



PAN AFRICAN FESTIVAL

PDX, 2017

EXPERIENCE THE CULTURE

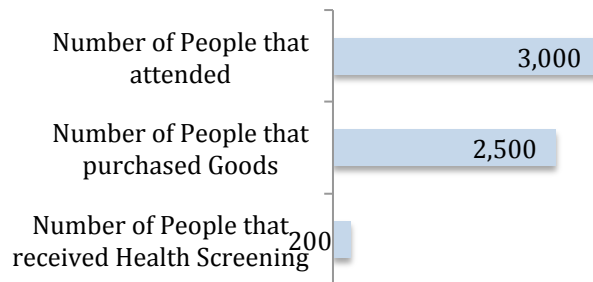
First Annual At a Glance



The 2017 Pan African Festival was one to remember! We're delighted to report that over 3,000 people attended our first annual festival of which 2,500 purchased goods from the participating black owned businesses. We had ten black owned businesses that had their best summer sales ever and five food vendors that sold out before the festival even ended. This was a huge success. Our vendors are already looking forward to a bigger festival next year.

To promote health and disease prevention, North By Northeast Community Health Center in partnership with Kaiser Permanente checked over two hundred people's blood pressure. While Multnomah County Library gave out two crates full of books for free and connected over two hundred people to library resources.

Figure 1: 2017 Numbers

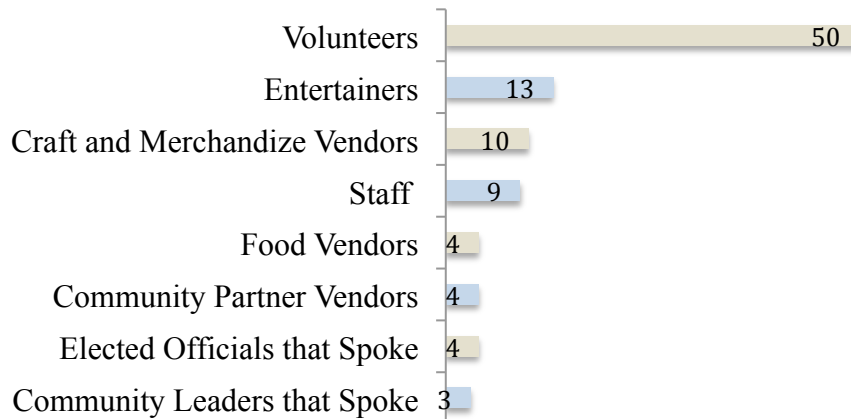


In this era of political and racial division, the 1st annual Pan African Festival couldn't come at a better time. For one day, we were all united by our love for music, poetry and great food. The theme was "Oregon's Black Diaspora-Illuminating the Treasures in Our Diversity", inspired by the diversity in the planning team, which consisted of people of African, African American and Caribbean descent.

"We want the Pan African Festival to not only boost Oregon's economy and support local businesses, but also attract thousands of visitors to embrace and learn ways of understanding cultural differences in a fun celebratory context". Nafisa Fai

As a catalyst to celebrate the presence, resilience, strength and influence of Pan Africans (Africans, Caribbean and African Americans) in Oregon, the one-day educational festival worked to galvanize, mobilize and empower Pan Africans in Oregon. This has increased understanding within and between communities and has stimulated dialogue and increased awareness of problems facing Pan Africans in Oregon. More importantly the festival was about creating a dedicated platform that supports black owned businesses and adds value to Oregon's economy.

Figure 2: 2017 Contributors



Thanks to the support of our wonderful sponsors, we were able to offer small stipend to local artists and performers. We'd like to extend a special thank you and recognize the support of Governor Kate Brown, Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler, Representative Janelle Bynum, Senators James Manning and Lew Frederick, Rachael Banks of Multnomah County Health Department and Jimmy Dogo of IRCO Africa House.

Please join us in making next year an even more successful festival for Oregon.

2017 Sponsors

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