THE CLOUDS

A Virtual Fair? How did we get here? Last year brought a new level of challenge we had never before seen in our lifetimes. We found ourselves unable to gather to celebrate, create, share, and learn as we have in the past. With great sadness, we had to put Fair on hold. But the many amazing Fair volunteers, creators, entertainers and artisans began to talk. What can we do to help artisans thrown out of work? Entertainers with few options to earn their keep and stay in their art? With the powerful awareness of the inequities in our society, can we learn how to do better? Do more? Give others a voice? Members of the Fair started offering ideas. Post videos and photos? Make maps? How about a 3D Fair in the clouds to walk around in? Hold workshops? Offer t-shirts? Music? An Artisan Showcase to help find your favorite crafts? Tip-jars for entertainers? Can we build it so it can stay online beyond Fair and grow and offer more in the future? Fair in the Clouds is the result of hundreds of talented volunteers putting their passion and creative thought into action. This offering is a gift of love and connection from the Fair Community to you. Be Well, Be Safe, Feel Loved. Enjoy!

The Peach Stream!

There is no place on Earth like our Fair, but thanks to the cyber fairies we can still gather in the clouds! Step through the Peach Portal to walk the M8trix, find your friends, see your favorite shows, and support our community of artisans. Once again, the Oregon Country Fair has been rendered in virtual splendor for you to enjoy from the comfort of your mosquito-free home. All you need is your computer or phone, a headset with a microphone, and an internet connection! [Enter the 3D Fair Experience]

Workshops, Panel Discussions, and More Streaming All Three Days of the Fair in the Clouds

Join us for inspiring workshops, deep dive discussions, and consciousness raising presentations on this year’s dedicated workshop stream. Learn how to better support individuals and communities of marginalized identities, and meet the teams planning OCF’s dedicated BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ spaces at the next physical Fair. Bone tool making, saving the planet through mushrooms, stringmaking, netmaking and more will be explored. Have questions for the consultant team OCF hired to help us become more welcoming and inclusive? They will be available for your questions! With ample opportunities to engage and something for everyone, you will not want to miss this exciting and enriching stream. [Participate]

The 3D Fair Experience

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Community Village Stage is Streaming on July 10

This summer the Community Village will present a combination of live stream and recorded videos featuring artists like Jim Page, Tom Noddy, Joanne Rand, STEEL WOOL Band, Gumbo Groove, Kudana, Dr. Atomic, the Macks, and over 30 more — including live performances from the WOW Hall with celebrity hosts. Plus booth hangout Zoom-Rooms, activist videos from our community of progressive nonprofits, workshops on ways to live better with intention, and another fun romp through a Lego Country Fair!

Our loving Community is spread all over, but we join “Together in the Cloud!” [Community Village Stream]

Livestream Entertainment

KOCF 92.7 will proudly host the virtual Hoarse Chorale once again this year. Performances will be streamed live from Whirled Pies in Downtown Eugene on Friday, July 9 and Sunday July 11 starting at 11:30 a.m. We look forward to welcoming a great lineup of talented local and remote artists. See back page for complete line-ups. To listen, visit KOCF 92.7 or kocf.org or watch in the M8trix. [Virtual Hoarse Chorale]

Artist Donations

During Fair in the Clouds, you can support our wonderful livestream artists and entertainers by locating their event on the schedule and tapping the “Tip Jar” button. This will open a new tab so it won’t interrupt the video. You’ll also have the opportunity to visit their websites so you can follow and subscribe. (Note that Tip Jar and Website links are only available if provided by the artist.) From within the 3D Fair, you may see QR codes for donations and other Tip Jar links nestled in the environment, so keep an eye out!

Navigation

Wander the map as you would the site, and click on whatever interests you! Artisan booth numbers will lead to names, links or videos, stages may be playing music or comedy videos, or even live entertainment. There should be lots of surprises and you may even be able to get lost!

Fair Artisans

The Oregon Country Fair is one of the most important regional events for hand-crafted goods, with 900 artisans offering jewelry, clothing, visual art and much more. You can see many of their offerings in the Fair’s Artisan Directory or tour the M8trix to find their virtual booths and discover something new.
During a typical in-person Fair, artisans are present in their booths ready to answer questions and demonstrate techniques. For this year's virtual event, many have made videos to showcase the creation of their crafts. Enjoy demonstrations from master craftspeople with many years of experience as well as emerging artists using new techniques and materials.

