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FULL SLATE OF IN-PERSON EVENTS RETURN TO THE SQUARE FOR HOLIDAY 2022, TOGETHER DOWNTOWN

Portland, Ore.- (November 8, 2022) – In celebration of its 38th holiday season, Pioneer Courthouse Square (The Square) will present nearly two months of free, family-friendly holiday events and beloved traditions that bring Portland together. Events will begin this Wednesday, November 9 at 10:00 a.m. with the delivery of Portland's 75-foot tall Douglas fir, generously donated by <u>Stimson Lumber Company</u>.

For 21 years, Stimson has cut, delivered, and set up the tree in *Portland's Living Room*. What does it take to get the tree to The Square? That was the subject of a <u>short</u> produced by Pioneer Courthouse Square in 2020.

The full calendar of events designed to bring Portland *Together Downtown* for the Holiday 2022 season include:

Wednesday, November 9, 10:00 a.m.

Stimson Lumber Tree Arrival Presented by SmartPark

Kick-off the holiday season with the arrival of Portland's 75-foot tall Douglas fir, generously donated by <u>Stimson Lumber Company</u>. This year's tree, grown on sustainable forestlands in Clatsop County Oregon, will make its journey to The Square with the help of <u>Redmond Heavy Hauling</u>, a regional trucking company. Upon its arrival to The Square, the tree will be skillfully lifted into place by <u>NessCampbell Crane + Rigging</u>. Join The Square, Portland Parks and Recreation's Urban Forestry, and fellow Portlanders to celebrate the tree's arrival. Santa will be on hand as well, handing out a selection of gift cards from our neighbors at Nordstrom.



Friday, November 25, 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. 38th Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony Presented by SmartPark and Broadcast on KGW

Portland's Annual Tree Lighting, presented by SmartPark, invites Portlanders to reunite for a live gathering in *Portland's Living Room* the day after Thanksgiving, Friday, November 25, at 5:30 p.m. The ceremony will feature a joyful sing-along with Portland's own Thomas Lauderdale from Pink Martini, as well as local musicians and chorale singers. Join in the celebration as Santa Claus flips the switch to illuminate more than 14,000 colorful LED lights.

Sunday, November 27, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. The Portland Bazaar at The Square

The Portland Bazaar will bring local artisans, makers and cheer to the Square on the Sunday following Tree Lighting! More than 40 vendors will fill The Square, surrounding the beautiful, newly lit tree while visitors can shop outdoors with friends and family. The Portland Bazaar was started in 2011 with a mission to highlight skilled makers, artists and small businesses in town. The market has continued to create a space for vendors to showcase and promote their businesses directly to the community. Over the last ten years, the Portland Bazaar has grown to feature more than 100 vendors each weekend and will round up the best of the best for local holiday shopping! For more information about where to find it this season, visit PortlandBazaar.com.

Friday, December 9, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. The Great Figgy Pudding Caroling Competition

Pioneer Courthouse Square is excited to host the Great Figgy Pudding Caroling Competition – a fun, festive competition that will bring caroling groups to *Portland's Living Room* and extend to a ten-block radius throughout Downtown. The public can participate by voting on the top three caroling groups who will hold a "carol-off" at the Square hosted by KGW's Drew Carney. The grand prize winner will be selected by crowd applause and awarded \$1,000. Second and third place prizes, as well as the coveted People's Choice designation, will also be awarded. This FREE caroling competition will be held rain or shine from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Team caroling registration is open now to teams of three to 15 carolers per group.

Saturday, December 10, 1:30 p.m. 31st Annual Tuba Christmas Concert

The Square welcomes Portland back to downtown for this iconic holiday tradition! Experience the melodic sounds of big brass as 200 tubas play in unison for the 31st Annual Tuba Christmas Concert in *Portland's Living Room*. This seasonal performance is free for the public. Tuba player participation will be limited to 200 participants and online enrollment is open now.

December 18 - 26, Time varies depending on the day Portland's Public Menorah Lighting

Chabad of Oregon will bring Portland's Public Hanukkah menorah to the Square for its nightly lighting. On the first night, Sunday December 18 at 5:00 p.m., there will be live music, Chanukah foods, dignitaries, and festivities to kick off the eight nights of Chanukah. For more information about Hanukkah and a local schedule of events visit Chabad.org.

Beyond these scheduled events, The Square will carry on its tradition of showcasing Live Holiday Art Performances on The Bricks, featuring local artists, schools, bands, and performance groups throughout the holiday season.

In addition, the <u>Holidays on the Mall Series</u>, in partnership with Portland Mall Management Inc., will feature 11 live pop-up performances throughout the month of December along Portland's Transit Mall. For a complete schedule of holiday events click <u>here</u> or follow the Square on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u> to stay up to date.

Sponsors and Supporters

The 2022 Holiday Season at Pioneer Courthouse Square is made possible by <u>Smart Park</u>, with additional support from <u>Nordstrom</u>, <u>Stimson Lumber Company</u>, , <u>Redmond Heavy Hauling</u>, <u>NessCampbell Crane + Rigging</u>, <u>Portland Parks & Recreation</u>,

EquipmentShare, Portland Mall Management Inc, The Oregonian, KGW, and KINK.

About Pioneer Courthouse Square

Pioneer Courthouse Square is where Portland comes together. Through stewardship and strategic vision, the nonprofit ensures that The Square remains the foundation of a diverse and thriving downtown, and in turn a better Portland. With more than 300 events per year, The Square is home to many of Portland's favorite community traditions including concerts, festivals of food and drink, and cultural celebrations. Through a variety of public and private partnerships, Pioneer Courthouse Square operates within a budget of \$2.2M composed of cash and in-kind donations.