

Seattle
Moisture
Festival
COMEDY-VARIÉTÉ



June 2022
The Summer Issue

Summertime in Seattle!

Summertime is my favorite time of the year in Seattle! Great weather for hikes, BBQs, outdoor movie screenings, and time out on the water.

Here at Moisture Central, summer is our time to create the next fiscal year's strategic plan and budget, to plan our annual Fall Gala and Auction, to write grants, and to catch our breath after a successful, but busy, spring Festival season.

Summertime is also when many Moisture Festival team members pursue other passions, from the Oregon Country Fair to the Fremont Solstice Parade to gardening in the backyard.

In this edition, we'll explore Moisture Festival's connection to Oregon Country Fair with guest contributor Tom Noddy. We have photos to share from our Grazie Party at Emerald City Trapeze Arts. We've got a shout out to the amazing volunteers that worked the 2022 Festival, and we'll learn from Board Member Shirley Thom "What Moisture Festival Means to Me".

Also in this edition is a special "Call for Venue Suggestions." As you likely know, Hale's Ales and Brewery (and thus, The Palladium) was recently sold, and Moisture Festival is now looking for a new venue for the 2023 Festival and beyond. We have set up a web page to collect your suggestions, leads, and offers of assistance. Please click on the link in that section of the newsletter if you have information to share.

It wasn't easy producing the Moisture Festival during a pandemic, but we did it! A huge thank you to everyone that contributed with financial, in-kind, and volunteer hour donations! Let's kick off the newsletter celebrating this accomplishment with a "2022 Moisture Festival by the Numbers."

Happy Summer!
Tim Gonzalez-Wiler
Director of Development



Featured Artists: Alex Zerbe, Dream Frohe, Godfrey Daniels, Unique Derique, Sadie Osterloh, Poki, Louie Foxx

Artist Photography: John Cornicello, Michelle Bates, Rob Falk

Grazie Party Photography: Emerald City Trapeze, Jenna Richter, John Cornicello

Design/ Layout by: Brigitte LaGarde

Seattle
Moisture Festival
COMEDY • VARIÉTÉ
1 Festival

2 Venues

30 Shows

101 acts

168
performers

representing
13 states

6,747
tickets sold

21% sold at
discounted
youth/ senior
prices

\$33,262.75
donated at
shows!

174
volunteers

\$24.75
average
ticket price

90%
average
capacity

39
sponsors

1,062
volunteer
shifts

4,437 hours
volunteered

\$29,096
worth of
In-Kind
Donations

\$9,350 total
in cash
sponsorships

\$66,550
value of
hours
donated



Call For Venue Suggestions!

Our new venue search committee is already following some exciting leads for the 2023 Moisture Festival. However, we know our small team can't discover all of the possible venues in town, so we are putting out a general call for new venue suggestions.

- Do you own, run, or work for a venue that might want to host one to all four weeks of the 2023 Moisture Festival? (Springtime 2023)
- Could you put us in touch with people who might?
- Have you been to a temporary event (like the Van Gogh exhibition) in a space you think could work for Moisture Festival?
- Do you work in commercial real estate or government and know of an empty space that could be the next Palladium?
- Are you someone that may not have a specific space in mind, but you are interested in being a benefactor/angel donor when we do find a space?

We would love to hear from you!

To send us a tip or for more information on our search parameters, please visit <https://moisturefestival.org/venuesearch/>



Thank You to Our Festival Volunteers!!

Moisture Festival DOES NOT HAPPEN without the countless contributions of our volunteers.

174 volunteers worked over 4,400 hours on every aspect of the 2022 Moisture Festival.

Assignments included:

- Artist Check-In
- Bartending
- Box Office
- Builders
- COVID Testing
- Drivers
- Food
- House Management
- Lights
- Merchandise
- Safety & Security
- Sound
- Stage Crew
- Stage Management
- Ushers
- Ticket Takers

A special thank you to our Team Leaders:

- **Food Folx**
Riley Nuske
- **Ground Transportation**
Robin and LJ Purtee
- **BPH Bar Manager**
Jamie Marshall
- **Artist Check-In**
Gary Watts and Xanthe Lancaster
- **Stage Crew**
Stefan Freelan & Susanna Pugh
- **Air Travel Coordinator**
Cathy Johnson ("CJ")
- **Housing Coordinator**
Susan Miller
- **Box Office**
Mary Fleischman
- **Lights**
Eben Sprinsock
- **Merchandise & Volunteer Program**
Brigette LaGarde
- **Complimentary Ticket Coordinator**
Katherine Ransel

What Moisture Festival Means to Me:

My favorite quotation comes from Rear Admiral John A. Shedd, quoted in 1928. "A ship in harbor is safe, but that is not what ships are built for."

