Oregon Contemporary is a space dedicated to art, community, and the exponential possibilities of contemporary art. We produce powerful, visionary art programs for the communities of Oregon.

By sponsoring Oregon Contemporary, you not only support these efforts, but also join a vibrant community of people devoted to making extraordinary and wonderful things throughout our 12,000-square-foot building, outdoor locations, and online.
A fixture of the community

Director of Marketing, Aimee Jenkins: “This organization fills an important role in our arts ecosystem. The programming is dynamic and challenging in satisfying ways, presenting museum-quality exhibitions for free...it’s incredible that this organization is able to put on the kinds of shows it does.”

From our visitors:
“Perpetually in awe of...the programming.”
“I can always count on Oregon Contemporary to have thoughtful, boundary-pushing exhibits.”

Portland Monthly: “Exhibition and performance space, artists’ hub, innovative arts programmer—since its inception... [Oregon Contemporary] has blossomed from a scrappy, word-of-mouth gem into a beloved cultural institution.”

Portland City Commissioner Nick Fish: “[Oregon Contemporary] supports one of our most culturally diverse neighborhoods in North Portland, cultivates new talent and emerging curators, and builds important partnerships with our schools and local nonprofits. As Arts Commissioner for the City of Portland, I’m proud that [Oregon Contemporary] calls Portland home.”

Information / Blake Shell / blake@oregoncontemporary.org
Upcoming sponsorship opportunities

As a sponsor, you will engage new communities, build brand awareness, and best of all, support Portland’s bold, risk-taking bold art venue—Oregon Contemporary!

$10,000+ X Sponsors of our 5 Year Growth Plan
- Name or logo displayed prominently in the building for 5 years or more
- VIP updates on Oregon Contemporary news and programs
- Tickets to the Auction and inclusion in VIP tours or dinners
- Name or logo on our website and in the gallery year-round
- Invitations to private member events
- Recognition on social media, mailings, and e-blasts
- 20% member discount in the Café and Shop Ox

$5,000+ Presenting Sponsors
- Recognition at a specific event or exhibition, including the Art First Artists’ Auction
- Tickets to the events (if applicable) and inclusion in VIP tours or dinners
- VIP updates on Oregon Contemporary news and programs
- Name or logo on our website and in the gallery year-round
- Invitations to private member events
- Recognition on social media, mailings, and e-blasts
- 20% member discount in the Café and Shop Ox

$1,000+ Sponsors
- VIP updates on Oregon Contemporary news and programs
- Name or logo on our website and in the gallery year-round
- Invitations to private member events
- Recognition on social media, mailings, and e-blasts
- 20% member discount in the Café and Shop Ox

Sponsorship opportunities

Exhibitions and Programming
- Site: Natalie Ball and Annelia Hillman pue-leek-la’
- Site: curated by Ashley Stull Meyers
- Site: Willie Little
- Portland Biennial 2023
- Curator in Residence Season II: homeschool’s church
- Culinaria: Alison Heryer’s Kenton Park Picnic
- Platform Community Events (free rental space and event support for BIPOC, LGBTQ+ and people with disabilities)

Events
- Art First Artists’ Auction
- First Saturday Open House

Growth Plan
- Programming and Education
- Equity and Inclusivity
- Outreach and Audience Growth
- Space Improvements
- Sustainability of the Organization

For sponsorship of special events like the Auction or First Saturdays, sponsorships may also include
- Larger presenting sponsors may be acknowledged at multiple events
- Logo inclusion in all promotional materials
- Ads in event program and projected logo
- Exclusive seating
- Complimentary premium beverages
- Complimentary delivery of any purchased work for you and your guests

Smaller donations are welcome and may receive some of the above benefits.

Contact us about in-kind opportunities.
Site replaces our 2021 Biennial, due to pandemic safety concerns. Site was created to utilize Oregon Contemporary’s strength as a large-scale venue in order to provide a new way of supporting Oregon artists at this time, giving them an opportunity for a solo exhibition and the ability to make new work as they expand and grow their creative practices.

The Portland Biennial is a major survey of Oregon artists who are defining and advancing the state’s contemporary arts landscape. Initially started by the Portland Art Museum in 1949, Oregon Contemporary began the new iteration in 2010.

The Curator in Residence program is the first of its kind in the region. Through the program, audiences are inspired by viewing local, national, and international work in their region and the arts community establishes new connections throughout the world.

Culinaria (Art + Food + Community) pairs artists, chefs, and bartenders to create unique community events, providing opportunities for collaboration, creative risk-taking, and the exchange of new ideas between two very different creative realms.

Through the Platform program, Oregon Contemporary offers the opportunity for organizations to present programming by providing affordable space in the form of low-cost space rentals and more. Since 2019, we have worked to provide no-cost opportunities for events that are led by, or primarily supporting, communities of BIPOC, LGBTQ+, and people with disabilities.
For our **Art First Artists’ Auction**, the northwest’s most compelling artists donate work to Oregon Contemporary. We auction these artworks off, and the proceeds help us to continue providing this community with the best in contemporary visual art, free to the public.

**First Saturdays** are an opportunity to experience art throughout the center, in our galleries and performance spaces. Our partner tenants also open for the night, and we often offer food and special performances.
The Growth Plan is a working plan estimated to conclude in 2024. Oregon Contemporary is focusing on 4 key areas as we grow to meet the needs of Portland long-term.

Increasing programming and education opportunities in support of artists, curators, and the cultural community of Oregon.

- Increase year-round programming for our spaces and our arts and culture tenants.
- Double exhibitions to increase opportunities for regional artists by showing exhibitions in the Main Gallery and Gallery 2 simultaneously.
- Increase collaborative relationships with Partner organizations. Identify opportunities for low-to-no-cost space and sharing resources for BIPOC and LGBTQ+ and people with disabilities Partner organizations when possible.
- Print more original research and archival catalogs-print catalogs for all of the Curator in Residence programs, Biennials, plus the addition of catalogs for regional exhibitions.
- Create a fund to meet last minute programming opportunities, while meeting Working Artists and the Greater Economy (W.A.G.E.) standards of fair pay.
- Increase educational programming.

Improving Diversity, Equity, and Inclusiveness, ongoing for the life of the organization.

- Develop, vote on, and display Equity Statement, Safe Space Agreement, and Land Acknowledgement with DEI consultant.
- Begin and regularly continue Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity Training for Staff and Board.
- Increase board representation of BIPOC, LGBTQ+, and people with disabilities.
- Certify and meet W.A.G.E. wages and production costs for artists.
- Increase staff and contract worker pay, offering healthcare and benefits, as well as pay cost of living increases annually.
- Increase staff numbers sustainably to meet programming increases.
- Increase ADA standards and inclusivity.

Growing our audience by growing marketing, increasing accessibility, and keeping most events free for the public.

- Build a new website with expanded archives of past programming at Oregon Contemporary.
- Create First Saturdays building-wide events to give public access to multiple shows and performances, each month, free to the public.
- Build branding with increased print materials available.
- Add shop and café and improve outdoor spaces for the community.

Building sustainability with improved finances, facilities, and policies/procedures as well as fair, market-matching wages for our cultural workers.

- Program costs matched to funding, always including increase of paying food and art workers.
- Stabilize finances through greater fundraising.
- Increase and support tenants related to Oregon Contemporary’s mission, such as presenting arts and culture non-profits and businesses who provide opportunities to artists and performers.
- Build savings for the organization.
- Improve existing programming and rental spaces to meet community needs.

We are encouraging individuals and businesses to give to the Growth Plan in addition to any annual gifts as we still need to meet our general operating support needs for each year.