



For Immediate Release

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2020 Governor's Arts Awards Virtual Celebration postponed due to wildfire emergency

(Salem, OR) — A virtual event to celebrate the 2020 Governor's Arts Awards recipients is postponed due to Oregon's current wildfire emergency. The Virtual Celebration was scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 12. A new date for the celebration will be set soon.

"This isn't the right time for a celebration," said Brian Rogers, executive director of the Oregon Arts Commission. "Many Oregonians are suffering and communities are still at risk.

"In the last few days we have learned of many artists who have been forced to evacuate their homes and at least 20 in southern Oregon whose homes have been lost to fire," said Rogers. "Many more are on alert, knowing they could be evacuated at any time. Our thoughts are with them and we want to ensure they are safe before we move forward with the celebration of the Governor's Arts Awards."

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The Oregon Arts Commission's mission is to enhance the quality of life for all Oregonians through the arts by stimulating creativity, leadership and economic vitality. The Arts Commission provides funding and arts programs through its grants, special initiatives and services. Nine commissioners, appointed by the Governor, determine arts needs and establish policies for public support of the arts. The Arts Commission became part of the Oregon Business Development Department in 1993 in recognition of the expanding role the arts play in the broader social, economic and educational arenas of Oregon communities.

The Arts Commission is supported with general funds appropriated by the Oregon legislature, federal funds from the National Endowment for the Arts and funds from the Oregon Cultural Trust.