To Take Home
2021 Fair in the Clouds T-shirts, tote bags, vehicle stickers, posters and masks are available as are general OCF t-shirts, tank tops, sweatshirts, stickers, tote bags, aprons, and masks. [Shop Merch]

Poster Artist Bio
Diane McWhorter has been a screenprint artist for over forty years and has printed thousands of t-shirts, hats and tote bags for many local groups and fans. She has her own booth at OCF, booth 175, and sells at Eugene Saturday Market every week next to the fountain on the West Park Block. She has been enjoying greater involvement in the Fair in the Clouds this year!

Transforming the Fair: Working Towards a More Diverse, Equitable, and Inclusive OCF
One year ago, the Oregon Country Fair committed to looking within and prioritizing the difficult and uncomfortable work of challenging and overcoming the deeply entrenched personal and organizational assumptions and biases that have hindered our progress toward becoming a more welcoming, inclusive, and equitable organization and community for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color. Since making that commitment, OCF has engaged four consultants representing diverse perspectives and identities who submitted recommendations in June that the Fair will work to implement in coming months. These recommendations illuminate a pathway for holding ourselves accountable.

One recommendation, a census of the organization, will be implemented soon. Another, creating two full time paid staff positions to support us in this work, is in the nascent stage of seeking funding. Others will be worked out by the board, its committees, the management team, crew leaders, booth representatives, and by all of us as we work to create an in-person, more equitable, and inclusive Fair next year. You are invited to join us in that work. You can contribute to the effort by donating to our dedicated diversity, equity, and inclusion fund, by volunteering your time, or by purchasing merchandise on our website with profits donated to this effort.

This Year in the Clouds
To help further this work, a suite of musicians, performers, educators, and activists have been assembled to present, sing, discuss, and perform at this year's Fair in the Clouds. Last year's Stream of Diverse Consciousness started this conversation, and this year, content has been expanded to multiple streams. You will find a diverse slate of performers on the Peach Stream, including returning artist Kiyoshi and OCF fan favorite Lafa Taylor. You will not want to miss Sunday morning with Melanie DeMore, one of the most popular acts from last year's Virtual Fair.

On the workshop stream, you'll hear from Ayisha Elliot from the podcast Black Girl from Eugene, as well as returning guests Holistic Resistance and RespectEd. Oregon's largest transgender support organization, TransPonder, will be presenting a workshop that is sure to be informative, and you will hear from the OCF Diversity Committee as well as the consultants that OCF has hired to assist the organization with this important work. There will be opportunities for audience participation, so bring the burning questions you have and get ready to join the conversation. All of this, and more, will be found at this year's Fair in the Clouds. Please join us!

Yes diversity, yes equity, and yes inclusion!

Saturday Market Collaboration
For the first time ever, two venerable community gatherings are collaborating on Fair weekend to bring you a taste of your crafting connections and celebration. On Saturday July 10th, Saturday Market will extend their Market hours (10:00-6:00pm) into a Twilight Market until 9:00pm. The entertainment on the Market stage at the downtown Park Blocks will be the OCF livestream! OCF merchandise this year has been crafted by Saturday Market and OCF artisan Diane McWhorter, and will be for sale at the Market. Come downtown to see the posters, t-shirts and more, make your purchases, and shake your isolation out on a beautiful summer evening. Dust off your costumes and help make the day Fair-festive!
you can share websites and other links on your page.) Though Peach Pages are no longer promotional, juried artisans may inquire about sharing their information at OCF’s Artisan’s page.

Year Round Fair
One of the questions Oregon Country Fair staff frequently answers is “What does the Fair do all year?” We’re glad you asked. The OCF is a dynamic, vibrant organization 365 days a year—366 during a leap year. We live our mission to “create events and experiences that nourish the spirit, explore living artfully and authentically on earth, and transform culture in magical joyous and healthy ways” no matter what month of the year it is. Be assured, January or July, something is always going on at the Oregon Country Fair.

PHILANTHROPY
A major activity of the OCF is to continue our philosophic roots by donating funds all year to non-profit groups who share our commitment to art, peace, justice, environmental responsibility and community support. What began as a small fundraiser for a children’s school 50 years ago has transformed into a self-supporting arts extravaganza that has contributed more than $1.5 million to support community needs.

Philanthropy became an Oregon Country Fair tradition during the 1970s, when volunteer coordinators would gather after every Fair to decide which nonprofit would be granted extra Fair proceeds. In 1992, the Fair established the Bill Wooten Memorial Endowment Fund to support arts and environmental educational projects serving youth in West Lane County. Four years later, Fair philanthropy expanded with the creation of the Jill Heiman Vision Fund, supporting basic community needs in honor of the Fair’s attorney who facilitated purchase of the land. Throughout the year, the Fair’s Board of Directors also makes donations from a dedicated fund. Grants from these three programs have supported a diversity of groups over the years, including the Whiteaker Community Dinner, Fern Ridge District schools, Camp Wilani, Food for Lane County’s School Garden Project, and White Bird’s free Dental Clinic.