Creativity is important to me and should be for all who enter into the field of entertainment. The Moisture Festival represents creativity at the highest level. It begins with its name ... What the heck is a Moisture Festival?

Tradition is fine, to a certain point, but to truly entertain, one has to stretch the bounds of creativity, and that is exactly what the creators and performers of Moisture Festival give us every time the curtain opens. The audience can hardly wait to experience what's in store for the next two hours. No safe harbor here. And that is what entertainment is all about. It's a pleasure for me to get to work with these people. I love it!



Shirley Thom
Moisture Festival Board
Member since 2016



Shout Out to our 2022 Volunteers!

It takes a village to put on the world's largest and longest-running comedy/variété festival! Thank you to our amazing community of 2022 Festival volunteers!

Adrian L	Daniel T	Jay W	Michael L	Shannon F
Aimee F	Daniel W	Jenna R	Michael M	Sharon K
Aimee Zoe T	Danny O	Jennifer N	Michael R	Sherrie C
Alex L	Darren L	Jennifer W	Michael S	Sophia W
Alex P	David Go	John B	Michael W	Stefan F
Alia R	David Gr	John S	MJ L	Stephanie K
Amanda L	Debbie S	Jonathan O	Murray W	Stephanie L
Amber J	Debora H	Jovanna B	Nancy L	Steve H
Amy G	Denise P	Julia B	Naomi P-L	Stuart T
Amy N	Diana H	Kacie N	Nathalie D	Susan W
Angela P	Diane G	Kari D	Nick G	Suzi H
Angie J	Don B	Karin L	Norma B	Tami G
Anna B	Doris O	Katherine L	Owl J	Tara G
Anne G	Eben S	Katherine R	Pam S	Ted M
Aundrea D	Ed L	Kathryn M	Paul B	Thomas P
Bernice M	Edwina K	Kathryn S-K	Paul K	Tim F
Beverly S	Elizabeth R	Katy K	Paula G	Tom B
Billy K	Elsbeth B	Keith N	Percy H	Tony E
Brian M	Emily P	Kelly L	Rachel R	Vanessa G
Briana N	Eric T. S	Kelsey VS	Rebecca S	Wayton L
Camilo G	Farley H	Kendall R	Reid T	Xanthe L
Carmen d	Francis A	Kenneth D	Rhona J	
Carole L	Frank C	Kenneth T	Ria L	
Casey M	Gabriel M	Kevin G. B	Ricky Gene P	
Cathy J	Galaxy S	Kieran H-B	Riley N	
Cedar G	Gary B. W	Larry	Rita J	
Chancy G	Gayle S	Leah P	Robert F	
Chris E	Genie M	Linda C	Robin P	
Christopher K	George P	Lj P	Roxanne G	
Christy S	Ginnie M	Madeline M-S	Sage K. S	
Clifford P	Grace J	Maque d	Sally H	
Corinne H	Greg F	Marci M	Samuel S	
Cory G	Heather M	Marcy R	Sarah B	
Cynthia P	Heather W	Mark S	Sarah G	
Dan Sa	Jamie H	Mary F	Sarah K	
Dan Sh	Jamie M	Mary Kay V	Sarah S	
Dana S	Jana B	Matt C	Sean S-K	
Daniel S	Jay H	Matt N	Selby	

Oregon Country Fair is Back!

Oregon Country Fair (OCF), the magical assemblage of free spirits and merry makers, is described on their website as "an annual three-day festival in the woods of Veneta, Oregon offering the finest in entertainment, hand-made crafts, delectable food and information sharing, with annual attendance of approximately 45,000."

The Fair is back this year from July 8-10, 2022, after having to cancel the 2020 Fair and go virtual in 2021.

From the bubbly mind of Tom Noddy, a little bit of the history of OCF and its connection to the founding of Moisture Festival...

