

John Davis



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John Davis, Yurt crew,

Thank you so much to everyone in the Fair family for considering me as a board member.

When I was young, growing up in Eugene in the 70's, my dad worked as a yurt salesman and a dome builder. I grew up with the culture of the fair. The values of the 60's and 70's are still important to me today and have changed the world but there is still work to be done. We face new challenges to the values that started our organization. I support the Fair's mission and tradition of love, kindness, open-mindedness and support without judgment.

The traditions of the fair, the food booths, the craft booths, the educational areas, the spirit of volunteerism, the music, the performers and the whimsy are important culturally and represent a jewel in our community. In addition, the Fair has become an economic engine for this region, helping others and allowing us to give back. The Oregon Country Fair is a regionally significant event.

I am qualified to help because I have been fortunate to have served on a number of different boards over the years. I am currently, the President of the board of the Wildish Community Theater in Springfield- bringing the arts to the city of Springfield. I have also served as President of the MillsDavis Foundation for the last 10 years providing general operating support for organizations for youth engagement and ecosystem, restoration, and more. For the last 5 years I have served as secretary of the Springfield Public Library Foundation board. I have learned a lot of valuable skills serving on a number of different board that I believe can help the OCF BOD. My work has given me experience and perspective in how to create strategic plans, fundraise, support philanthropic goals, build and maintain community and protect and manage property. I have been a real estate agent for the past 15 years. I am well versed in best practice for managing property and other assets. I understand the local markets and land use issues. And since much of my volunteer work supports creative and cultural organizations, I believe it is important to sponsor programs that support, the arts, and those in our community who are struggling. I have worked at the fair for 20 years in the History Booth and building and setting up the operational yurts. I have also become very good at negotiating in a way that respects all members and inspires team work.

I enjoy working together with leadership in a positive way. A tumultuous agenda driven board can find it difficult to find common ground. This can lead to little progress and create problems. My goal is always to search for what's best for the organization as a whole. One of the primary responsibilities of a board is the fiduciary responsibility to support the organization in way that centers our mission and values. It is also important to support the staff and volunteers in their work to implement policy. I deeply value having a robust, safe, and magical event that respects our land, is safe, and that brings us together again as a community.

Our fair family is inspired to constantly improve and to innovate. In that process the fair brings each of us closer every year with our chosen community. It celebrates the values that we have all shared for over 50 years and are now sharing with our children and grandchildren who are picking up the torch and bringing new light, vision and energy, as well as keeping us up all night. Keeping this important experience alive for future generations is critical to each of us. I would love the opportunity to serve you on the board by listening carefully to your concerns and work collaboratively with the board to achieve the wonderful dream that is the Oregon Country Fair.

The fair is all about community saying "yes" and believing in each other. Please vote for me as board member and I will bring a message of peace love and kindness and appreciation for members of our community. Now we need to ensure that it will be available for those who come after us.