

**VANPORT  
MOSAIC  
FESTIVAL  
2017**

**MAY 26-29  
PORTLAND, OR.**

**LEARN MORE:**

[vanportmosaic.org](http://vanportmosaic.org)

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Join us for 4 days  
of arts, community  
histories, tours, and  
dialogues about  
Oregon's lost city,  
and its legacy.

Hosted at various locations throughout North and  
Northeast Portland. Free or low cost to the public.  
For more information, call us at 510.717.2441 or  
email: [info@vanportmosaic.org](mailto:info@vanportmosaic.org).

Vanport Mosaic is a collective of artists, storytellers, edu-  
cators and media makers seeking to engage the public in  
remembering the silenced histories of the Pacific  
Northwest in order to better understand our present.

## IMPACT STATEMENT

**Legislation title:** \*Authorize a Special Appropriation grant agreement with Vanport Mosaic in an amount not to exceed \$40,000 to expand the Vanport Mosaic 2017 Festival (Ordinance)

**Contact name:** Eileen Roe  
**Contact phone:** 503-823-6819  
**Presenter name:** n/a

**Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:**

Vanport Mosaic is a nonprofit corporation of a collective of artists, storytellers, educators and media makers seeking to engage the public in remembering the silenced histories of the Pacific Northwest, to help better understand our present.

Vanport Mosaic's 2017 festival project is an expansion of the 2016 festival and will offer free or low-cost, high-quality programming year-long, culminating in the 4-day festival weekend to engage a broader spectrum of Portland area residents and target senior and student populations as well as the many neighborhoods of color that often do not feel able to bridge the gap of involvement with local cultural events.

Vanport Mosaic's 2017 festival project will include film screenings; performances and staged readings of plays; a dance/theater performance; bus, walking, and bike tours related to Vanport locations; a new exhibit relating to Vanport/Hurricane Katrina and Displacement; an educational workshop; a youth engagement event; and a private reunion even for former residents and their families.

From their special appropriations competitive grant application:

"The Vanport Mosaic Festival aligns with the Council's equity and inclusion goals. The Vanport Mosaic places itself in curating rigorous local, professional work to engage in community-based engagement. Throughout the year we offer free oral history/media production workshops that yield community-produced short documentaries, featuring Vanport former residents, whose stories are then shared at public screenings. Last year's Festival commemorated the anniversary of the Vanport flood and drew more than 2,000 attendees representing a diversity of economic, racial, and cultural background and included multi-generations.

It is sewn into the core of our organization to be active community members, traversing a wide spectrum of engagement with differing communities. Our work as artist-educators is to bring our city into conversation, remembering the silenced histories of the Pacific Northwest in order to better understand our present.

Through the arts we grapple with gentrification, homelessness, and the question of what responsibilities are tied to our individual privileges. We learn about our city's racial, economic and social history to move forward. We facilitate dialogue that reflects the diversity of the city, building engaged community and healing discussion while asking *what is our City's version of the American Dream?*"

**Financial and budgetary impacts:**

Funding for this grant is available in the FY2016-17 budget in the General Fund Special Appropriations.

**Community impacts and community involvement:**

From their special appropriations competitive grant application:

"While the focus of our work is to honor the experience of traditionally underrepresented communities, our programming aims to reach the general population and engage in a dialogue about how this story informs civic lessons that still resonate today. We intentionally engage the communities of color, often left out of the documented stories of Vanport, thus encouraging new and long-time residents to consider new perspectives on how Oregon and the Portland area have historically grappled with the complexities of justice, equity, empathy and hope.

The festival has also become a fertile ground for historians to capture a more accurate picture of the city's history, as this project collects, preserves, and shares oral histories, historic photographs, and artifacts of former Vanport residents, before the opportunity to do so is lost. Schools will benefit as this project will help lead to K-12 curriculum about Vanport. By using a multi-disciplinary approach, we offer an opportunity for everyone to explore a variety of perspectives that widens their capacity to connect the story of Vanport to their own lives, even if they, themselves, are new transplants to the Portland area"

**Budgetary Impact Worksheet****Does this action change appropriations?**

- ☐ YES: Please complete the information below.  
☒ NO: Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount