



Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

NEWS RELEASE

October 7, 2015

MEDIA CONTACT:

Sheri Stuart, Oregon Main Street Coordinator
503.986.0679
sheri.stuart@oregon.gov

Tigard SubUrban Art Receives Excellence in Downtown Revitalization Award for Best Special Event

The Tigard Downtown Alliance SubUrban Art event received an Excellence in Downtown Revitalization Award for the “Best Special Event” from Oregon Main Street on Oct. 7 during the Oregon Main Street Annual Conference in The Dalles. This award recognizes excellence in a single, downtown special event, festival, or promotional series. Elise Shearer with the Tigard Downtown Alliance was on hand to accept the award.

The Tigard Downtown Alliance wanted to create an interactive event to engage community members and to showcase to the possibility of enhancing downtown through the arts in a suburban setting. They decided to create a SubUrban Art project to expand their Art Walk. The event included commissioning five graffiti artists to participate in a day-long exhibition and adding a pop-up Art Gallery in a vacant storefront on Main Street. The resulting urban art/graffiti panels were placed around downtown Tigard. Adding these components to the Art Walk increased the number of businesses hosting local artists and doubled the number of professional artists participating in the 2-week event. Plus the ten urban art murals created will be auctioned off to raise funds for another round of public art.

“The Tigard Downtown Alliance has demonstrated that property owners, business owners and residents in Tigard care about this downtown,” said Lloyd Purdy, Economic Development Manager for the City of Tigard. This organization is a great partner to City Hall and an asset to our community.”

“This was a unique spin on a traditional Art Walk and a terrific event for downtown Tigard,” says Sheri Stuart, Oregon Main Street Coordinator. “Plus, the urban art panels provided an opportunity for the Tigard Downtown Alliance to test the idea of a recurring public art program downtown.”

The Awards Presentation was a highlight of the Oregon Main Street Conference, a popular semi-annual conference that brings together people with an interest in downtown revitalization.

###

Oregon Main Street is part of Heritage Programs, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. For more information about Oregon Main Street, visit www.oregonheritage.org or contact Sheri Stuart at 503-986-0679 or sheri.stuart@oregon.gov.

Local Contact: Lloyd Purdy, Economic Development Manager, Tigard
Telephone Number: 503.718.2442
Email Address: lloyd@tigard-or.gov