



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009 – “Support Women Artists Now” (SWAN) Day**

**WOMEN ARTISTS CELEBRATED  
WITH INTERNATIONAL SWAN DAY HOLIDAY  
DURING MARCH - WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH**

**PORTLAND, OR – January 30, 2009** – Mark your calendars for the Second International “Support Women Artists Now” Day (SWAN Day) - Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> 2009. Members of Portland’s largest community of women creatives, *pdxCreativeXchange*, are once again organizing a two-day showcase featuring over 30 Portland-area female performance and visual artists, as well as community groups that support women in the arts.

**2009 SWAN Day (Support Women Artists Now Day) Celebration**

Saturday and Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>

Performance Showcase and Art Exhibit: 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 pm

Website: [www.betterlivingshow.org/SWAN.asp](http://www.betterlivingshow.org/SWAN.asp)

Located within the Energy Trust Better Living Show  
Connector Room, Between D and E Hall  
Portland Expo Center  
2060 North Marine Drive  
All Ages - Free admission

Siren Nation, a Portland arts organization that showcases and creates performance and exhibition opportunities for women throughout the year will be coordinating SWAN Day’s musical performances. Local art consultant Karen Fox will be curating the diverse Fine Art exhibit; and representatives from Portland Women’s Film Festival (POW Fest) and Women Writing for (a) Change will be on hand to talk about their community programs.

(more)

A full schedule of SWAN Day 2009 participants will be released on February 27<sup>th</sup>.

The first SWAN Day took place in 2008 on the last Saturday of March, Women's History Month, and was observed with over 160 events in 11 countries. The event is rapidly becoming the largest grassroots movement in the world celebrating women artists. Former Mayor Tom Potter joined city officials from New York, Boston, San Francisco, Washington, DC, and others across the nation and throughout the world, by signing a proclamation declaring that day as official SWAN Day in Portland.

The annual world-wide event is organized by The Fund for Women Artists, a San Francisco based non-profit arts organization that offers networking, fundraising and advocacy services to over 500,000 visitors a year. It is founded on the belief that women artists have the power to change the way women are perceived in our society and is dedicated to helping women artists get the resources they need to do their creative work.

SWAN Day serves to unite women artists with their audiences and supporters, and to create a powerful alliance to ensure women's voices are heard. "The focus of this day is to celebrate the women artists who are creating change in their communities and around the world", said Martha Richards, the co-founder of SWAN Day.

The public is invited to participate in this free celebration.

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**PHOTOS:** photo credit Dennis Schwartz (2007)

<http://picasaweb.google.com/ksfrisch/2008EnergyTrustBetterLivingShow#52416>

Broad Arts Theater onstage

<http://picasaweb.google.com/ksfrisch/2008EnergyTrustBetterLivingShow#52487>

Visual Artist Christina Eichelberger talking to guest

<http://picasaweb.google.com/ksfrisch/2008EnergyTrustBetterLivingShow#52416>

SWAN Day Organizer Ana Ammann & volunteer Angela Trainor

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