"In the late 1970s and into the '80s and '90s, a number of street performers came to see themselves as having a spiritual connection to the Vaudevillians of old. A handful of us on the West Coast would see each other semi-regularly at San Francisco's Fisherman's Wharf, Portland's Saturday Market, and Seattle's Pike Place Market. Our mini gatherings were short but valuable, and we longed for some place where we could hang together for more than a few hours.

Reverend Chumleigh and the Flying Karamazov Brothers had taken to attending the annual crafts fair out in the countryside near Eugene, Oregon, and when they told tales to others we made our way there too: Magical Mystical Michael, myself, Baby Gramps, Roberto Morganti, Moz Wright, Avner the Eccentric, Artis the Spoonman, Charlie Brown, Ron Bailey, and more: jugglers, sword swallows, puppeteers, eccentric clowns and musicians.

Oregon Country Fair became the one place that we all knew we could find each other year after year. We did separate shows and at night we did combined shows. We built Vaudeville stages, and, to attract audiences to them, we formed up parades and sometimes raided other stages during their shows. We ate and showered and "sauna'd" together and formed new acts together.

And then...we widened the base. We were inspired by similar efforts, like Hacki Ginda's Comedy Varieté festival in Berlin, Germany at "The Chameleon." What we saw was a model that just might help us bring the same crowd together at a different time of year and ... in 2004, from the energy shared at the Oregon Country Fair in the summertime, we launched the springtime Moisture Festival in Seattle.

Long may it live!"

~Tom Noddy, May 2022



For more on the history of Moisture Festival, visit <https://moisturefestival.org/about-us/>

Grazie Party!

On May 2, STAR and SUPERSTAR donors, 2022 Festival volunteers, Board members, Festival family and sponsors gathered at Emerald City Trapeze's gorgeous facility and celebrated the close of a successful 2022 Moisture Festival. Flying trapeze lessons were offered. Bar Manager and Advisory Board Member Jamie Marshall and his dedicated team of volunteers kept the drinks flowing all night. Guests enjoyed a lovely spread of sweets, snacks, Uli's famous sausages, salad, charcuterie and antipasto. We were treated to a special encore performance by Festival variety artists Unicycle Built for Two (Nick and Wendy Harden), and guests danced the night away to music by pianist Steve Flynn with special guest vocalists Randy Minkler and Ron W. Bailey.



Grazie Party cont...



Jenn's Corner

From Jenn's desk patio:

While we at Moisture Festival HQ are already planning for the 2023 festival, the summer months provide that free therapy all of you who mess about in the yard know so well. Outside of festival time, I'm a total garden nerd. I can't resist plotting out my garden in January, curled up on the couch with my seed catalogs, while it's snowing outside.

The springtime mad dash to de-winter and prep the beds, the not-quite-yet timing to plant the starts outdoors (in April!?), and the never-ending but cathartic weed whacking is a perfect transition out of festival-time and my recharge going into the next season.

This year, the Festival office team will all get to enjoy the summer bounty, working out of my home (aka "Moisture Festival South"). From Dahlias and swaths of perennial flowers to summer vegetables and eat-off-the-vine tomatoes for backyard staff meetings, we're looking forward to a fun and productive (I'm looking at you, tomatoes!) summer.



Jennifer Wensrich
Moisture Festival
Managing Director



Get Involved with Development!

Tim Gonzalez-Wiler, Director of Development

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Tax ID # 20-3366934. Moisture Festival is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization. Your donations may be tax deductible.

Mission Statement:

The Moisture Festival's mission is to enrich the community by presenting an affordable annual festival showcasing the art of live comedy/variété performance. The Moisture Festival encourages the contemporary creativity that is constantly emerging in this field and strives to educate people about the rich history of this genre.

DONATE NOW: <https://moisturefestival.org/donate/>

Donor FAQs: <https://moisturefestival.org/faq-2/>

Current Donor List: <https://moisturefestival.org/donorlist/>

Facebook Donor Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/moisturefestivalstars>

Planned and Legacy Giving: <https://moisturefestival.org/legacygiving/>

Sponsorship: <https://moisturefestival.org/sponsors/>

Volunteer: <https://moisturefestival.org/get-involved/>

Interested in serving on our Board?

Please call or email Tim Gonzalez-Wiler for more information.

Shop and Support

Amazon Smile: <https://www.aboutamazon.com/news/community/how-to-sign-up-for-amazonsmile>

Fred Meyer:

<https://moisturefestival.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Fred-Meyer-Infogrphic.pdf>

