



CITY OF PORTLAND
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: April 17, 2017

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**\$35 Arts Tax Due Tomorrow
Penalties will be Assessed for Late Payments
Office will be Open Until 7:00 PM on April 18**

The \$35 Arts Education and Access Income Tax (“Arts Tax”) approved by Portland voters in 2012, is due on April 18, 2017. This annual tax, which helps pay for 91 kindergarten through fifth grade art and music teachers in Portland area schools and other arts programs sponsored by local arts organizations, is due from all adult Portlanders with taxable income of \$1,000 or more. This includes anyone who moved into or out of Portland during 2016. Adults who earn less than \$1,000 or are below the poverty line must still file a return to claim an exemption.

Portlanders can file and pay the \$35 Arts Tax online at www.portlandoregon.gov/artstax. It takes most people three to four minutes to complete the filing process and receive an e-mail receipt.

“It is our hope that most Portlanders will choose to file and pay online,” said Revenue Division Director Thomas Lannom. “Paying online is fast and easy, and keeps administration costs low so more money flows to schools and arts organizations,” he added.

A late penalty of up to \$35 will be assessed for taxpayers who do not file and pay on or before the due date.

The Revenue Division just completed mailing tax returns to all households. 198,000 taxpayers were also reminded by e-mail.

While it is fast and easy to pay online, there are other ways to file and pay the Arts Tax:

- 1) Taxpayers can file online and choose to pay by mailing in a check with a voucher printed from the website.
- 2) The Arts Tax form is available in leading tax preparation software products like

H&R Block and TurboTax. Print the form and mail it in with a payment.

3) Download and print out a 2016 Arts Tax form from the Revenue Division website at <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/revenue/article/620892>.

4) Taxpayers can pick up a paper tax return by visiting our office at 111 SW Columbia Street, Suite 600, or their local library or neighborhood coalition office. The office will be open until 7:00 PM on April 18, 2017.

Portland area schools and the Regional Arts and Culture Council have received a combined \$30 million in Arts Tax funding to date. An accounting of collections, costs, and disbursements can be found at "[Where do Arts Tax dollars go?](#)" (www.portlandoregon.gov/revenue/60079).

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