



# CITY of BEAVERTON

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## NEWS RELEASE

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*The Best of Oregon*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **MURAL CELEBRATING BEAVERTON'S DIVERSITY WILL BE UNVEILED AT FIRST FRIDAY CHOCOLATE AND WINE EVENT**

**BEAVERTON, Ore.** –The City of Beaverton's arts program will unveil a new mural celebrating Beaverton's cultural diversity on Friday, June 3, as part of the Beaverton Downtown Association's (BDA) First Fridays "Wine and Chocolate Walk" event from 5 to 8 p.m.

The mural, which celebrates Beaverton's diversity through dance, costumes, and cultural references, is located on the east wall of Global Art of Dance Studios, 12575 SW Farmington Rd. Artists Jon Stommel and Travis Czekalski, the muralist team known as Rather Severe, worked for seven months to bring the concept to life.

The mural was made possible with supporting grants from the Cultural Coalition of Washington County, Beaverton Arts and Culture Foundation, Beaverton Arts Commission, Beaverton Diversity Art Grant, and the Central Beaverton Neighborhood Association Committee.

The BDA's Wine and Chocolate Walk on June 3 in old town Beaverton will feature live music, wine pours from several wineries, and a number of chocolate vendors. For more information, including a map and list of participating businesses, visit [www.downtownbeaverton.org](http://www.downtownbeaverton.org).

### **ABOUT BEAVERTON**

Beaverton is a welcoming and responsible city that enjoys one of the most diverse populations in Oregon. In 2015, Beaverton was recognized as one of the **safest cities** in the Pacific Northwest (according to CQ Press with cities more than 75,000). Recently, the city's award-winning finance department received the **Distinguished Budget Presentation Award** as well as the **Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting**. In 2012, the city was awarded the **Mayors' Climate Protection Award** from the U.S. Conference of Mayors. It was named one of the **best places to raise kids** by *BusinessWeek* magazine. The city was named **one of the top 25 Suburbs for Retirement** by *Forbes.com* and **one of the 100 Best Walking Cities in America** by *Prevention* magazine. The city also received the **Recycler of the Year** award from the Association of Oregon Recyclers, named a **Tree City USA** by the Arbor Day Foundation, received a **Silver Award Bicycle Friendly Community** designation by the League of American Bicyclists, and recognized as one of the Environmental Protection Agency's **Green Power Communities**. Lastly, the city's nationally acclaimed visioning program was named **Public Involvement Project of the Year—Best Planning Project** by the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) Cascade Chapter and also received the prestigious **3CMA Award of Excellence**.

For more information, reminders and community news, visit [www.BeavertonOregon.gov](http://www.BeavertonOregon.gov). Also follow Beaverton on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/CityofBeaverton](http://www.facebook.com/CityofBeaverton), or Twitter at [www.twitter.com/CityofBeaverton](http://www.twitter.com/CityofBeaverton).

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**Caption:** Celebrate Beaverton's newest mural at the Global Art of Dance Studios. Artists Jon Stommel and Travis Czekalski, the muralist team known as Rather Severe, worked for seven months to bring the mural to life.