While taking a pause in 2020 for two of the grant programs, the Board still gave $20,000 in COVID-19-related grants to area nonprofits. Unfortunately, with no income from the Fair event for two years, no grants are planned for 2021.

Everyone who participates in the Fair contributes to philanthropy, whether you buy a ticket, volunteer, entertain, or sell crafts or food. We can’t do it without you!

CULTURE JAM
Our 8-day August camp, Culture Jam, creates an arts-based experience for youth by providing them a time and a space to discover their personal means of expression. The dynamic gathering is alive and well despite not being able to meet in-person. With limited funding during these challenging times, Culture Jam has committed itself to supporting the young people who miss Fair and the staff who care about them. For new youth, let’s look forward to 2022! If you know someone who will be 14-18 years old next year and would be interested in attending Culture Jam, learn more at oregoncountryfair.org under “Philanthropy”.
KOCF-97.9 FM
KOCF, our year-round local radio station, is one more way we stay connected as a community as well as a way to share our culture and experiences with a larger population. [Listen to KOCF]

SUSTAINABILITY
The land we live and play on is sacred to us and we take our responsibility seriously. Staff and volunteers work all year to sustain its environmental integrity, tend to its needs, and ensure its minimal impact on the planet.

Recycling
The Oregon Country Fair Recycling Crew has its roots in the formation of the Oregon Country Fair, and has grown in scope and size alongside the Fair. Each year the Recycling Crew processes over 142,000 units of recyclable plastic, aluminum and glass containers along with 17 tons of recyclable materials. The Recycling Crew hand sorts all materials including over 50 tons of compost and 24 tons of landfill material.

Our effort and goal to divert compostable items from the landfill is the heart and soul of our mission at the Fair. All of the food service ware that is provided throughout the Fair, including beverage cups, are compostable. Jump into any recycling kiosk located throughout the M8trix to learn more!

Oregon Country Fair thanks the underwriters of this year’s Fair in the Clouds!

Virtual Fairies
Guaranty Chevrolet
Sugartop Buddery
Cornucopia

Fair Friends
Saturday Market
Capella Market
Community Village Stream Performances

Dr. Atomic’s Medicine Show | Druid Sisters | Fox and Bones | Gazelle(s) | Golden Ours
Joanne Rand | Mudzidzi Mbira | Steel Wool Band | NeverEver Band | Normal Bean &
The Universal Love Family | The Raventones | Rob Tobias & Friends | Tom Noddy | Jim Page
Normal Fauna | Bluphoria | Schmoke and Pancake | Omo | Tara Verde | Broth Band
Music with Orion | Steve Mosher | Alex Winters | Work Dance Company | The Chris Chandler
Show | Sunheart | Kudana Marimba | The Macks | Frog | David Rogers | Dusky Blues
...and featuring hosts Omo & Chrissy, Sam Rutledge, Tave & Lucinda, Jim Page, and Steve Brown

Peach Stream Performances

Fooble the Dragon | Espacio Flamenco | Meredith Axelrod | Jim Page | Baby Gramps | Inspire
Kyoshi | 11:11 | Tobias the Owl | Left on Wilson | Lost Ox | Jenuwine | Earthcapades
Invisible Arts Project | Adam and Kris | Heartstrings Project | Radar Angels | Other Magic
Lafa Taylor | MS | Arc in Movement | Spunj | Upstate Quartet | Midnight Show | Melanie Demore
Garden Critter Academy | Curtis Carlyle | Family Flamenco | Tera the Super Nova Strong Woman
Stumptown Jug Thumpers | Katie Sontag | The Shift | Cello Joe | Free Creatures
Michelle Alany Experience | Sequel | Token Rhymes | High Step Society

Workshops, Panel Discussions, and Open Houses

Transponder | Lane East Asian Network | Respect(Ed) | Holistic Resistance | Ayisha Elliot
Mark Harris | Robin Quirke | Kemy Joseph | Steven Newcomb | Shawna Bluestar Newcomb
Rainbow Connection | BIPOC Sanctuary | OCF Diversity Consultant Open House | OCF Land
Diversity Committee Panel Discussion | HI Training | Hero’s Journey with Nancy
Five Women Leaders of the Oregon Country Fair