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Fifth annual Maker Fair to be held at OSU April 28

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CORVALLIS, Ore. – Oregon State University and The CO will host the Corvallis Maker Fair, a celebration of science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics, or STEAM, education and innovation, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 28th on the Corvallis campus.

The family-friendly fair, now in its fifth year, will be held in the Memorial Union Ballroom and the Student Experience Center Plaza. The event is free and open to the public.

“Maker” culture is a popular movement honoring craftsmanship and technology and the sharing of knowledge, skills and resources. The maker fair offers the OSU community and the public the opportunity to experience the culture and to participate in the work. The event also provides a forum for teaching the value of hands-on learning in classrooms from kindergarten through college.

Participants in the Maker Fair include local businesses, corporations and non-profit groups. Visitors also can experience virtual reality gaming with Solid Fuel Studios, learn methods of blacksmithing from the OSU Blacksmithing Club, explore the robot builds of the Crescent Valley High School Robotics team, learn basic programming concepts with the OSU Open Source Lab, learn drypoint etching from printmaker Yuji Hiratsuka and more. Representatives from Corvallis DaVinci Days will showcase their kinetic sculptures.

A companion event, the Diversity Race, will held from noon to 4 p.m. April 27, with an awards ceremony from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m, at OSU. Teams of up to five people will race across campus, trying to complete as many challenges as they can during the race period. Challenges are designed to exercise the body and mind; accommodations are available to those who need them. Community teams, including families, are welcome to participate. To register a team, visit: <http://bit.ly/2HulzGS>.

The race is sponsored by the Corvallis Maker Fair, the Office of Diversity and Cultural Engagement and the student chapter of Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science.

The CO is a partnership of OSU faculty, staff and students and professionals from the Corvallis area. Sponsors and partners for the 2018 event include the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library, OSU College of Education, OSU College of Forestry, OSU Division of Outreach and Engagement, OSU College of Liberal Arts and OSU Libraries and Press.

Registration information, a complete schedule, exhibitor list and additional details about the events are available on the event website, www.corvallismakerfair.org.

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About the OSU College of Liberal Arts: The College of Liberal Arts includes fine and performing arts, humanities and social sciences, making it one of the largest and most diverse colleges at OSU. The college’s research and instructional faculty members contribute to the education of all university students and provide national and international leadership, creativity and scholarship in their academic disciplines.