



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 17, 2018

Contact:

Amber Fossen, 541.726.3695 or 541.968.8496

Free Discussion about Racism and Resilience in Oregon's Past and Future

The January 25 event is part of Oregon Humanities' statewide Conversation Project.

Oregonians envision a future that includes communities built on values of diversity, equity, and inclusion. At the same time, we live in a society that marginalizes and excludes people of color. How does Oregon's history of racism influence our present and how can understanding historic and current impacts of racism in Oregon contribute to our sense of place and vision of the future? How can diversity and inclusion create thriving communities?

This is the focus of "Race and Place: Racism and Resilience in Oregon's Past and Future," a free conversation with Anita Yap and Traci Price at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, January 25 at the City of Springfield, Library Meeting Room, 225 Fifth Street. This program is jointly hosted by Springfield Public Library and City of Springfield and sponsored by Oregon Humanities.

Anita Yap is the founding partner of the Multicultural Collaborative, a small business consulting group that provides strategies and services to nonprofits, local governments, and businesses to engage with diverse communities for equity, capacity building, community visioning, urban design, and public policy advocacy. Anita is an active community member and serves on the Jade International District Steering Committee, the Board of Governors for the City Club of Portland, and the Regional Arts and Culture Council Board. Anita lives in southeast Portland with her husband and has four children. She enjoys walking, organic gardening, and raising honeybees.

Traci Price has worked in the environmental nonprofit sector for most of her career, with a focus on education and youth. She spearheaded the No Oregon Child Left Inside Act in 2008 and was appointed by Governor Kulongoski to lead development of the *Oregon Environmental Literacy Plan* in 2010 to ensure that all students have the opportunity to participate in regular outdoor activity, examine complex community issues from multiple perspectives, and be prepared to address the challenges our future holds. Traci owns a consulting business and works with the Multicultural Collaborative, a consulting group that helps organizations and businesses engage with diverse communities for equity and capacity building. She prioritizes projects at the intersection of education, environment, and racial justice.

Through the Conversation Project, Oregon Humanities offers free programs that engage community members in thoughtful, challenging conversations about ideas critical to our daily lives and our state's future.

For more information about this free community discussion, please contact Vahana Keene at 541.726.3670 or vkeene@springfield-or.gov.

Oregon Humanities (921 SW Washington, Suite 150; Portland, OR 97205) connects Oregonians to ideas that change lives and transform communities. More information about Oregon Humanities' programs and publications, which include the Conversation Project, Think & Drink, Humanity in Perspective, Public Program Grants, Responsive Program Grants, and *Oregon Humanities* magazine, can be found at oregonhumanities.org. Oregon Humanities is an independent, nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities and a partner of the Oregon Cultural Trust.