



Designating an Oregon Heritage Tradition

Purpose

The purpose of this designation is to carry out the Heritage Commission's statutory responsibilities to encourage tourism activities relating to heritage resources. The honorific is only a designation by the Heritage Commission and does not include any support for the tradition beyond use of the designation's logo.

This will be an ongoing designation unless the Oregon Heritage Tradition is discontinued or no longer meets criteria. The designated event may be considered for a declaration of statewide anniversary celebration at major milestones of 100 years, 150 years, etc., if it meets the criteria for a statewide anniversary celebration.

Definition

An "Oregon Heritage Tradition" is an annual local, regional or statewide event with at least 50 years of continuous operation and:

1. is associated with Oregon people, places, events and activities that characterize the heritage of the state, its positive accomplishments, and its enduring qualities and traditions.
2. has a demonstrated appeal to a broad spectrum of the public
3. has a demonstrated public profile and reputation that distinguishes it from more ordinary events
4. provides participatory activities for the public beyond simply the observation of showcase performances;
5. adds to the livability and identity of the state. Volunteerism, community building, economic and tourism development, and community giving are among the livability and identity factors that will be considered.
6. has free or paid admission, and has no membership, age, racial, religious, gender, family or other exclusionary requirements.

A minimal, brief break resulting from state, national or international events may be permitted from the 50-year requirement.

Qualification as an Oregon Heritage Tradition

Any event must meet the definition above in a way that in the view of the Heritage Commission it distinguishes itself as an Oregon Heritage Tradition.

Commission Coordination of Oregon Heritage Traditions

1. Applications will be considered annually. The deadline for nominations is one month before a regularly scheduled Commission meeting. The Commission will have an ad hoc committee review the applications and make a recommendation to the Commission at its next meeting.
2. For events receiving the designation, the Commission will provide an Oregon Heritage Tradition logo to the event's lead organization. It also will post the Tradition's name on the Commission's website.