



MEDIA ALERT

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THE SQUARE AND PORTLAND FESTIVAL SYMPHONY COMMEMORATE 40 YEARS WITH A FREE COMMUNITY CONCERT!



Portland, Ore. – (July 12, 2024) Pioneer Courthouse Square and Portland Festival Symphony celebrate 40 years by inviting the community to the heart of downtown for a festive evening of music and fun on **Saturday, July 20th** from 4pm – 8pm. Portland Festival Symphony, with special guests 3-Leg Torso and Michael Allen Harrison, will take the stage at 6pm. Albina Music Trust performing *Time Sound*, *Albina's Gospel Revisited* will kick off the festivities at 4pm.

During the celebration, The Hilton Portland Downtown will present a cake, like the cake that was featured during The Square's inaugural grand opening event in 1984. Free cupcakes and Ben & Jerry's ice cream will be enjoyed as the community unites in singing happy birthday amid performances of *Celebration*, *The Olympic Spirit*, *Peter and the Wolf*, among others led by Portland Festival Symphony with conductor, Cameron May. Attendees will also enjoy free games, balloon art, face painting, and giveaways.

The Square, adoringly known as our City's Living Room, was dedicated on April 6, 1984, with the names of more than 60,000 Portlanders inscribed on the bricks that paved it. Today, that legacy continues with more than 85,000 inscribed bricks and the opportunity to add more. Portlanders still have the opportunity to support The Square and its vital role in the heart of our downtown through the purchase of a [named brick today](#).

With the mission to activate The Square through art, culture and civic programming, the nonprofit organization managing The Square strives to be the foundation of a diverse and thriving downtown, and in turn a better Portland. Since its grand opening in 1984, The Square has hosted thousands of diverse community events while attracting millions of people to the heart of our city. As The Square's 40th anniversary continues this summer we look forward to bringing Portlanders together with community events for all to enjoy:

[NEW: Sneaker Week 2024](#), July 26 – 28: For the first time, Sneaker Week PDX will be taking over The Square and bringing a week-long celebration of all thing sneakers. Sneaker Week is about more than just sneakers. It's about building a more equitable and diverse industry, where fans and brands can come together to shape the future.

[2024 Chinese Festival](#), August 3: Join the Oregon Chinese Coalition for the 2024 Chinese Festival in The Square! Featuring nonstop entertainment, delicious Chinese food, authentic arts, crafts, and much more.

[PDX-Live Concert Series](#), August 7 – 21: This August, the outdoor summer concert series PDX-Live returns to Pioneer Courthouse Square in downtown Portland for its third—and biggest ever—year. The series kicks off August 7 with Portland legends Sleater-Kinney and Australian punk sensations Amyl and the Sniffers and runs until August 21 with the iconic Seattle proto-emo innovators Sunny Day Real Estate.

[2024 Pan African Festival](#), August 24: The Pan African Festival will celebrate the presence, resilience, strength, and influence of Pan Africans in Oregon. Enjoy live music, dance, food and entertainment, health education, career awareness, financial literacy, and more.

For updated information on all of the events happening at The Square, visit thesquarepdx.org and follow on Instagram [@thesquarepdx](https://www.instagram.com/thesquarepdx).

The 40th Anniversary Celebration with Portland Festival Symphony is *made possible by support from these community sponsors and partners: [SmartPark](#), [Hilton Portland Downtown](#), [101.9 KINK](#), [The Oregonian | OregonLive](#), [KGW](#), [Portland Festival Symphony](#), [Albina Music Trust](#), [Pacific Advisors](#), [Musicians Union Local 99](#) and [Music Performance Trust Fund](#).*

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.