



For Immediate Release

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Venture Portland Celebrates Small

Honoring Local Small Businesses Goes Beyond Small Business Week

Portland, Ore. – May 8, 2012 – Vibrant green signs are popping up throughout the city exclaiming ‘Portland Celebrates Small’. In celebration of Small Business Week, May 20-26, Venture Portland encourages Portlanders to spend all of May honoring the small businesses that make up the vast majority of neighborhood business districts and power Portland’s economy on a daily basis.

“I encourage Portlanders to join me in celebrating Small Business Week, May 20-26,” said Heather Hoell, Executive Director for Venture Portland. “Simply look for ‘Portland Celebrates Small’ signs in business windows throughout the city and, whether it’s picking up your morning coffee, running errands, or relaxing over dinner, support small when you spend.”

Portland is a small business generator, with 95 percent of Portland’s businesses employing less than 50 employees and 76 percent employing 10 or fewer. Small businesses are not only prevalent in Portland, they add up to make a big impact. Neighborhood business districts are comprised of small businesses and include approximately 16,000 businesses and nearly 200,000 jobs.

“Portland is a great place to own and operate a small business” said Darice Robinson, Owner of Hollywood Impress Printing and Division/Clinton Business Association president. “The combination of loyal local customers and smart neighborhood business district associations offer small business owners a sustainable support system that is truly distinctive to Portland.”

Look for ‘Celebrate Small’ flyers in businesses throughout Portland and honor small businesses all month long. Stay apprised of the latest ‘Celebrate Small’ news through Venture Portland’s Facebook and Twitter at

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facebook.com/ventureportland and @ventureportland. Kick off Small Business Week with the Kenton Street Fair on May 20. Most importantly, don't forget to shop, dine and play small. 'Portland Celebrates Small' flyers are available to download at ventureportland.org.

About Venture Portland

Venture Portland means business. Through grants, trainings and technical assistance the organization invests in the smart, strategic growth of Portland's unique neighborhood business districts. Portland's neighborhood business districts comprise approximately 16,000 businesses and nearly 200,000 jobs. Venture Portland's board leadership comes from 27 diverse business districts city-wide that collectively represent local, regional, national, and international demand for goods and services. For more information visit ventureportland.org.

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